

POPE FRANCIS

ANGELUS

Saint Peter's Square Sunday, 29 May 2016

[Multimedia]

At the end of <u>this celebration</u>, I wish to extend a special greeting to you, dear deacons, who have come from Italy and other countries. Thanks for your presence here today, but most of all, your presence in the Church!

I greet all the pilgrims, in particular those from the European Association of Schützen historians; participants in the "Way of Forgiveness" promoted by the Celestiniano Movement; and the National Association for the Protection of Renewable Energy, committed to educating others to care for creation.

I also remember that today marks the National Day of Relief, aimed at helping people to live the final stage of their earthly existence well. I also remember the traditional pilgrimage to the Marian Shrine of Piekary in Poland, that is brought to completion today: May the Mother of Mercy support families and young people on their way to the World Youth Day in Krakow.

Next Wednesday, 1 June, on the occasion of International Children's Day, the Christian communities of Syria, both Catholic and Orthodox, together will raise a special prayer for peace, which will have children themselves as its protagonists. The Syrian children invite children from around the world to join their prayer for peace.

For these intentions, let us invoke the intercession of the Virgin Mary, as we entrust to her the life and ministry of all the deacons in the world.

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