

*LIST GRATULACYJNY Z WATYKANU*



SECRETARIAT OF STATE

FIRST SECTION - GENERAL AFFAIRS

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From the Vatican, 30 April 2008

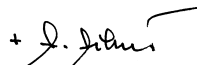
Dear Monsignor Heller,

The Holy Father was pleased to learn that you have been awarded the Templeton Prize in recognition of your outstanding contribution to the dialogue between science and religion, and he sends you his warmest congratulations and good wishes.

As you know, His Holiness has repeatedly underlined the importance of a fruitful encounter between faith and reason, the two wings on which the human spirit rises to contemplation of the truth (cf. *Fides et Ratio*, 1), and he wishes to encourage all those who devote their lives to exploring the profound insights to be gained from scientific research in the context of religious belief. He prays that your work in the fields of cosmology and philosophy will help to make known the message that “the heavens proclaim the glory of God, and the firmament shows forth the work of his hands” (*Ps* 18:2).

As this prestigious award is conferred upon you in London on 7 May 2008, the Holy Father will remember you particularly in his prayers. Invoking upon you and all those whose work serves to promote a deeper understanding of the relationship between religion and science, His Holiness cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

  
+ Archbishop Fernando Filoni  
Substitute

Monsignor Michał Heller  
Professor of Theoretical Physics, Cosmology and Philosophy of Science  
Pontifical Academy of Theology  
KRAKÓW