



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Dear brothers and sisters of many different faiths,

In recent days the protests that erupted in cities throughout the United States have spread like wildfire in many cities around the world. African American families feel discriminated against and threatened and, in the wake of a long history of suffering, have reacted with mass protests. As we have seen, there has been no shortage of masses of minorities in these demonstrations, which have led to unjustified and violent raids. Precisely because these are not attacks from the outside, these tensions that germinate from the inside of civil life can not be considered less dangerous because they also put friends, neighbours, and acquaintances against each other and, as always, involve innocent people.

Equally worrying scenarios are breaking out elsewhere in the world. We cannot fail to be concerned, for example, with what is happening in Hong Kong, where the people live with the fear of repressive actions and laws, which threaten the freedom acquired and guaranteed by the special status of this state, causing the people to react with unpredictable consequences.

Hence, I invite believers of all faiths to turn their hearts to God on the 27th of this month to ask for peace for the social situation in the United States of America and in Hong Kong. Let us pray for all the places in the world where failure to respect certain rights and human dignity itself generates discrimination and unrest.

May God make every soul open to receiving His love and to practice it towards everyone, guaranteeing an orderly coexistence in justice and freedom.

May the Lord give you peace.

Assisi, June 2020

+ Domenico Sorrentino, Bishop