

## Jewish-Catholic ties 'best ever'



The president of the World Jewish Congress (WJC) has hailed Pope Francis for boosting Jewish-Catholic relations to their highest level in history.

"Pope Francis' leadership has not only reinvigorated the Catholic Church but also given a new momentum to relations with Judaism," said WJC leader, Ronald S. Lauder.

"Never in the past 2,000 years have relations between the Catholic Church and the Jewish people been so good," he said on Monday after a private group audience with the Pope and Vatican officials at the Vatican.

Mr Lauder said Francis asked him to express the traditional greeting for a "sweet and peaceful year" to Jews around the world for this week's Jewish New Year or Rosh Hashanah, which is being marked today and tomorrow.

The Tablet