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September  
2013

## **Chancellor's Update**

### **Pope Francis – Peace Maker**

Because of the serious and critical nature of recent events, and the constant and malicious distortion of information by the media, the format of this issue is strictly reproduction of actual documents.

#### **Pope Francis Announces Global Prayer Vigil For Peace On Sept. 7**

VATICAN CITY, September 1 (CNA/EWTN News) .- Departing from his typical reflections on the Sunday gospel, Pope Francis used his Angelus audience today to call for peace throughout the world, particularly in conflict-ridden Syria.

"I appeal strongly for peace, an appeal which arises from the deep within me," he said to the crowds in St. Peter's Square on Sept. 1.

"There are so many conflicts in this world which cause me great suffering and worry, but in these days my heart is deeply wounded in particular by what is happening in Syria and anguished by the dramatic developments which are looming," continued the Pope.

"For this reason, brothers and sisters, I have decided to call for a vigil for the whole Church," he announced.

It will be "a day of fasting and prayer for peace in Syria, in the Middle East, and throughout world."

The vigil will take place on Sept. 7, the vigil of the birth of Mary, Queen of Peace. Those who can will gather in St. Peter's Square from 7 p.m. until midnight: other local Churches are requested to join in the fasting and prayer by gathering together.

Pope Francis extended his invitation to "fellow Christians, followers of other religions and all men of good will, to participate, in whatever way they can, in this initiative."

"Humanity needs to see these gestures of peace and to hear words of hope and peace!" said the Pope.

"All men and women of good will are bound by the task of pursuing peace," he charged.

"I make a forceful and urgent call to the entire Catholic Church, and also to every Christian of other confessions, as well as to followers of every religion and to those brothers and sisters who do not believe: peace is a good which overcomes every barrier, because it belongs all of humanity!"

The Pope went on to lament the use of arms and its negative impact on civilians, the unarmed,

and children, particularly recently in the "martyred country" of Syria.

"With all my strength, I ask each party in this conflict to listen to the voice of their own conscience, not to close themselves in solely on their own interests, but rather to look at each other as brothers and decisively and courageously to follow the path of encounter and negotiation, and so overcome blind conflict," he said.

Pope Francis also asked the international community "to make every effort to promote clear proposals for peace in that country without further delay."

He rejected the use of chemical weapons and requested that humanitarian workers "be granted access so as to provide the necessary aid."

The Pope continued his insistent appeal for peace: "it is neither a culture of confrontation nor a culture of conflict which builds harmony within and between peoples, but rather a culture of encounter and a culture of dialogue; this is the only way to peace."

Noting Mary's universal motherly concern, Pope Francis said, "Let us ask Mary to help us to respond to violence, to conflict and to war, with the power of dialogue, reconciliation and love. She is our mother: may she help us to find peace; all of us are her children!"

As he has done on previous Sundays, Pope Francis led the crowds in invoking her intercession: "Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!"

## **Francis**

### **Pope's Letter to President Putin**

To the leaders of the G20, "I make a heartfelt appeal for them to help find ways to overcome the conflicting positions and to lay aside the futile pursuit of a military solution"

VATICAN CITY, September 05, 2013 (Zenit.org) - Here is the text of a letter that Pope Francis has sent to President Vladimir Putin of Russia.

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From the Vatican

September 4, 2013

To His Excellency

Mr Vladimir Putin

President of the Russian Federation

In the course of this year, you have the honour and the responsibility of presiding over the Group of the twenty largest economies in the world. I am aware that the Russian Federation has participated in this group from the moment of its inception and has always had a positive role to play in the promotion of good governance of the world's finances, which have been deeply affected by the crisis of 2008.

In today's highly interdependent context, a global financial framework with its own just and clear

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rules is required in order to achieve a more equitable and fraternal world, in which it is possible to overcome hunger, ensure decent employment and housing for all, as well as essential healthcare. Your presidency of the G20 this year has committed itself to consolidating the reform of the international financial organizations and to achieving a consensus on financial standards suited to today's circumstances. However, the world economy will only develop if it allows a dignified way of life for all human beings, from the eldest to the unborn child, not just for citizens of the G20 member states but for every inhabitant of the earth, even those in extreme social situations or in the remotest places.

From this standpoint, it is clear that, for the world's peoples, armed conflicts are always a deliberate negation of international harmony, and create profound divisions and deep wounds which require many years to heal. Wars are a concrete refusal to pursue the great economic and social goals that the international community has set itself, as seen, for example, in the Millennium Development Goals. Unfortunately, the many armed conflicts which continue to afflict the world today present us daily with dramatic images of misery, hunger, illness and death. Without peace, there can be no form of economic development. Violence never begets peace, the necessary condition for development.

The meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the twenty most powerful economies, with two-thirds of the world's population and ninety per cent of global GDP, does not have international security as its principal purpose. Nevertheless, the meeting will surely not forget the situation in the Middle East and particularly in Syria. It is regrettable that, from the very beginning of the conflict in Syria, one-sided interests have prevailed and in fact hindered the search for a solution that would have avoided the senseless massacre now unfolding. The leaders of the G20 cannot remain indifferent to the dramatic situation of the beloved Syrian people which has lasted far too long, and even risks bringing greater suffering to a region bitterly tested by strife and needful of peace.

To the leaders present, to each and every one, I make a heartfelt appeal for them to help find ways to overcome the conflicting positions and to lay aside the futile pursuit of a military solution. Rather, let there be a renewed commitment to seek, with courage and determination, a peaceful solution through dialogue and negotiation of the parties, unanimously supported by the international community. Moreover, all governments have the moral duty to do everything possible to ensure humanitarian assistance to those suffering because of the conflict, both within and beyond the country's borders.

Mr President, in the hope that these thoughts may be a valid spiritual contribution to your meeting, I pray for the successful outcome of the G20's work on this occasion. I invoke an abundance of blessings upon the Summit in Saint Petersburg, upon the participants and the citizens of the member states, and upon the work and efforts of the 2013 Russian Presidency of the G20.

While requesting your prayers, I take this opportunity to assure you, Mr President, of my highest consideration.

Francis

## TIME Replaces Putin Cover for US

### Audience

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September 16, 2013



[Windows Media](#)

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT

RUSH: Let me turn the Dittocam off because I gotta zoom in and show you something here. I'm gonna zoom in and let me position it here correctly. Bear with me. Okay. Here we go. That is a series of covers of this week's TIME Magazine, and I'm sorry if you don't have the Dittocam. If you're not watching the program on our website, I'm sorry, but don't worry. You'll find out what we're talking about just a second. Got that picture here, folks? 'Cause I'm gonna have to put it down in order to finish the details.

There's one cover there that is not Vladimir Putin. There are five covers that are identical, and they're all Vladimir Putin, and what do those five TIME Magazine covers have in common? They all ran in foreign countries, in the foreign country version of TIME Magazine. The lone cover that is blue (and you may not be able to see it) with an athlete on the cover, ran in the United States, or is running in the United States. I'm gonna turn the Dittocam off.



What you need to know is, the Vladimir Putin cover -- that ran in the Middle East, in Africa, in Europe, in the South Pacific, and in Asia -- talks about "The World According to Vladimir Putin," and the story that accompanied the cover photo, the cover picture, tells the truth of how Putin carried the day in the whole Syria operation and essentially (these are my words) made mincemeat of Obama and the rest of the world.

"The World According to Vladimir Putin" is the headline on that cover, and again: "The World According to Vladimir Putin" and the story with it are highly praiseworthy and complimentary of

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Putin and how he is running the world. In the United States, that did not run. The cover that is running here in the United States has a college football player in the traditional running pose. The headline: "It's Time to Pay College Athletes."

So around the world, in TIME Magazine, they get the truth. "The World According to Vladimir Putin," and the subhead is: "America's weak and waffling; Russia, rich and resurgent." That's the TIME Magazine story for around the world. It's Vladimir Putin's world. "America's weak and waffling; Russia's rich and resurgent." In the United States, the cover story is, "It's Time to Pay College Athletes."

Because, you see, the Drive-By Media, the domestic American media cannot tell the American news-consuming public the truth about our president and how he got skinned alive philosophically and policy-wise over in Syria. I mean, he was just made a fool of by Putin. The story talks about Putin's op-ed that ran in the New York Times and praises Putin to the hilt. He's running the world, while America is "weak and waffling" and doesn't appear to have any policy and no objectives, but Putin does, and he's carrying the day. In America, the cover is "It's Time to Pay College Athletes."

That, my friends, is the best illustration you can get of the Drive-By Media and their treatment of Obama.

Not just TIME Magazine, but all of them.

#### FRANCIS: WAR IS ALWAYS A DEFEAT FOR HUMANITY

Vatican City, 7 September 2013 (VIS) – More than a hundred thousand people gathered in St- Peter's Square this evening in response to Pope Francis' appeal during last Sunday's Angelus in which he convoked for today, 7 September, a day of fasting and prayer for peace, in the light of the dramatic circumstances which have engulfed Syria. Since then, this initiative has been welcomed and applauded not only by Catholics and other Christian confessions, but also by those belonging to other religions, from Buddhists to Jews and Muslims, and even those who do not belong to any religion. This week has seen extensive mobilisation on the part of parishes and associations, Caritas and the Community of St. Egidio, prayer groups and religious orders such as the Descalced Carmelites of the Holy Land, mayors and presidents of autonomous regions, organisations for peace, co-operation and development, unions, and so on. Many prominent figures have joined in with the initiative, such as the architect Renzo Piano, the president of the European Parliament Martin Schulz and the Grand Mufti of Syria, spiritual leader of the Sunnis, who invoked peace this afternoon in the Ummayad Mosque, Damascus, with the nation's religious leaders. A prayer for peace was raised this afternoon in Catholic churches around the world, from Australia to Egypt.

The Square was crowded with people since the morning; among them there were many who wished to confess, from 5.45 onwards, to one of the fifty priests in the Constantine Wing and below the colonnade; Francis wanted confessors to be present on this day as "true peace is born of the human heart reconciled with God and with one's brothers". At 18.30, the words uttered by the Pope last Sunday were repeated as an introduction to the

Vigil which began at 7 p.m. with a greeting from the Pope and the singing of the “Veni Creator”, followed by the enthroning of the image of the Virgin as “Salus Populi Romani”, carried by four Swiss Guards.

The Pope began by praying the Rosary; each mystery was accompanied by the reading of a poem by St. Therese of Lisieux about the child Jesus, and at the end he invoked Maria: “Queen of Peace, pray for us”. He then pronounced the following homily:

“And God saw that it was good'. The biblical account of the beginning of the history of the world and of humanity speaks to us of a God who looks at creation, in a sense contemplating it, and declares: 'it is good'. This, dear brothers and sisters, allows us to enter into God's heart and, precisely from within him, to receive his message. We can ask ourselves: what does this message mean? What does it say to me, to you, to all of us? “It says to us simply that this, our world, in the heart and mind of God, is the 'house of harmony and peace', and that it is the space in which everyone is able to find their proper place and feel 'at home', because it is 'good'. All of creation forms a harmonious and good unity, but above all humanity, made in the image and likeness of God, is one family, in which relationships are marked by a true fraternity not only in words: the other person is a brother or sister to love, and our relationship with God, who is love, fidelity and goodness, mirrors every human relationship and brings harmony to the whole of creation. God's world is a world where everyone feels responsible for the other, for the good of the other. This evening, in reflection, fasting and prayer, each of us deep down should ask ourselves: Is this really the world that I desire? Is this really the world that we all carry in our hearts? Is the world that we want really a world of harmony and peace, in ourselves, in our relations with others, in families, in cities, in and between nations? And does not true freedom mean choosing ways in this world that lead to the good of all and are guided by love?

“But then we wonder: Is this the world in which we are living? Creation retains its beauty which fills us with awe and it remains a good work. But there is also 'violence, division, disagreement, war'. This occurs when man, the summit of creation, stops contemplating beauty and goodness, and withdraws into his own selfishness.

“When man thinks only of himself, of his own interests and places himself in the centre, when he permits himself to be captivated by the idols of dominion and power, when he puts himself in God's place, then all relationships are broken and everything is ruined; then the door opens to violence, indifference, and conflict. This is precisely what the passage in the Book of Genesis seeks to teach us in the story of the Fall: man enters into conflict with himself, he realizes that he is naked and he hides himself because he is afraid, he is afraid of God's glance; he accuses the woman, she who is flesh of his flesh; he breaks harmony with creation, he begins to raise his hand against his brother to kill him. Can we say that from harmony he passes to 'disharmony'? Can we say this: that from harmony he passes to 'disharmony'? No, there is no such thing as 'disharmony'; there is either harmony or we fall into chaos, where there is violence, argument, conflict, fear.

“It is exactly in this chaos that God asks man's conscience: “Where is Abel your brother?” and Cain responds: 'I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?'. We too are asked this question, it would be good for us to ask ourselves as well: Am I really my brother's keeper? Yes, you are your brother's keeper! To be human means to care for one another! But when harmony is broken, a metamorphosis occurs: the brother who is to be cared for and loved becomes an adversary to fight, to kill. What violence occurs at that

moment, how many conflicts, how many wars have marked our history! We need only look at the suffering of so many brothers and sisters. This is not a question of coincidence, but the truth: we bring about the rebirth of Cain in every act of violence and in every war. All of us! And even today we continue this history of conflict between brothers, even today we raise our hands against our brother. Even today, we let ourselves be guided by idols, by selfishness, by our own interests, and this attitude persists. We have perfected our weapons, our conscience has fallen asleep, and we have sharpened our ideas to justify ourselves. As if it were normal, we continue to sow destruction, pain, death! Violence and war lead only to death, they speak of death! Violence and war are the language of death!

“After the chaos of the Flood, when it stopped raining, a rainbow appeared and the dove returned with an olive branch. I think also of the olive tree which representatives of various religions planted in Plaza de Mayo, in Buenos Aires, in 2000, asking that there be no more chaos, asking that there be no more war, asking for peace.

“And at this point I ask myself: Is it possible to walk the path of peace? Can we get out of this spiral of sorrow and death? Can we learn once again to walk and live in the ways of peace? Invoking the help of God, under the maternal gaze of the Salus Populi Romani, Queen of Peace, I say: Yes, it is possible for everyone! From every corner of the world tonight, I would like to hear us cry out: Yes, it is possible for everyone! Or even better, I would like for each one of us, from the least to the greatest, including those called to govern nations, to respond: Yes, we want it! My Christian faith urges me to look to the Cross. How I wish that all men and women of good will would look to the Cross if only for a moment! There, we can see God’s reply: violence is not answered with violence, death is not answered with the language of death. In the silence of the Cross, the uproar of weapons ceases and the language of reconciliation, forgiveness, dialogue, and peace is spoken. This evening, I ask the Lord that we Christians, and our brothers and sisters of other religions, and every man and woman of good will, cry out forcefully: violence and war are never the way to peace! Let everyone be moved to look into the depths of his or her conscience and listen to that word which says: Leave behind the self-interest that hardens your heart, overcome the indifference that makes your heart insensitive towards others, conquer your deadly reasoning, and open yourself to dialogue and reconciliation. Look upon your brother’s sorrow – I think of the children, look upon these - look upon your brother's sorrow, and do not add to it, stay your hand, rebuild the harmony that has been shattered; and all this not by conflict but by encounter! May the noise of weapons cease! War always marks the failure of peace, it is always a defeat for humanity. Let the words of Pope Paul VI resound again: 'No more one against the other, no more, never! ... war never again, never again war!'. 'Peace expresses itself only in peace, a peace which is not separate from the demands of justice but which is fostered by personal sacrifice, clemency, mercy and love'. Forgiveness, dialogue, reconciliation – these are the words of peace, in beloved Syria, in the Middle East, in all the world! Let us pray for reconciliation and peace, let us work for reconciliation and peace, and let us all become, in every place, men and women of reconciliation and peace! Amen”.

Following the Pope's words, a moment of silence was observed during the preparation of the altar for the exposition of the Holy Sacrament. The adoration was accompanied by a biblical reading on the theme of peace, followed by the Pope's prayer on this subject and a responsorial invocation as a plea for peace. At the end of each of those moments, five

pairs of people, representing Syria, Egypt, the Holy Land, the United States and Russia, placed incense in the censer to the right of the altar. This offering was accompanied by a series of invocations on the common theme of peace, including: “Lord of life, bring to us your peace, to where the fate of nations is decided” and “Stop, with your creative power, all violence against human life”.

The adoration was followed by the reading - “in the longest form planned for the celebration of a vigil” - of the Gospel of St. John. Then, from around 10.15 to 10.40 p.m., there was a long period of silence for personal prayer.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Pope Francis imparted his Eucharistic blessing to those present. Today, the Pope wrote to his nine million followers on Twitter, “Pray for peace”.

CWN September 17, 2013

One month after his episcopal ordination, Melkite Greek Catholic Archbishop Nicolas Antiba of Bosra and Hauran, Syria, called upon President Barack Obama to “leave us alone.”

“I would say to President Obama, you always talk about peace,” he told Aid to the Church in Need. “Please leave us alone and put these ideas of peace into practice.”

“You have your own idea of democracy, and it is beautiful, but it is not necessarily our idea of democracy,” he continued. “Let us work out our own idea of democracy.”

Archbishop Antiba said that hundreds fled to his home after a church built in 542 was attacked. One third of the nation’s Christians, he said, have fled.

“It is not Syrians who are fighting Syrians,” he said in an apparent reference to non-Syrian jihadist rebels. “Those involved in the fighting are non-Syrians.”

“I believe, I know, that persecution will not destroy the Church,” he added. “Christians have suffered very greatly. We are still suffering. It is not easy.”

[The Order joins Pope Francis in praying, “Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.”](#)

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