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Francis prays at the Basilica of St. Mary Major before his trip to Lesbos

Vatican City, 15 April 2016 – This afternoon Pope Francis visited the Basilica of St. Mary Major to pray before the icon of the Virgin Mary "Salus populi Romani", and to ask the protection of the Mother of the Lord for tomorrow's visit to Lesbos, Greece. The Pope left a floral tribute before the image, in the colours of the Greek flag, white and blue.