



## The Holy See

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**LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS BENEDICT XVI  
TO HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL TARCISIO BERTONE,  
SECRETARY OF STATE**

*To my Venerable and Beloved Brother Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone*

On the eve of my departure for Castel Gandolfo for the summer period, I wish to express my deep appreciation of your discreet closeness and of your valuable advice, which I have found particularly helpful in recent months.

Noting with regret the unjust criticisms levelled at you, I wish to express anew my personal confidence in you, which I had already made known once before in a [Letter dated 15 January 2010](#), the contents of which remain unchanged for me.

I entrust your ministry to the maternal intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians, and of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul. I am pleased to impart to you, together with my fraternal greeting, the Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of every desired good.

*From the Vatican, 2 July 2012*

**BENEDICTUS PP. XVI**

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