

# Pope Benedict XVI Big Assembly



## Did you know?

The Pope is the leader of the Catholic Church.



Our current Pope is **Pope Francis**. He became the Pope in **March 2013** and is the first Pope from the **Americas**. **Pope Benedict XVI** was our previous Pope and he visited **Great Britain** in **September 2011**.

*Pope Francis launches Caritas Internationalis Share the Journey campaign.*

*During the launch, Pope Francis said, "With your everyday commitment, you remind us that Christ asks us to welcome our migrant and refugee brothers and sisters with arms open wide. Just like this, with arms open wide, ready for a sincere, affectionate and encircling embrace, a bit like this colonnade of Saint Peter's Square, which represents the mother Church that embraces everyone in sharing the common journey."*

*Photo credit: Stefano Schirato | Caritas (2017)*

In a **visit** to the **UK**  
**Pope Benedict XVI**  
spoke to all the  
**children** in **England**,  
**Wales** and **Scotland**  
who go to **Catholic**  
**Schools.**



*“It is not often that a Pope, or indeed anyone else, has the opportunity to speak to the students of all the Catholic schools of England, Wales and Scotland at the same time. And since I have the chance now, there is something I very much want to say to you. I hope that among those of you listening to me today are some of the future saints of the twenty-first century. What God wants most of all for each one of you is that you should become holy. He loves you much more than you could ever begin to imagine, and he wants the very best for you. And by far the best thing for you is to grow in holiness.”*  
*Pope Benedict visited Scotland and England in September 2011.*



# Future Saints

I hope that among those of you listening to me today are future saints of the twenty-first century.



Let me **explain** what I mean. When we are **young** we can usually think of **people** we look up to, people we **admire**, people we want to be like. It could be someone we meet in our **daily lives** that we hold in **great esteem**. Or it could be someone famous.





# Future Saints

Are *you* willing to follow *Jesus*, to be guided by *His Spirit* in making present *His kingdom* of *justice* and *love*?





# Big questions

My question for you is this:

What are the qualities you see in others that you would most like to have yourselves?

What kind of person would you really like to be?



*“We live in a celebrity culture, and young people are often encouraged to model themselves on figures from the world of sport or entertainment.”*

# This is what Oliver has to say...



I would like to be  
a caring person  
and sometimes be  
nicer to others.



# Carlos from El Salvador commented...



I want to be **brave**  
like **Romero**, we  
should be like him.  
**Oscar Romero** was a  
very **good man** and very  
good to people.  
He helped **rescue** people.

# Amelia says...

Yesterday I was sitting on the bench alone and my friend Lilly came up and asked me to join her game. That was being thoughtful.



## When Sorcha sent out invitations to her First Holy Communion she included a note saying...

...please don't bring any presents but if you would like to support CAFOD World Gifts and give children in poorer countries a pack to go to school, I would be very pleased.

42 school starter packs later, thanks to her family and friends, Sorcha has provided a wonderful example of how to do good in the world.



Having money  
makes it possible  
to do good in  
the world



*“When I invite you to become saints, I am asking you not to be content with second best. I am asking you not to pursue one limited goal and ignore all the others. Having money makes it possible to be generous and do good in the world.”*

But on its own, **money** is not **enough** to make us **happy**. Many **people** never find **happiness** because they **look** for it in the **wrong places**.



*“But on its own, it is not enough to make us happy. Being highly skilled in some activity or profession is good, but it will not satisfy us unless we aim for something greater still. It might make us famous but it will not make us happy. Happiness is something we all want but one of the greatest tragedies in this world is that so many people never find it because they look for it in the wrong places.”*



***"The key to it is very simple – true happiness is to be found in God."***

*"The key to it is very simple – true happiness is to be found in God. We need to have courage to place our deepest hopes in God alone, not in money, a career, in worldly success, or in our relationship with others, but in God. Only he can satisfy the deepest needs of our hearts"*