

**Sent:** Tue, 13 May 2014 16:57:22 -0400  
**From:** Daniella Leger <dleger@americanprogress.org>  
**To:** "Podesta, John" <john\_d\_podesta@who.eop.gov>, "Podesta, John" <"/o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=podesta, john d.d84">  
**Cc:** "Palmieri, Jennifer" <jennifer\_m\_palmieri@who.eop.gov>, "Palmieri, Jennifer" <"/o=eop/ou=exchange administrative group /cn=recipients/cn=palmieri, jennifer m.cd6">  
**Subject:** FW: Pope Says He Would Baptize Aliens. Yes, Those Kinds of Aliens

Nice work Skippy!

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**From:** Noreen Nielsen (CAPAF)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2014 4:52 PM  
**To:** Press Team  
**Subject:** Pope Says He Would Baptize Aliens. Yes, Those Kinds of Aliens

<http://www.boston.com/news/world/europe/2014/05/13/pope-says-would-baptize-aliens-yes-those-kinds-aliens/Dk5yzkRQKlct93mjbhICGO/story.html>

## Pope Says He Would Baptize Aliens. Yes, Those Kinds of Aliens



• \* By Chris Caesar

- \* Boston.com Staff
- \* May 13, 2014 4:40 PM

Say what you will about the new Pope—the guy has a knack for making headlines.

In the year since his inauguration, Pope Francis has used his newfound bully pulpit to promote inclusiveness in the Catholic Church, arguing that the institution risked “losing the freshness and fragrance of the Gospel” over “small-minded” rules on issues like gay marriage, abortion and contraception.

Now the pope’s message is going intergalactic. The Daily Beast reports:

Speaking during the homily at his daily morning Mass at the Casa Santa Marta inside Vatican City where he lives on Monday, he told his mostly clerical audience that they should keep an open mind to anyone—or anything—seeking God. "If—for example—tomorrow an expedition of Martians came, and some of them came to us, here... Martians, right? Green, with that long nose and big ears, just like children paint them... And one says, 'But I want to be baptized!' What would happen?" he asked parishioners. "When the Lord shows us the way, who are we to say, 'No, Lord, it is not prudent! No, let's do it this way...'"

The pope added that churches have ushers to welcome people into their pews, but added “there has never been a ministry for those who close the doors. Never.”

Especially pod bay doors.

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