



The Holy See

POPE FRANCIS

ANGELUS

Sunday, 23 February 2025

[[Multimedia](#)]

Text prepared by the Holy Father

Brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

This morning, in Saint Peter's Basilica, the [celebration of the Eucharist](#) with the Ordination of some candidates to the diaconate was celebrated. I greet them and the participants in the [Jubilee of Deacons](#), which has taken place in the Vatican in these days; and I thank the Dicasteries [for the Clergy](#) and [for Evangelization](#) for the preparation of this event.

Dear brother Deacons, you dedicate yourselves to the Word and to the service of charity; you carry out your ministry in the Church *with words and deeds*, bringing God's love and mercy to everyone. I urge you to continue your apostolate with joy and – as today's Gospel suggests – to be a sign of a love that embraces everyone, that transforms evil into goodness and engenders a fraternal world. Do not be afraid to risk love!

On my part, I am confidently continuing my hospitalization at the Gemelli Hospital, carrying on with the necessary treatment; and rest is also part of the therapy! I sincerely thank the doctors and health workers of this hospital for the attention they are showing me and the dedication with which they carry out their service among the sick.

Tomorrow will be the third anniversary of the large-scale war against Ukraine: a painful and shameful occasion for the whole of humanity! As I reiterate my closeness to the suffering

Ukrainian people, I invite you to remember the victims of all armed conflicts, and to pray for the gift of peace in Palestine, Israel and throughout the Middle East, Myanmar, Kivu and Sudan.

In recent days I have received many messages of affection, and I have been particularly struck by the letters and drawings from children. Thank you for this closeness, and for the prayers of comfort I have received from all over the world! I entrust you all to the intercession of Mary, and I ask you to pray for me.