



SECRETARIAT OF STATE

No. 50.000

From the Vatican, 9 January 2015

Dear Mr Speaker,

I am writing in regard to your letter of 13 March 2014, by which you invited His Holiness Pope Francis to address a Joint Session of the United States House of Representatives and Senate.

In this regard, I wish to inform you that His Holiness is pleased to accept your invitation, in the context of his Pastoral Visit to the United States of America, during which he will also attend the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia.

I would ask you kindly therefore to confirm that this visit can take place, preferably, between the afternoon of 22 September and the morning of 24 September 2015 (recognizing that the World Meeting of Families will culminate between 25 and 27 September), so that the appropriate offices may be informed confidentially and begin to prepare for this event.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the sentiments of my highest consideration.

Secretary of State

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House of Representatives
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515