# **Pope Francis visit to the United States of America**

Pope Welcomed to the United States by President, First Lady

Official Ceremony Planned for Wednesday at White House

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Pope Francis arrived to Washington, D.C., this afternoon as scheduled, to a warm welcome from Church leaders and President Barack Obama and his wife and daughters.

The Pope will be officially welcomed to the nation with a ceremony on Wednesday at the White House.

Later in the day, he will meet with bishops of the US and in the evening, canonize Blessed Junípero Serra during a Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

The rest of the Holy Father's schedule is as follows:

### Wednesday, 23 September 2015

9:15 Welcoming ceremony at the South Lawn of the White House

Courtesy Visit to the President of the United States of America

11:30 Meeting with the Bishops of the United States of America at St Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

16:15 Holy Mass and Canonization of Blessed Fr. Junipero Serra at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

#### Thursday, 24 September 2015

9:20 Visit to the Congress of the United States of America

11:15 Visit to the Charitable Center of St. Patrick Parish and meeting with the homeless in Washington, D.C.

16:00 Departure by plane for New York

17:00 Arrival at JFK Airport in New York

18:45 Vespers with the Clergy, Men and Women Religious at St Patrick's Cathedral in New York

# Friday, 25 September 2015

08:30 Visit to the Headquarters of the United Nations

11:30 Interreligious encounter at the Ground Zero memorial in New York

16:00 Visit to "Our Lady, Queen of the Angels" School and meeting with children and families of migrants in New York (Harlem)

18:00 Holy Mass at the Madison Square Garden in New York

## Saturday, 26 September 2015

08:40 Departure by plane for Philadelphia

09:30 Arrival at the International Airport of Philadelphia

10:30 Holy Mass with the Bishops, Clergy, Men and Women Religious of Pennsylvania gathered at the Cathedral of Sts Peter and Paul in Philadelphia

16:45 Meeting for Religious Freedom with the Hispanic community and other immigrants at the Independence Mall in Philadelphia

19:30 Festival of families and vigil of prayer at the B. Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia

### Sunday, 27 September 2015

09:15 Meeting with bishops taking part in the World Meeting of Families gathered at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia

11:00 Visit to detainees at Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility in Philadelphia

16:00 Holy Mass concluding the World Meeting of Families at B. Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia

19:00 Greeting to the organizing committee, volunteers and benefactors at the International Airport of Philadelphia

19:45 Farewell ceremony

20:00 Departure by plane from Philadelphia for Rome/Ciampino

Monday, 28 September 2015

10:00 Arrival at Ciampino Airport in Rome

ZENIT.org Staff Reporter