

Articles, Interviews, and Media Statements

Words on the occasion of Benedict XVI's resignation (February 11, 2013)

The Church feels today a special need to thank Benedict XVI for his rich and fruitful magisterium, and also for his humble and generous example of service to the Church and the world.

In this singular moment in the Church's history, the faithful of the Prelature—priests and laity—are praying for Benedict XVI and all his intentions. And united to the Pope and the entire Church, we are asking the Holy Spirit to pour out his grace in abundance on the people of God and its pastors.

In union with Benedict XVI we are invoking the Paraclete's help for the future Roman Pontiff.

✠ Bishop Javier Echevarría
Prelate of Opus Dei

"I will not leave you orphans," *ABC*, Spain (March 1, 2013)

"I will not leave you orphans" (Jn 14:18), Christ told his Apostles. He promised to send them the Holy Spirit, who would make them more fully children of God the Father. "I will not leave you orphans"—these words come to my mind at the end of this pontificate. Benedict XVI is not leaving us orphaned, because his magisterium, his teachings, still live; because he is with us in his prayer and fatherly love; because his likeness to the Good Shepherd becomes stronger every day; and, finally, because the Holy Spirit will continue to guide his Church through a new Pope.

Benedict XVI, in the rich body of his teachings, shows a quite extraordinary capacity to present profound truths in simple words. He took up the idea of the apparent "eclipse of God" to invite us to rediscover the meaning of God the Creator and Redeemer, who is always at work in our world.

He reminded us forcefully of the fact that love is the essence of