



DICASTERIUM  
PRO COMMUNICATIONE

From the Vatican, February 16, 2026

(da citare nella risposta)

Your Eminence/Your Excellency,

As already announced in a communication sent at the beginning of December 2025 through the Apostolic Nunciature, the video widget project has now been completed. Vatican News is offering this widget to all diocesan and parish websites, as well as those linked to associations, movements, and NGOs connected to the Catholic Church.

The value of this tool, as emphasized by the Holy Father in the accompanying note addressed to you, lies in the possibility of creating a stable visual and widespread communication/information link between the Holy See and the Church in your country, ensuring that Catholic websites in the United States of America - accessed by the faithful via computer, tablets, or smartphones - are always automatically updated with the latest news on the Holy Father's Magisterium and the faithful can share social content about the Pope.

It would be important for the video widget to be widely distributed on as many websites as possible, to emphasize the link with the Bishop of Rome and also because it is a useful tool for evangelization. It can also serve to counteract the phenomenon of fake news by allowing immediate access to the original source of news and texts, as emphasized by the Holy Father in his note.

This widget can be embedded in any website by simply copying and pasting:

**the following code for English:**

```
<vaticannews-widget lang="en" fontSize="14" carouselVideoAuto="true"
  carouselVideoAuto="medium"></vaticannews-widget><script
  src="https://www.vaticannews.va/widget.js"></script>
```

**the following code for Spanish:**

```
<vaticannews-widget lang="es" fontSize="14" carouselVideoAuto="true"
  carouselVideoAuto="medium"></vaticannews-widget><script
  src="https://www.vaticannews.va/widget.js"></script>
```

The embed is a one-time operation to be performed by the website webmaster. As already announced, the video widget is free of charge and will update automatically without any further intervention.

This will enable any Catholic website – diocesan, parish, or Church-related organizations – to receive in real time:

- 1) short videos about the Pope and the Holy See that can be shared on social media, in both horizontal and vertical formats
- 2) a “scroll” with the latest Vatican News in the language of your choice,
- 3) a direct link to the *Vatican.va* pages where the Pope’s full texts will always be available.

If the webmaster wishes to further adapt the video widget to the homepage of the site where it is embedded, it is possible to choose certain parameters (language, horizontal or vertical format, font, etc.) by connecting to this web page:

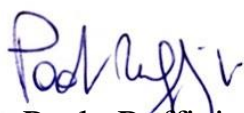
<https://www.vaticannews.va/widget/embed.html>

After entering all the required specifications, a new custom code will be generated to copy for embedding. This process is only necessary if you want to make changes to the standard model. If the standard model is acceptable, simply copy one of the codes above (depending on whether you choose English or Spanish, or prefer to embed both).

**Please send this message, together with the attached technical data sheet, to the heads of the communications offices, to all parish priests and priests, and to the websites of Catholic organizations in your diocese, offering the possibility of embedding this new tool and suggesting that it be done as widely as possible, as a service to the faithful. The video widget is also a way to have automatically updated news in real time on all Church-related websites.**

The attached technical data sheet also includes email addresses to which questions or reports regarding technical difficulties or malfunctions can be sent.

In communion



Paolo Ruffini

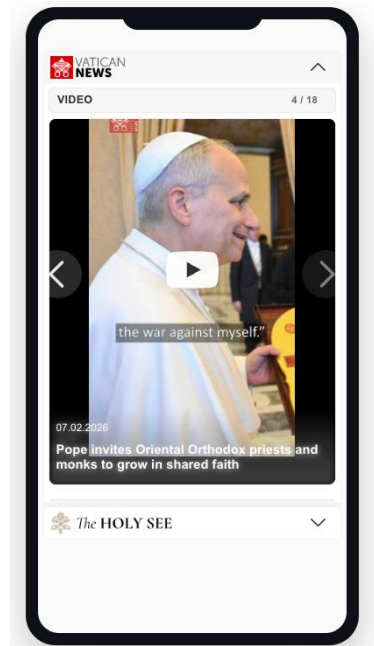
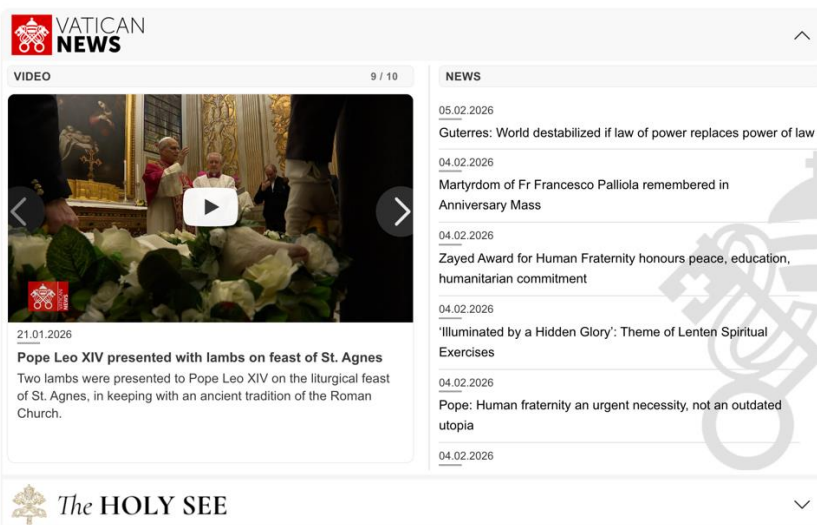
Prefect of the Dicastery for Communication



Andrea Tornielli  
Editorial Director

# Vatican News Widget

- Technical Documentation -



## Table of Contents

<b>1. General description .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Minimum requirements.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. Embedding the widget .....</b>	<b>3</b>
3.1 Basic snippet .....	3
3.2 Full snippet with configuration .....	4
3.3 Configuration parameters.....	4
<b>4. Optimal container dimensions .....</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1 Desktop – Horizontal view.....	5
4.2 Desktop – Vertical view.....	6
5.3 Mobile.....	7
Recommended requirements.....	7
<i>Best practices</i> .....	7
<b>6. CSS and JS isolation.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7. Performance .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>8. Limitations .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9. Integration best practices .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>10. Support.....</b>	<b>8</b>

## 1. General description

The Vatican News Widget is an embeddable web component that displays the latest news about the Pope, the Holy See, and the Church directly on partner websites.

The widget enriches users' information experience by sharing constantly-updated videos and multimedia content.

Key features:

- responsive design
- Web Components technology (Shadow DOM)
- dynamic content loading
- simple configuration via HTML attributes

## 2. Minimum requirements

- Modern browsers with support for:
  - Custom Elements
  - Shadow DOM
- No JavaScript framework required
- Compatible with all major CMS platforms and static sites.

## 3. Embedding the widget

### 3.1 Basic snippet

```
<vaticannews-widget></vaticannews-widget>  
<script src="https://www.vaticannews.va/widget.js"></script>
```

This is the **minimum configuration required** to embed the widget **in English**.

### 3.2 Full snippet with configuration

To easily generate the widget code with the various options, we recommend using the following link:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/widget/embed.html>

### 3.3 Configuration parameters

Attribute	Allowed values	Description
lang	en, it, fr, de, es, pt, pl, ar, hy, az, be, bg, cs, eo, he, hr, hu, ln, lt, lv, mk, mn, ro, sq, sk, sl, sv, ru, uk, hi, ml, ta, kn, vi, ja, ko, zh, zht, sw, am, ti	Widget language
fontSize	14,16,18	Font size
carouselVideoAuto	true, false	Enables automatic rotation of the video carousel
carouselVideoTime	slow,medium,fast	Video carousel auto-rotation speed

Example widget with parameters:

```
<vaticannews-widget  
lang="en"  
fontSize="14"  
carouselVideoAuto="true"  
carouselVideoAuto="medium">  
</vaticannews-widget>
```

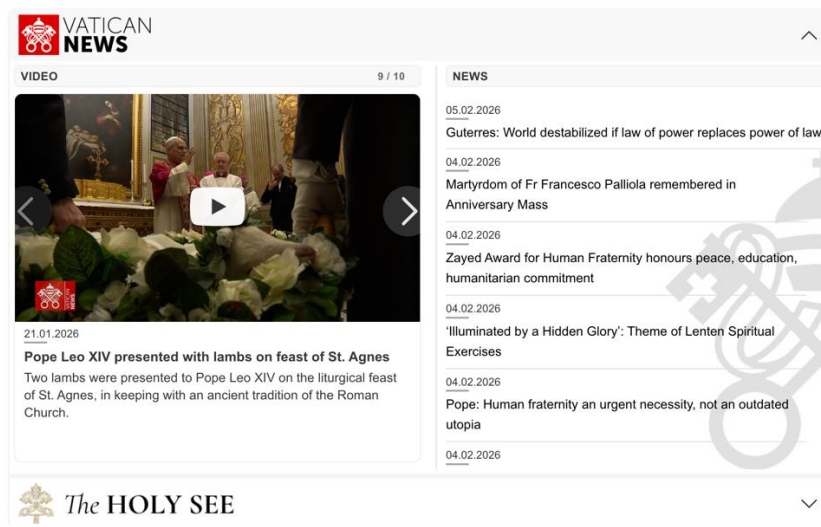
```
<script src="https://www.vaticannews.va/widget.js"></script>
```

## 4. Optimal container dimensions

The widget is **responsive**:

- automatically resizes videos
- adapts the number of text lines
- optimizes touch interactions
- properly handles resize and orientation changes
- no custom breakpoints are required.

### 4.1 Desktop – Horizontal view



For **desktop display in horizontal orientation**, the widget should be placed inside a container with **a width greater than 770px**.

```
<div class="container">
  <!-- snippet widget -->
</div>
```

## 4.2 Desktop – Vertical view

For **desktop display in vertical orientation**, the widget should be placed inside a container with a **width less than 770px**.



This view makes it possible to embed the widget even in very narrow side columns.



*The minimum size below which correct display is not guaranteed: width: 250px - height: 400px*

### Best practices

- Avoid using containers with “overflow: hidden” or “display: none” at page load, as they may interfere with correct rendering and with the widget’s sizing calculations.
- It is recommended to use a container with “height: auto”, so the widget can adapt dynamically to the content.
- If it is necessary to impose a vertical constraint, you can define a “max-height”, making sure the available height is **not less than 570px** to ensure a correct viewing experience.

### 5.3 Mobile

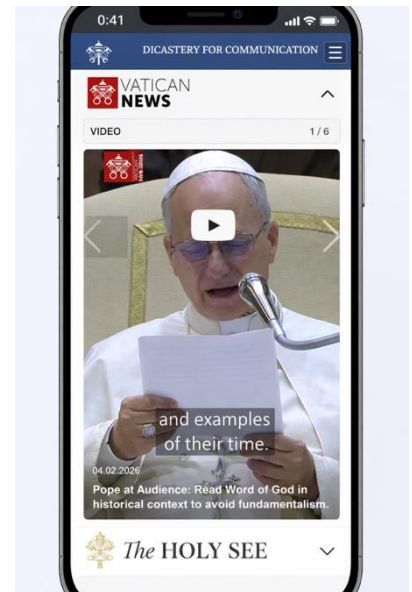
In a mobile environment the widget **automatically adapts to the viewport.**

#### Recommended requirements

- **“viewport” meta tag** present on the host page:

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
```

- **Minimum supported width:** 320px (standard smartphone).  
**Recommended:** ≥ 360px for optimal rendering of titles and videos.



#### Best practices

- No fixed width: use a container width of 100%
- Avoid excessive side padding on the container
- Height: auto recommended (the widget calculates the correct height based on the content).
- Avoid overflow: hidden on the container

### 6. CSS and JS isolation

The widget uses:

- Shadow DOM
- Custom CSS with no conflicts with the host site’s CSS
- Isolated JavaScript that does not interfere with the rest of the page.
- No interference with existing libraries (Bootstrap, jQuery, etc.)

## 7. Performance

- asynchronous loading
- single, cache-friendly script
- does not slow down page loading
- lazy loading of video content

## 8. Limitations

- Legacy browsers (e.g., Internet Explorer 11) are not supported.

## 9. Integration recommendations

Do not use the widget:

- in a container with “overflow: hidden”
- in a container with “display: none”
- while attempting to modify the DOM
- multiple times on the same page

## 10. Support

For usage requests or reports, write to the following address:

`widget@vaticannews.va`