



NONCIATURE APOSTOLIQUE
APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE

Ottawa, August 25, 2017

N. 1470/17

Your Eminence,

In response to a request from Mr. Michael Burns, CEO of the *Invictus Games Toronto 2017*, for a Papal Message for an interreligious event to be held on September 19 next, I have been asked to forward to you the following message:

*«His Eminence Cardinal Thomas C. Collins
Archbishop of Toronto*

His Holiness Pope Francis sends warm greetings to all gathered for the interreligious celebration of the Invictus Games, to be held in Toronto on 19 September 2017. In particular, he offers his best wishes to the men and women who will be competing and to their families attending the games. In recalling with deep gratitude the great sacrifices which these servicemen and women have made in promoting peace on behalf of their countries and the wider human family, His Holiness encourages all the competitors to offer the world a further witness of the indomitable human spirit which, through God's grace, is capable of meeting every challenge with the determination and courage. In particular, he prays that these days of competitions may foster a fruitful encounter between nations, cultures and religious beliefs, and represent a concrete sign of unity among peoples and the dignity of every human life. Renewing his best wishes for all who will participate in the Invictus Games, Pope Francis offers the assurances of his prayers, and he willingly invokes upon all present the divine blessings of strength and peace.

*Cardinal Pietro Parolin
Secretary of State»*

With my fraternal regards, I am

Yours in Christ,


✠ Luigi Bonazzi
Apostolic Nuncio

His Eminence
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