

# For Collaboration between Different Religious Traditions

In this month traditionally dedicated to the theme of mission Pope Francis' Intention includes the call and challenge to the different religious traditions of the world for mutual collaboration. With the Memorials of Saint Thérèse, patron of the missions and Saint Francis, the Feast of Saint Luke and World Mission Sunday celebrated in this month, the spiritual and scriptural witness of the Church to mission is manifest. The Church's missionary mandate is made present in proclamation and dialogue, action for justice and inculturation. Serving a Wounded World in Interreligious Solidarity, a co-production of the Vatican Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and the World Council of Churches, is an excellent example of ecumenical collaboration. Written as a response to the worldwide Covid-19 crisis (August 2020) this is a Christian Call to Reflection and Action During and Beyond the pandemic. Extended to include 'those who profess and

practise religions that are different from our own or consider themselves unaffiliated to any particular faith tradition', Pope Francis' Intention echoes this invitation.

His Intention is to 'pray that believers in different traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity'. The call to collaborate in maintaining peace is the primary moral challenge for the contemporary world. With peace it is possible for peoples and politicians throughout the world to perceive that the existential questions of climate change, famine and migration are shared realities that can be solved by pulling together and pooling resources. Peace between peoples promotes the development of all parties. However, there can be no permanent peace without justice which involves the recognition of individual rights and rejection of all forms of inequality from gender, nationality and race.

We pray (part of) 'An Ecumenical Christian Prayer' which finishes in the encyclical of Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* : Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves'.

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Pope's Intention:

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.