



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

In communion with Pope Francis, on May 14 we joined the invitation of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity for "a day of prayer and fasting and works of charity, to implore God to help humanity overcome the Coronavirus pandemic". I sincerely thank you because I know that many families, many religious communities and many brothers and sisters of many different religions were united in the three gestures that were asked of us.

For our next prayer meeting on the 27th, I would like us to continue praying for this intention, concentrating on situations of greatest need. These are refugee camps, villages that are difficult to reach, indigenous communities such as those of the Amazon, areas far from health centres and places of treatment, slums of urban centres, situations already tried by armed conflicts, peoples affected by the adverse consequences of economic sanctions directed at their governments. These are the environments in which poverty does not allow such a dangerous threat as that of the Covid 19 virus to be dealt with adequately. We will also pray that those who are responsible for economic and political choices are truly attentive to the voice of the Spirit of God and look not at special interests but at the common good of their nations and of the whole world.

I therefore ask you to unite spiritually again to invoke peace, which today means above all being able to eradicate the threat of the pandemic. As always, we will do so on Wednesday May 27th, each in the places and in the manner that is most appropriate and that are permitted by the current health regulations.

May the Lord give you peace

Assisi, May 2020

+ Domenico Sorrentino, Bishop