

APPENDIX A  
GREETINGS TO POPE JOHN PAUL II

October 18, 1978

His Holiness  
Pope John Paul II  
Vatican City

Your Holiness:

On behalf of the Catholic Theological Society of America I would like to extend our warmest wishes and prayers for your many years ahead as Pope. It was with great joy that the theologians of the United States and Canada heard of your election and elevation. Your own background in theology, and in teaching, and in dealing with young university students is of particular significance to each of us. Hopefully our theological endeavors in the next few years will be of great benefit to the Church.

We assure you of our love, our esteem and our prayers and we ask your blessing in a special way on our theological undertaking.

I have the honor to be, Your Holiness

*Kenan B. Osborne, O.F.M.*  
*President*

**RESPONSE**

## SECRETARIAT OF STATE

From the Vatican  
12 February 1979

Dear Father Osborne,

His Holiness Pope John Paul II has received the prayerful message of congratulations that you sent to him on the occasion of his Election to the Papacy. He wishes you to know how grateful he is for the sentiments you expressed and how much he appreciates your kindness.

With paternal affection the Holy Father cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing to you and to the members of the Catholic Theological Society of America, invoking upon you the peace and joy that come from a life of faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Son of Mary.

With every good wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. G. Coppa  
Assessor

The Reverend Kenan Osborne, O.F.M.  
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