



MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE
FRANCIS
FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE
**55th WORLD DAY OF
PEACE**

1 JANUARY 2022

***Dialogue Between Generations,
Education and Work:
Tools for Building Lasting Peace***

1. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace" (Is 52:7).

The words of the prophet Isaiah speak of consolation; they voice the sigh of relief of a people in exile, weary of violence and oppression, exposed to indignity and death. The prophet Baruch had wondered: "Why is it, O Israel, why is it that you are in the land of your enemies, that you are growing old in a foreign country, that you are defiled with the dead, that you are counted among those in Hades?" (3:10-11). For the people of Israel, the coming of the *messenger of peace* meant the promise of a rebirth from the rubble of history, the beginning of a bright future.

Today the *path of peace*, which [Saint Paul VI](#) called by the new name of *integral development*, [\[1\]](#) remains sadly distant from the real lives of many men and women and thus from our human family, which is now entirely interconnected. Despite numerous efforts aimed at constructive dialogue between nations, the deafening noise of war and conflict is intensifying. While diseases of pandemic proportions are spreading, the effects of climate change and environmental degradation are worsening, the tragedy of hunger and thirst is increasing, and an economic model based on individualism rather than on solidary sharing continues to prevail. As in the days of the prophets of old, so in our own day *the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth* [\[2\]](#) constantly make themselves heard, pleading for justice and peace.

[Read more](#)