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YEAR OF FAITH <sup>2012</sup>/<sub>2013</sub>

## *Journeying in the Year of Faith*

*“The Church as a whole  
and all her Pastors, like Christ,  
must set out to lead people out of the desert,  
towards the place of life,  
towards friendship with the Son of God,  
towards the One who gives us life,  
and life in abundance.” (PF 2).*

Dearest,

with these words, the Holy Father Benedict XVI opens the apostolic letter, *motu proprio, Porta Fidei*, with which on October 11, 2011, he announced the Year of Faith, that will begin this coming October 11, 2012, on the fiftieth anniversary of Vatican Council II, and will end on November 24, 2013, Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King.

The Pope - as noted – recalls the exhortation he addressed to the Church in his homily at the Mass for the beginning of his pontificate.

He renews this call, in this solemn event of the beginning of the Year of Faith, noting that the date also recalls the twentieth anniversary of the publication of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, promulgated by Blessed Pope John Paul II, with a “view to illustrating for all the faithful the power and beauty of the faith”.

We are called to rediscover the strength and beauty of faith. We are told, in fact, that the grace of the Council, its fruits, and among them the Catechism of the Catholic Church, tend to lead us to the rediscovery of faith, its evangelization or new evangelization in the consciousness “of the grave difficulties of the time, especially with regard to the profession of the true faith and its correct interpretation” (n. 5).

