



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Dear brothers and sisters of many different faiths,

The intention we are entrusting to our prayers on August 27 concerns a new and extremely serious threat: the use of **artificial intelligence** for military purposes.

Systems capable of identifying targets, selecting individuals to be hit and influencing life-or-death decisions are already being used in conflicts. The sheer speed of these machines risks taking these decisions beyond any effective human control, thus making war even more destructive and inhumane. In Magnifica humanitas, Pope Leo XIV warns: «No algorithm can make war morally acceptable» (n.198).

Artificial intelligence, which in so many fields can contribute to the care, knowledge and well-being of humanity, must not be subjected to the logic of warfare and turned into an instrument of death.

On August 27, each of us, according to our own faith and tradition, please pray that humanity's conscience may awaken before it is too late. Let us pray that governments and the international community will establish strict and effective rules, ban lethal unmanned weapons and set up independent monitoring mechanisms. But let us also combine prayer with action: informing, keeping vigilant, demanding transparency, and supporting every initiative that places the individual and their inviolable dignity at the heart of technological decisions.

From Assisi, let us continue to speak with one voice: may human intelligence be placed at the service of humanity and peace, and never of destruction.

May the Lord give you peace

Assisi, August 2026

+ Felice Accrocca, Bishop