



*To the Most Reverend Bernard Longley  
Archbishop of Birmingham*

I am writing to thank you most sincerely for Your Grace's role in making my official Visit to the United Kingdom such a success.

It was deeply moving for me to celebrate the Beatification of Cardinal John Henry Newman amid the natural beauty of Cofton Park with a very great number of the faithful who came from the United Kingdom and beyond. Through your good offices, I would like to thank all the ecclesiastical and civil authorities who laboured to make the celebration so spiritually uplifting and prayerful. I also ask you to convey my affectionate greetings and thanks to all the faithful who were present on that day.

Invoking the intercession of Blessed John Henry, I willingly impart to Your Grace and to the auxiliary bishops, clergy, religious and lay faithful who participated in the Beatification my Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of joy and peace.

From the Vatican, 1 October 2010



*Benedictus XVI.*