**YOUCAT for Kids Foreword**

*by Pope Francis*

Dear children, Dear parents!

An 8-year-old boy from Canada once asked me the question: “What did God do before he created the world?” I thought about it and then replied: “Before God created anything, he loved. That’s what he did: he loved. God always loves. When he created the world, then, he didn’t do anything else except love.”

When flipping through the pages of YOUCAT for KIDS, I come across questions children ask their parents and catechists millions of times. That is why I consider this catechism as useful as the big Catechism, in which you can find answers to the most important questions of life: Where does this world come from? Why do I exist?

How and why shall we live here? What happens after death? YOUCAT for KIDS is a catechism very different from the one I used to have. YOUCAT for KIDS is suitable for children and parents to spend time together and, in doing so, discover God’s love more and more.

Dear parents, keep this little catechism with you and take the time to contemplate it together with your children page by page, mystery of faith by mystery of faith, question by question. Help your children discover the love of Jesus! It will make them strong and brave. I entrust you with YOUCAT for KIDS.

Do not get tired of questions or of sharing your faith. Do not remain silent when your children have pressing questions, but always have the strength to hand on the faith, which you too received from your parents. Be a living chain, so that from generation to generation, the gospel may always be present in our families, our communities and in the Church.

I bless you with all my heart; please pray for me.