

PASTORAL VISIT OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS
TO ALESSANO (LECCE) AND TO MOLFETTA (BARI),
ON THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF H. E. MSGR. TONINO BELLO

MEETING WITH THE FAITHFUL

ADDRESS OF HIS HOLINESS

Square in front of the Cemetery (Lecce)

Friday, 20 April 2018

[Link](#)

[...]

Dear brothers and sisters, this vocation of peace belongs to your land, to this marvellous frontier land — finis-terrae — which Fr Tonino called “window on the world”, because the South of Italy opens up to the many Souths of the world, where “the poorest are ever more numerous while the rich become ever richer and ever fewer”[4]. You are an “open window, from which to observe all the poverty that looms over history”[5], but above all, you are a window of hope that the Mediterranean, a historical basin of civilization, may never be a tense arc of war, but a welcoming ark of peace[6].

[...]