

in numbers

CONSISTORIES: held by Pope John Paul II in which he created 231 cardinals including the now Pope Francis.

TRIPS: taken to his homeland of Poland as Pope, his first trip was to Mexico and Domincan Republic.

ENCYCLICALS: written by JPII as well as 15 apostolic exhortations and various other letters, homilies and messages (www. vatican.va)

YEARS AS POPE: Elected in October 1978 and died in April 2005, John Paul II was the third longest serving Pope in history.

129 COUNTRIES: the number that Pope John Paul II visited in the course of his ministry.

455 YEARS: since the previous non-Italian pope, Adrian VI (d.1523). The two popes since JPII have also been non-Italian.

483 SAINTS: JPII canonised more saints than popes in the previous 5 centuries, he also made 1340 people 'Blessed'.





These sheets were prepared by the Centre for Catholic Formation, Archdiocese of Southwark www.ccftootingbec.org.uk



"quotes" (from the thousands!)

It is Jesus that you seek when you dream of happiness; He is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you; He is the beauty to which you are so attracted. It is Jesus who stirs in you the desire to do something great.

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.

Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought.

Science can purify religion from error and superstition. Religion can purify science from idolatry and false absolutes.

visit www.vatican.va for JPII's official teachings



Saint Pope John Paul II has been called the 'Great' by Pope Benedict XVI and various others in the years since his death. He was Time Man of the Year in 1994.

interfaith



Pope John Paul II travelled extensively and met with believers from many different faiths. At the World Day of Prayer for Peace, held in Assisi on 27 October 1986, more than 120 representatives of different religions and Christian denominations spent a day fasting and praying with JPII.

In March 2000, while visiting Jerusalem, John Paul became the first pope in history to visit and pray at the Western Wall.

He was the first Catholic pope to visit and pray in an Islamic mosque, in Damascus, Syria, in 2001.

In April 2005, shortly after John Paul II's death, the Israeli government created a commission to honour his legacy.