



Pope makes surprise visit to Pontifical Council for New Evangelization

20-12-2016 Vatican Radio



(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis made a surprise visit to the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization on Tuesday, thanking them for their efforts during the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.

The Holy Father was welcomed to the Vatican dicastery by Archbishop Rino Fisichella, its President, and spoke with those present for around 15 minutes.

Archbishop Fisichella later told the *Osservatore Romano*, “Demonstrating a great sense of humanity and friendship in our regard, the Pope wanted to personally wish us a Merry Christmas and renew his gratitude for all our efforts during the Holy Year.”

He added that all those present for the surprise visit were “amazed at his affability. He told us of his joy for the experience of the Jubilee, and he reiterated to us the particular importance of the Missionaries of Mercy.”