

# Welcome Your Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to the United States! Happy Birthday! We Are Honored to have You with us on Your Birthday!

Dear Holy Father,

The World Health Organization has predicted 1 billion tobacco-related deaths this century. Tobacco causes the early death of 1,200 Americans each day and costs the U.S. at least \$100 billion yearly. The worldwide health, death and economic toll is staggering.

We implore you Holy Father as The Defender of Man to join us and health workers the world over in condemning the tobacco industry.

We implore the Holy See and the Faculty of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, in consideration of over 100 years of scientific observation and research, to properly instruct and inform those governments, institutions and industries promoting the cultivation, sale, and use of tobacco.

Religious, political and educational leaders must address the moral and ethical problems of nicotine addiction. The 6 million deaths caused by tobacco each year testify to the power of nicotine addiction.

Nicotine must be removed from tobacco products. *Sublata causa, tollitur effectus.*

Governments must use tobacco tax revenues solely in the fight against tobacco, governments must not benefit from addiction.

Holy Father, we trust that You will help.

We look forward to the collaboration of the Holy See and the Pontifical Academy of Sciences in the fight against tobacco and other addictions.

We pray that Your visit to the United States is indeed a Pilgrimage of Hope for all.

We thank you Holy Father,  
Physicians and Nurses Against Tobacco, Inc.

**Please visit [www.unholysmoke.org](http://www.unholysmoke.org) to learn about our cause and sign our petition.**