

Beat: Politics

## **PRESIDENT MACRON MEETS WARMLY THE HOLLY POPE FRANCOIS IN THE VATICAN**

### **A LONG ENTREVUE OF NEARLY AN HOUR**

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**USPA NEWS** - President Macron arrived at the Holy See of the Vatican this morning, Tuesday, June 26, accompanied by the First Lady, Brigitte Macron who was elegantly dressed in a plain black dress and wearing a mantilla in her hand. Her outfit was at the height of her sobriety. The French Presidential couple came aboard a Maseratti at 10:20 in the Holy See. The official venue began then, with a visit to the archives. At the end of the papal audience, the president introduced his delegation; including Brigitte Macron, his wife, The two ministers, Gérard Collomb, the Minister of the Interior and in charge of the cults, and Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, were part of the French Presidential delegation, and composed of twelve members,

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President Emmanuel Macron received a gift from Pope Francis, which is a medallion, representing Saint Martin of Tours. The gift is highly symbolic. "It is a symbol of the participant of good works, which redistributes the goods of the rich to the poor ..." This gift in the form of the medallion of Saint Martin of Tours, offered to the French President, has a very strong symbolic because on the one hand, the Saint represented on horseback and in his Roman armor "divides his coat and gives it to a poor", but in addition "The gesture of Saint Martin is the icon of this commitment. In him, the elements of strength, such as his armor, his powerful horse and his sword, are transformed into instruments of solidarity, altruism, participation, foundations of the culture of peace, "according to the explanations given by the Vatican in a statement.-----

Then, the ceremony of the Church Saint Jean de Latran, was going to make the President Emmanuel Macron, two hours later, "Canon of the Lateran" a very a highly honorary title and spiritual, which makes Emmanuel Macron by the same occasion Honorary Canon of the Church of St. Martin of Tours.-----

This tradition dates back to Henri IV (1553-1610). In 1604, the King of France, who had renounced his birthright, Protestantism, to appease France, during the civil war between Protestants and Catholics, had offered to the Holy See the Abbey of Clairac (Lot-et-Garonne). In exchange, the monarch was awarded this honorary title. The use has since continued with the French heads of state, according to which, they have accepted this honor, as was the case of General de Gaulle, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, Jacques Chirac, and Nicolas Sarkozy or the have declined in refusing to go to the Basilica as for example, François Hollande, Georges Pompidou and François Mitterrand.-----

It was thus that Juvenile President Macron also received his title and took possession of his stall (symbolically attributed seat in the basilica), in a state of mind "laic, and respectful of this tradition" as indicated the French President.

**PRESIDENT MACRON AND HOLLY POPE FRANCOIS HAD A MEETING THAT LASTED NEARLY ONE HOUR AND END WITH EMBRASSADE**

The President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron met with Pope Francis for the first time, during a long interview, ended by a

warm embrace. Both heads of state seemed both smiling, happy and satisfied with their interview, which was very long. In fact, President Macron's meeting with Pope Francis lasted 57 minutes, or nearly an hour, which indicates the length of their conversation, which must have been intense and rich, compared to other heads of state. The length of this interview, coincides with the current situation, very tense on the crisis of migrants and refugees, who flock from the Middle East countries, civil war, and Africa to the gates of Europe, including Italy in the first line. The previous French Presidents, Nicolas Sarkozy and President Hollande had an interview that lasted 44 and 45 minutes respectively in 2010 and in 2016 in private audience with regard to President Hollande. President Obama had spent 52 minutes talking with the Holy Father.

After the meeting, President Macron caused an embrace with Pope Francis, who responded with a kiss, after shaking the shoulder of the Holy Father. This is not surprising and confirms the complicity that had to be established during the exchange of "pragmatic philosophy" as President Macron described it.

At the end of the meeting, the President of the Republic Macron offered a gift to Pope Francis, which consists of an old edition and in Italian "Diary of a cure in campaign" of Georges Bernanos. It's a book I like a lot, "said the President. This rare gift was very much appreciated by Pope Francis because this book tells in particular the humble life of a priest as Pope Francis has long been. This is an original first edition of 1949 in the Italian language, with the bindings redone in green leather, published in France by Plon Editions in 1936. This book was awarded the Grand Prix du Roman of the Académie Française the same year and the Grand Prix of the Best Novels of the Half Century, 1950s. This French author has strongly inspired and the beautiful green leather binding has also had its authentic effect.

#### ABOUT THE VATICAN CITY STATE AND THE RULER THE HOLY POPE -----

Vatican City officially the Vatican City State or the State of Vatican City is an independent state located within the city of Rome. With an area of 44 hectares (110 acres), and a population of about 1,000, it is the smallest state in the world by both area and population. However, formally it is not sovereign, with sovereignty being held by the Holy See.-----

It is an ecclesiastical or sacerdotal-monarchical state (a type of theocracy) ruled by the Pope which is, religiously speaking, the Bishop of Rome and head of the Roman Catholic Church. The highest state functionaries are all Catholic clergy of various national origins. Since the return of the popes from Avignon in 1377, they have generally resided at the Apostolic Palace within what is now Vatican City, although at times residing instead in the Quirinal Palace in Rome or elsewhere.

Vatican City is distinct from the Holy See (Latin: Sancta Sedes), which dates back to early Christianity and is the main episcopal see of 1.2 billion Latin and Eastern Catholic adherents around the globe. The independent city-state, on the other hand, came into existence in 1929 by the Lateran Treaty between the Holy See and Italy, which spoke of it as a new creation, not as a vestige of the much larger Papal States (756-1870), which had previously encompassed much of central Italy. According to the terms of the treaty, the Holy See has "full ownership, exclusive dominion, and sovereign authority and jurisdiction" over the city-state. Within Vatican City are religious and cultural sites such as St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel and the Vatican Museums. They feature some of the world's most famous paintings and sculptures. The unique economy of Vatican City is supported financially by the sale of postage stamps and tourist mementos, fees for admission to museums, and the sale of publications.

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