

“The Passing of Pope John Paul II”

I share with you the statement by Bishop Robert H. Brom, our Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, upon the death of Pope John Paul II:

“Pope John Paul II has passed from our midst and both the Church and world are better for his time among us.

He will be remembered by historians as the Pope who implemented the Second Vatican Council.

Because of his many travels, he will be remembered by the Church as its pilgrim pastor, often speaking the languages of the people and with special affection for the young.

He will be remembered by the world as a champion of human rights, justice and peace.

Other Christians, Jews and Muslims, and all believers will remember him as a companion on the journey of faith.

Pope John Paul II never ceased to be an enthusiastic teacher who tirelessly promoted the moral and social message of the Gospel and the Church. Future generations will remember him and continue to appreciate the integration of faith and reason in his many writings.

Personally, I have very fond memories of Pope John Paul II. In many meetings and times together, he has become and will remain for me an inspiration and model of what every bishop should be: a defender of the truth and an instrument of love.”

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen!