



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
Dear brothers and sisters of different faiths,

We rejoice together with the people of Nagorno Karabak for the agreement that has been signed and which we hope will ensure the ceasing of weapons and violence and contribute to safeguarding the safety of everyone. We know well that on other occasions agreements were not upheld over time and that even the current pact has not been fully agreed upon by the people of the two warring states. Nevertheless, we are aware that at least the suspension of the conflict will save lives, destruction and suffering.

As often happens, while one conflict is dying out, in another area of the world a new outbreak is ignited. This is what happened in **Ethiopia** where the people of the Tigray region live - a situation of great instability between retaliation of armed groups and intervention of the national army.

In our monthly prayer meeting of the 27th, in the wake of the commitment of prayer and action of religions for peace, which has an emblematic place in Assisi, we ask you to pray for Ethiopia. In addition to the suffering already taking place, the conflict is likely to expand to the entire region of the Horn of Africa and to other nations that seem to take advantage of the confusion to fan the flames of conflict and make it even more destructive. Let's not forget that we are dealing with people already tried by misery and by an economic system that also produces destruction and death, as we were reminded by the reflection of the Economy of Francesco, which took place virtually in Assisi these past days and which closed with a forceful message by the Pope. Let's not forget that even in that region, as now throughout the world, the spread of the pandemic is producing victims and suffering. If peace is not only the absence of war, we must also pray that the spreading of the pandemic ends as soon as possible.

May the Lord give you peace

Assisi, November 2020

+Domenico Sorrentino, Bishop