

opusdei.org

Pope Francis Entrusts his Pontificate to our Lady

In his first morning as Pope, Francis I entrusted his pontificate to our Lady, in Rome's Basilica of St. Mary Major, and at a father's request, blessed an unborn child in the womb.

03/14/2013

March 14, 2013. (Romereports.com)
His first morning as Pope, Francis I

entrusted his pontificate to our Lady, in Rome's Basilica of St. Mary Major. Accompanied by the archpriest of the basilica, Spanish Cardinal Santos Abril and also by Cardinal Agostino Vallini, the Pope left flowers for our Lady before heading to the Tabernacle.

After praying for about half an hour in silence, the Pope sang a hymn for our Lady.

Afterward, he talked with Cardinal Santos Abril, in Spanish, as they made their way through Basilica.

Before leaving, the pope was greeted with applause by those who work in the Basilica.

Everyone there wanted to greet the new Pope for the first time. In fact, a man asked Francis I to bless his wife, who is five months pregnant. The Pope agreed.

“Please bless my son Holy Father. He is still in the womb.”

“Five months, five months Father.”

As he left the Basilica, many onlookers peeked through the windows. They cheered and applauded as the first Latin American Pope went back to the Vatican.

pdf | document generated
automatically from <https://opusdei.org/en-za/article/pope-francis-entrusts-his-pontificate-to-our-lady/> (07/22/2025)