



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Over 50 institutions throughout North America to turn to the same page of
The Saint John's Bible each day of Pope Francis' visit**

Illuminating the Mission: 7 Days • 7 Pages
A meaningful way for all Americans to celebrate the Holy Father's visit

Collegeville, Minn., Sept. 18, 2015 ... Beginning Monday, Sept. 21, and continuing each day of Pope Francis' historic visit to America, more than 50 institutions across North America will turn to the same page of *The Saint John's Bible*. This simple act will be a symbol of seven days of Christian solidarity as the American people welcome the Holy Father.

“When we all agree to touch and turn the calligraphed pages of our *Saint John's Bibles* in unison, day by day, it brings us all in touch with one another as members of *The Saint John's Bible* family,” said Donald Jackson, the artistic director of *The Saint John's Bible*. “What could be a more profound celebration of Pope Francis' visit with the people of the United States of America? The thought of all those turning pages warms my heart.”

There are over 160 illuminations and 1,130 pages in the seven volumes of *The Saint John's Bible*. Participating institutions together will display the following seven illuminations:

Monday, Sept. 21	Creation (Genesis)
Tuesday, Sept. 22	Abraham and Sarah (Genesis)
Wednesday, Sept. 23	Ten Commandments (Exodus)
Thursday, Sept. 24	Peter's Confession (Matthew)
Friday, Sept. 25	Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes (Mark)
Saturday, Sept. 26	Two Cures (Mark)
Sunday, Sept. 27	Pentecost (Acts of the Apostle)

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According to Rev. Michael Patella, OSB, professor of theology at Saint John's University and chair of the theological effort behind the *The Saint John's Bible*, the illuminations were selected with great care. "These illuminations were specifically chosen because they resonate with values Pope Francis holds dear: hospitality; concern for the poor, sick and marginalized; the dignity of all people; and care for creation," said Patella.

In addition to the illuminated pages, a reflection for each day, written by Saint John's School of Theology and Seminary in Collegeville, Minn., will also be on display.

To view the list of participating institutions, visit:

www.saintjohnsbible.org/7days7pages_participants

To view the seven days of illuminations and reflections, visit:

www.saintjohnsbible.org/7days7pages.

The Saint John's Bible is the first handwritten and illuminated Bible commissioned by a Benedictine monastery since the invention of the printing press in the 15th century. Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minn., commissioned world-renowned calligrapher Donald Jackson, senior scribe to Her Majesty the Queen's Crown Office at the House of Lords in London, England, to lead a team of scribes and artists to create this masterpiece. More information on The Saint John's Bible and the Heritage Edition can be found at www.saintjohnsbible.org.

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