

Every day we receive sad news through the media:

Hunger, war, violence, natural catastrophes cause a large number of daily deaths and they are main subjects in the media. Frequently the news are accompanied by horrendous images of human suffering, caused by hatred and violence, or the drama of people who are forced to flee their places seeking a safer life for themselves and their families. These series of events happen so quickly that we barely can even stop to reflect and feel deep compassion for the victims, because nowadays tragic news have become part of our daily life.

This kind of information, along with negative opinions expressed in the media, makes us feel afraid, insecure, feared of our future and of our childrens. Social networks reinforce all that, by spreading concerns of our own security and the threat of losing our cultural identity.

The news, spread through on social networks, circulate rapidly without being properly verified and they tend to be taken seriously although they are hoaxes or well structured lies, increasing the confrontation between one and another. This is called the post truth.

Pope Francis in his message for the World's Communications Day alerts about this situation and makes a call for hope.

The Pope encourages everyone to engage in constructive forms of communication that reject prejudices towards others and foster a culture of encounter, helping all of us to view the world around with realism and trust. This kind of confidence enables us to carry out our work- in all the different ways that communication takes place nowadays- with the conviction that it is possible to recognize and highlight the good news in every story and in the face of each person.

“Hope is the humblest of virtues, for it remains hidden in the recesses of life; yet it is like the yeast that leavens all the dough. Today too, the Spirit continues to sows in us the desire of the Kingdom, through many living "channels", through people who let themselves be led by the Good News in the midst of the drama of history, and are like beacons in the darkness of This world, which illuminate the path and open new paths of trust and hope”.

I would like to finish now with the prayer of San Francisco:

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

Oh, Lord, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

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