

Jerusalem, Saturday April 2nd 2005

Prot. B-0180/05

To all the religious of the Custody

Dear Brothers,

Today, 2 April 2005, seventh day of the Octave of Easter,
the Lord has opened wide the doors of heaven to
His Holiness Pope JOHN PAUL II.

The sadness of this moment, which is a time of suffering for all the Church and for all those who have listened to the sublime teachings of his magisterium, sees us all gathered together to thank the Lord for the enlightening gift of this Pontificate.

With a sense of gratitude, the Custody of the Holy Land remembers the visit of Pope John Paul II to the Holy Places, on the occasion of the Great Jubilee, as well as his constant prayers and thoughts for Peace in this Land.

For the repose of his blessed soul, we order that in all our Friaries one Holy Mass is to be celebrated, and that a Solemn community Mass is to be celebrated in each Sanctuary.

May his memory remain as a blessing to all!

Fr. Pierbattista PIZZABALLA OFM
Custos of the Holy Land

Fr. Stéphane MILOVITCH OFM
Secretary of the Custody of the Holy Land