

Guide to the 2008 Pope Benedict XVI Visit Collection
Collection Number: 017.004



**Guide to the 2008 Pope Benedict XVI Visit Collection
Archives of the Archdiocese of New York
Collection 017.004**

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Summary Information

Title: The 2008 Pope Benedict XVI Visit Collection

Date: 2007-2008

Extent: 8 linear feet (in 1 Hollinger box, 4 Paige boxes, 2 oversized boxes, and 4 small boxes)

Language: English

Access Restrictions: Collection is open to researchers at the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York. Advance appointments are required for the use of archival materials.

Preferred Citation: Published citations should take the following form: Identification of item, date (if known); The 2008 Pope Benedict XVI Visit Collection, 017.004; box number, folder number. Archives of the Archdiocese of New York, St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie.

Biographical/Historical Note

On April 18, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI arrived at JFK Airport to begin his three day visit to New York City. He came to New York after having spent three days in Washington DC on what was Pope Benedict XVI's first visit to the United States as the Holy Father. Pope Benedict had previously visited New York as Cardinal Ratzinger in 1988. The theme of "Christ our Hope" was prevalent throughout the entire six day visit in the United States. Upon Pope Benedict's arrival, he gave a speech to the United Nations General Assembly in which he expressed his support for the United Nations and talked about the role of faith in maintaining human rights. Later that day, Pope Benedict visited the Park East Synagogue, in which he became the first pope to visit a synagogue in America. Following that visit he went to St. Joseph's Church in Yorkville to celebrate an ecumenical prayer service. Two hundred and fifty ecumenical leaders were present for this service.

April 19, 2008 began with a mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Twenty five hundred clergy and religious men and women were present for mass with Pope Benedict. There he preached of unity within the Church and praised the work of the religious. After mass he had lunch with the papal delegation at the Cardinal's residence before heading to St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers. Pope Benedict XVI met with fifty disabled children in the chapel of St. Joseph's Seminary. He called upon the beauty of life and asked them to continue their prayers. After this intimate meeting, Pope Benedict moved to the Seminary grounds where he was greeted by 25,000 young people and seminarians. He witnessed numerous presentations by the young people before offering an address to the young people, calling them to live in the light of Christ. The large crowd prayed together before the Pope departed for New York City.

On Sunday, April 20, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI paid a visit to Ground Zero. He said a private prayer before meeting with survivors, families of the victims of 9/11, and first responders. Pope Benedict's trip concluded with a mass at Yankee Stadium, in front of a crowd of 60,000 people. The gathering consisted of representatives from all 195 archdioceses and dioceses, with special attention to the five celebrating bicentennials: Baltimore, Boston, New York, Louisville, and Philadelphia. Pope Benedict once again called on the importance of the unity of the Church and that its disciples may continue to pray. Pope Benedict departed for Rome at JFK Airport that night.

Scope & Content Note

The materials in this collection date to the time before, during, and after the April 2008 Pope Benedict XVI visit to New York. The papal visit was officially announced in November 2007, but planning actually began in August 2007. Most of the materials deal with the preliminary planning stages of the events that occurred during the pope's visit. Schedules, ticket requests, memorandums, and security information are contained in this collection. Additionally there is correspondence from Cardinal Egan and Mark Ackermann, the director of the Papal Visit. Ephemera such as programs and tickets and publications such as newspaper clippings and commemorative books can also be found in the collection. Memorabilia, such as teddy bears, t-shirts, rosary beads, and baseball hats, which was sold at the various events, are also in this collection. Blueprints and drawings of St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Joseph's Church, Yankee Stadium, and Ground Zero were kept. There is also a small scale replica of the altar set up from the mass at Yankee Stadium. Series IV contains administrative files from the Archdiocese's Ecumenical Office. These files were sent to the Archives from Father Robert Aufieri and most of them deal with the Ecumenical Service at St. Joseph's in Yorkville.

Arrangement

- I. Visit Planning and Documentation (**Restricted until 2033**)
- II. Publications and Ephemera
- III. Blueprints and Diorama
- IV. Files from the Ecumenical Office (**Restricted until 2033**)

Administrative Information

Access and Use: Part of the collection is open to researchers at the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York. Series I and IV contain administrative records that are restricted until 2033. Advance appointments are required for the use of archival materials.

Reproduction and Use: Permission to reproduce any material in this collection not in the public domain must be obtained from the Archives and the copyright holder.

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Processing Note: Original folder titles were kept, if available, during processing. The series were easily identifiable based on the materials.

Separated Materials: Blueprints were removed from the collection and placed in oversized drawers.

Collection

Series I: Visit Planning and Documentation

This series is restricted until 2033.

Series II: Publications and Ephemera

4	10	Media Coverage/Articles	2008
4	11	Yankees Magazine	June 2008
4	12	Tickets for JFK Arrival and Departure	2008
4	13	Select Photographs from Visit	2008
4	14	Commemorative Book	2008
4	15	Program and Ticket from Papal Mass at St. Patrick's	2008
4	16	Tickets for Steps of St. Patrick's Cathedral	2008
4	17	Program for Meeting with Young People with Disabilities	2008
4	18	Programs and tickets for Youth Rally	2008
4	19	Programs and Tickets for Mass at Yankee Stadium	2008
4	20	Programs and Tickets for Ecumenical Prayer Service	2008
4	21	Commemorative Prayer Cards	2008

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4	22	Park East Synagogue	2008
4	23	UN General Assembly Tickets	2008
4	24	Photo from Ground Zero	2008
4	25	Pre-Papal Mass Brunch Invitations	2008
4	26	Roman Missal for the Papal Visit	2008
4	27	Commemorative Book	2008
4	28	Articles from Before the Visit	2008
4	29	Articles about Visit	2008
4	30	Clippings	2007-2008
4	31	Clippings	2007-2008
4	32	Final Papal Sacramentary	March 4, 2008
4	33	Final Papal Sacramentary	March 4, 2008
4	34	New York Times Articles	2008
4	35	Daily News Articles	2008
4	36	New York Post Articles	2008
4	37	Newsday Articles	2008
4	38	New York Sun Articles	2008
4	39	USA Today Articles	2008
4	40	Articles Printed from Internet	2008
4	41	Photos from the Visit	2008

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4	42	Inside the Vatican Magazine	2008
4	43	Parking Passes	2008
4	44	Parking Passes	2008
5		Rendering of Yankee Stadium set up	2008
5		Two Banners from Yankee Stadium mass	2008
5		Two Windbreaker Jackets from Papal Visit	2008
5		Oversized Newspaper Articles	2008
6		Copies of the Catholic New York	2008
6		Copies of the Daily News	2008
6		Baseball Caps from the Papal Visit	2008
7		Two DVDs from the Papal Visit	2008
7		Photo Album from Ecumenical Service	2008
7		Twenty-five CDs of various footage and photographs	2008
8		Five shirts (4 t-shirts and 1 polo shirt) from Papal Visit	2008
8		Drawstring backpack from Papal Visit	2008
9		Teddy Bear from Papal Visit	2008
9		Travel Coffee Mug From Papal Visit	2008
9		Magnets from Papal Visit	2008
9		Rosary Beads from Papal Visit	2008
9		Commemorative necklaces from Papal Visit	2008

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9		Commemorative medal from Papal Visit	2008
10		Goodie Bags given out at the Papal Events	2008
11	5	Yankee Stadium Access Passes	2008
11	6	Youth Rally and Chapel Access Passes	2008
11	7	All Access Passes	2008
11	8	Ground Zero Access Passes	2008
11	9	Commemorative Book	2008
11	10	Commemorative Book	2008
12	1	Photographs from Youth Rally	2008
12	2	Photographs from St. Joseph's Seminary	2008
12	3	Photographs from St. Joseph's Seminary	2008
12	52	Various Photos from Trip	2008

Series III: Blueprints and Diorama

There are blueprints of Yankee Stadium, St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Joseph's Church, and Ground Zero. They are located in oversized cabinet 1, drawer 9. There is also a small scale replica of the altar set up at Yankee Stadium.

Series IV: Files from the Ecumenical Office

This series is restricted until 2033.