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**A small fleet of electric BMW motorbikes and cars  
for the Jubilee of Mercy in the Extraordinary Holy Year  
2015-2016**

The official ceremony to hand over a small fleet of BMW electric vehicles took place in the Vatican, in the presence of His Excellency Archbishop Rino Fisichella

A small fleet of BMW electric cars and scooters was officially handed over today, Monday 30 May, by Sergio Solero, President and CEO of BMW Italia, to His Excellency Archbishop Rino Fisichella, President of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelisation.

The fleet of electric vehicles consists of two all-electric BMW i3 models and two BMW C evolution scooters, all emblazoned with the logo and motto of the Jubilee of Mercy. The cars and scooters have been used by the Vatican State's Pontifical Council since the Jubilee of Mercy began on 8 December 2015, for errands and for transporting guests, officials, diplomatic delegations and pilgrims with minor disabilities not requiring special modification; they will remain in service until the Extraordinary Holy Year ends on 20 November 2016.

"BMW is at the forefront of the development of future mobility concepts, with the BMW i and iPerformance series of electric-powered cars," declared Sergio Solero at the handover. "Today we are particularly proud to be able to place our most innovative products at the service of the Vatican State's Pontifical Council as a contribution to the success of the Jubilee of Mercy."

For his part, Archbishop Rino Fisichella thanked BMW Italia in the person of President Solero for "the generosity of feeling shown towards the organizational needs of the Jubilee, our volunteers and, most of all, those pilgrims with minor disabilities who will find it easier, with the loan of an electric vehicle provided free of charge, to tackle the pilgrim's journey at the Jubilee of Mercy".

The BMW i3, introduced in 2013, is the BMW Group's first all-electric series-production model and ushers in a new era of electric travel, a coherent and attractive solution to the challenges, present and future, of personal mobility in our great urban agglomerations; it is the world's first premium automobile designed from the outset for all-electric running with zero local emissions. With its futuristic design, premium quality and innovative features firmly anchored in sustainability, it faithfully champions the pleasure of BMW driving in a sustainable mode. Next, from the BMW i came the BMW iPerformance family, which includes a wide range of plug-in hybrids from citycars to luxury cars.

The electric-powered BMW C evolution Maxi Scooter sets new technological standards and features great versatility. Its high-voltage high-capacity (8kWh) battery gives it enough charge for trips of up to 100km.

Società  
BMW Italia S.p.A.Società del  
BMW GroupSede  
Via della Unione  
Europea, 1  
I-20097 San Donato  
Milanese (MI)Telefono  
02-51610111Telefax  
02-51610222Internet  
[www.bmw.it](http://www.bmw.it)  
[www.mini.it](http://www.mini.it)Capitale sociale  
5.000.000 di Euro i.v.R.E.A.  
MI 1403223N. Reg. Impr.  
MI 187982/1998Codice fiscale  
01934110154Partita IVA  
IT 12532500159



Further details:

Alessandro Toffanin

BMW Italia Group

Product Communication

e-mail: [alessandro.toffanin@bmw.it](mailto:alessandro.toffanin@bmw.it)

### **The BMW Group**

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 31 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2015, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.247 million cars and nearly 137,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2015 was approximately € 9.22 billion on revenues amounting to € 92.18 billion. As of 31 December 2015, the BMW Group had a workforce of 122,244 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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