

## **Benedict in the U.S.: Some statements on life issues**

The Pontiff pointed instead to a return to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was signed 60 years ago. "This document was the outcome of a convergence of different religious and cultural traditions, all of them motivated by the common desire to place the human person at the heart of institutions, laws and the workings of society, and to consider the human person essential for the world of culture, religion and science."

Benedict XVI, April 21, 2008 Address to the UN

International action to preserve the environment and to protect various forms of life on earth must not only guarantee a rational use of technology and science, but must also rediscover the authentic image of creation. This never requires a choice to be made between science and ethics: rather it is a question of adopting a scientific method that is truly respectful of ethical imperatives.

Benedict XVI, April 21, 2008 Address to the UN

"Bring your peace to our violent world: peace in the hearts of all men and women and peace among the nations of the earth."

Benedict XVI, prayer at Ground Zero NYC, April 19, 2008

Addressing himself to the youth, "May you step forward and take up the responsibility which your faith in Christ sets before you! May you find the courage to proclaim Christ, 'the same, yesterday, and today and for ever,' and the unchanging truths which have their foundation in him. "These are the truths that set us free! They are the truths which alone can guarantee respect for the inalienable dignity and rights of each man, woman and child in our world -- including the most defenseless of all human beings, the unborn child in the mother's womb."

Benedict XVI, Yankee Stadium, April 20, 2008

Before meeting with the youth gathered at the seminary, Benedict XVI took a few moments to meeting with some 50 young people with disabilities and their caregivers. He said to them that it was "a special joy for me to be with you. God has blessed you with life, and with differing talents and gifts," he continued. "Through these you are able to serve him and society in various ways. While some people's contributions seem great and others' more modest, the witness value of our efforts is always a sign of hope for everyone."

"God's unconditional love, which bathes every human individual, points to a meaning and purpose for all human life."

Benedict XVI, April 20, 2008