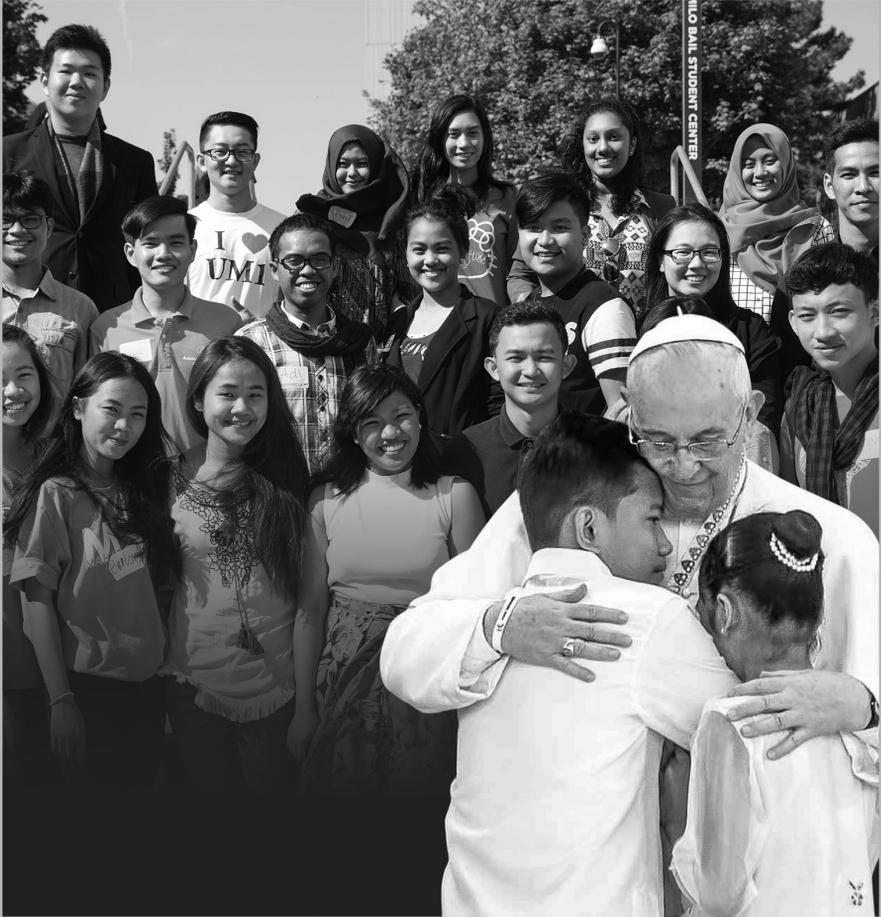




# Appendices





on Pentecost Sunday 1964 [renamed the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue in 1988].

Paul, the missionary pope, initiated papal travels, literally covering the globe. His most extensive missionary journey in November-December 1970 brought him to Asia with visits to eight countries. While in Manila (November 27-29) he met with 180 Asian bishops, a pivotal event in the foundation of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC). In addition, Paul VI vigorously promoted the worldwide growth of authentic, inculturated, local Churches.

***Evangelii Nuntiandi.*** Pope Paul will always be remembered for his 1975 apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (EN), *Evangelization in the Modern World*. This was the first papal document to flow from a synod (the 1974 world synod focused on the theme of evangelization). This beautiful document, as fresh today as when it was written, asserts that: (1) evangelization is the vocation proper to the Church; (2) the Church's mission continues the mission of Jesus in the power of the Spirit; (3) evangelization is a multi-faceted reality; and, (4) evangelization includes a commitment to full human development and social justice.

Paul VI asserted: "We wish to confirm once more that the task of evangelizing all people constitutes the essential mission of the Church.... Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize" (EN 14). "For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all strata of humanity" (EN 18).

**Pope Francis' Affirmation.** Our present pope draws extensively upon the missionary vision of Paul VI; he quotes EN thirteen times in his *Evangelii Gaudium* [EG]. From his earliest days as pope, Francis regularly speaks of EN, noting that Paul's words "are as timely as if they had been written yesterday." He described EN as "the greatest pastoral document that has ever been written to this day."



**Reflection.** Popes Paul VI and Francis share several common perspectives: **(A)** “Let us preserve the delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing” (EN 80); “let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of the joy of evangelization” (EG 83); **(B)** All Christians are challenged to be “evangelized evangelizers” (cf. EN 15) who are truly “missionary disciples” (EG 120); **(C)** Christian spirituality must reflect “the fervor of the saints” (EN 80) and emerge from “a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ” (EG 3). Popes Paul and Francis are truly “kindred spirits”—afire with the fire of evangelization. Try to catch the same “Gospel Fire”!

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*“Evangelization will never be possible  
without the action of the Holy Spirit....  
The Holy Spirit is the soul of the Church....  
Techniques of evangelization are good,  
but even the most advanced ones could not  
replace the gentle action of the Spirit....  
It must be said that the Holy Spirit is  
the principal agent of evangelization....  
Through the Holy Spirit the Gospel  
penetrates to the heart of the world.”*

**Paul VI**

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