

PAPAL QUOTES ON SPORT

Pope Francis



"Everyone who wants to join in sports should be welcomed, not just the best, but everyone, with the advantages and limitations that everyone has, indeed, focusing on the most disadvantaged, as did Jesus."

"Sport is not only a form of entertainment, but also – and above all I would say – a tool to communicate values that promote the good that is in humans and help build a more peaceful and fraternal society."

"Sports in a community can be an optimal missionary tool, where the Church comes close to each person and helps him or her to excel and to encounter Jesus Christ."

"When we develop the talents that God has given us...sport transcends the level of pure physicality and takes us into the arena of the spirit and even of mystery. And these moments are accompanied by great joy and satisfaction, which we all can share, even those not competing."

"In sports clubs one learns how to accept. One accepts every athlete who wishes to join; they accept one another with simplicity and kindness...And you, boys and girls, who experience joy when you receive your jerseys, the sign of belonging to your team, you are called to behave like true athletes, worthy of the jerseys you wear. I hope you can merit them every day through your commitment as well as your hard work."

"To belong to a sports club means to reject every form of selfishness and isolation. It is an opportunity to encounter and be with others, to help one another, to compete in mutual esteem and to grow in brotherhood."

