

**A Man sent by God**  
(Ode to John Paul II)

*We have travelled with you  
understood your loving gaze  
and your invincible courage as Man of God.*

*A man free to see beyond time  
free to sing the mystery of the wind  
and admire snow-covered grounds*

*A man free  
to caress a mother and child,  
heal the sick  
free to transform men of powerful influence and history itself*

*through the Divine mercy of God,  
your enlightening discourse  
winsome smile  
and the hidden pain that was also Peter's .*

*You, Peter, the true chosen one by Christ,  
leave behind a radiant face bearing a sorrowful look;  
the very essence of your person,*

*Man of unvanquished strength , and timeless resonance  
witness to the God-given right to life; a gift from the Almighty  
creation of his image and nature, his son.*

*Let he who wants to defy the All Powerful, attempt to create himself,  
stop the conceived, kill the living or speed the process of the dying;  
it is the delirium of blind men.*

*O new Baptist, you're leaving the temporal stage  
a time in which the Master returned  
among us,  
so as to be there, in the Light,*

*and with memorable voice  
are inviting us all to come and see for ourselves:  
"Do not fear.  
Open your hearts to the Lord"*

*Giuseppe R. Brera, April 6 2005  
Translation by Josie Caruso*