

N.628

Eccellenza Reverendissima,

Mi do premura di trasmettere all'Eccellenza Vostra il messaggio di cordoglio indirizatoLe, a nome del Santo Padre, dal Cardinale Segretario di Stato, in occasione della scomparsa del Prof. **Guido de Marco**, Presidente Emerito di questo Paese.

"To the Most Reverend Paul Cremona

Archbishop of Malta

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Professor Guido de Marco, former President of Malta, and he sends prayerful condolences to Mrs de Marco, to the family, and to all who mourn the loss of this fine statesman. His Holiness recalls with esteem the deceased's significant contribution not only to the domestic affairs of the Maltese nation, which he served for many years with great distinction, but to the life of the international community, especially during his term of office as President of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Mindful of the deceased's clear and constant witness to his faith in Christ in the conduct of political life, the Holy Father prays that many who serve in public office will draw inspiration from his example. His Holiness joins all who are gathered for the solemn funeral rite in commending Professor de Marco's soul to the merciful love of our heavenly Father, and as a pledge of spiritual strength and comfort, he willingly imparts his Apostolic Blessing to the de Marco family and to the entire Maltese nation.

Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone Secretary of State".

Colgo l'occasione per confermarmi, con sensi di distinto ossequio,

dell'Eccellenza Vostra Rev.ma dev.mo

> Pedro F. Mercado Cepeda Incaricato d'Affari, a.i

A Sua Eccellenza Reverendissima Mons. **Paul CREMONA** Arcivescovo di Malta