

Joint Effort by Carriers Brings Free Preview of Catholic Network

Salt + Light TV presents Special Programming during Crucial Moments in History

TORONTO, April 2005 – With the recent passing of Pope John Paul II, Salt + Light Television, Canada's Catholic Network, announced that a free viewing period of their channel will be offered by Bell ExpressVu, Rogers Digital Cable and illico Vidéotron digital cable. The free preview will run from April 6, 2005 until a new Pope is elected. Cogeco digital cable is already offering S+L as part of their digital basic package in specific areas.

A direct fruit of World Youth Day (WYD) 2002, Salt + Light (pronounced Salt and Light) is committed to bringing the latest to their viewers, with live bilingual updates as events unfold. The days' events will be recapped on Salt + Light Catholic News at 7:00pm and 11:30pm, and the French Journal Sel + Lumière at 7:30pm and 11:00pm. The Catholic network will also take this opportunity to look at the legacy of Pope John Paul II, with special productions capturing some of the many great moments of this papacy.

Salt + Light is lining up an impressive number of testimonies on the life on John Paul II with its "Memories of the Holy Father" segments. These segments will include an exclusive talk from Jean Vanier, a number of Church leaders, and young people who experienced the joy of meeting with the Holy Father.

Salt + Light Television is working with Vatican Television Centre and the CBC to bring viewers the live coverage of all the major events from the Eternal City with commentary from Salt + Light CEO, Fr. Thomas Rosica, C.S.B. These events include the Holy Father's funeral, conclave, and the announcement of the next Pope.

Salt + Light Television wants to take this opportunity to express our sorrow for the loss of the Church's Shepherd and extraordinary world leader. We look back in thanks for the tremendous gifts Pope John Paul II has given the world through his papacy, and rejoice in the conviction that he is now at rest with the Father.

We join the whole Church in praying for the College of Cardinals as they prepare to choose the successor of Pope John Paul II in Conclave next week.

Launched in 2003, Salt + Light Television takes its name from the theme of WYD 2002, which called us to be "the Salt of the Earth and the Light of the World" (Mt 5:13-14). The TV station's youthful and hopeful approach is one of its many landmarks. Salt + Light Television is currently broadcasting nationally on Bell ExpressVu (Channel 654). In Ontario, people can subscribe to Salt + Light through Rogers Digital Cable (Channel 395) or watch it through Cogeco Digital Cable as part of their basic digital package (Channel 185 – Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton and Halton areas). Residents of Québec can catch Salt + Light through illico Vidéotron Digital Cable (Channel 242).

Salt and Light Catholic Media Foundation, headquartered in Toronto, is a lay-driven, charitable organization whose scope is both national and international. Salt + Light TV offers 100% Catholic content through a diverse range of multi-media tools, including television production, digital television distribution and the internet. For more information, log onto www.saltandlighttv.org.

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