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September 13, 2019

To the faithful of the Archdiocese of Osaka,

On Pope Francis' Visit to Japan

+ Peace of Christ!

The Holy See has officially announced the 266th pope, Francis' visit to Japan in November this year. The Holy Father will be visiting Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki from Saturday 23 to Tuesday 26. This will be the second time a pope visits our country after 1981 when John Paul II, the 264th pope came to see us.

The theme of the papal visit 2019 will be: PROTECT ALL LIFE and its explanation and official logo are available on the special website (<https://popeinjapan2019.jp>). The details of the programme, Papal Mass and related information will be announced through this website.

Please also refer to the website for information on Papal Mass registration and book accordingly by yourself. The Archdiocesan Office will not arrange the bookings.

While the Holy Father will not be coming to Osaka, I encourage the faithful, staff and students of Catholic schools and institutes within the Archdiocese to make a trip to these sites on this special occasion, to welcome him in person and pray with him. For those who cannot make the trip, do check the Papal Mass planned to be livestreamed online and pray in one heart with the Holy Father.

I ask all those in charge of parishes and institutes to kindly help those who seek information about the event but do not use the internet or smartphones.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Thomas Aquinas Manyo Cardinal Maeda
Archbishop of Osaka