



WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

STATEMENT ON ELECTION OF POPE BENEDICT XVI By John Huebscher, Executive Director April 19, 2005

Some may be tempted to see Pope Benedict's election as a "safe" choice. In fact it is a confident choice. By choosing a principal advisor to Pope John Paul II, the cardinals expressed confidence that the general direction of his papacy was the correct one for this point in the history of the Church. By choosing an accomplished theologian, they expressed confidence in the Church's ability to engage the modern world in a serious conversation about ideas and values. By choosing Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger the man, they expressed confidence in his personal capacity to provide effective leadership that utilizes his own God-given talents.

I hope that people of all nations will offer Pope Benedict their prayers and support as he begins his new ministry.

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