

VIDEO MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS UPCOMING <u>APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO MAURITIUS</u> [9 September 2019]

[Multimedia]

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Mauritius!

At last, my Apostolic Journey, which will also bring me to your beautiful Island is almost here.

From Rome, I send you my warm greetings, and I say a big 'thank you' because I know that you have been preparing for quite some time for this encounter.

It will be a joy for me to proclaim the Gospel among your people, who have distinguished themselves for having been formed by the coming together of different ethnicities, and therefore, benefit from the richness of various cultural and religious traditions.

The Catholic Church, from its beginnings, is sent to all peoples, and speaks all of the world's languages. But the language of the Gospel — as you know — is love.

May the Lord, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, allow me to proclaim the Gospel with the power of the Holy Spirit, in such a way that everyone may understand and receive it.

I ask you, please pray for me even more in these days, as you are already in my heart and I am praying for you.

Thank you, and see you soon!

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