



HOLY FATHER WARNS AGAINST THE VIRUS OF SELF INDEFERRENCE

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VATICAN -

The Holy Father Pope Francis has warned against the virus of self-indifference, noting that this a virus that could be deadlier than the Corona Virus pandemic currently ravaging the world. The Pope made this remark in his homily at the celebration of the Mass to mark the 20th anniversary of the institution of the Divine Mercy Sunday by Pope St. John Paul II in the year 2000.

The Pope stated: "Now, while we are looking forward to a slow and arduous recovery from the pandemic, there is a danger that we will forget those who are left behind. The risk is that we may then be struck by an even worse virus, that of selfish indifference. A virus spread by the thought that life is better if it is better for me, and that everything will be fine if it is fine for me. It begins there and ends up selecting one person over another, discarding the poor, and sacrificing those left behind on the altar of progress."

He added: "On this feast of Divine Mercy, the most beautiful message comes from Thomas, the disciple who arrived

late; he was the only one missing. But the Lord waited for Thomas. Mercy does not abandon those who stay behind.”

Pope Francis pointed out that the Covid-19 pandemic, reminds us that there are no differences or borders between those who suffer, adding that We are all frail, all equal, all precious. The Holy Father added that: “the time has come to eliminate inequalities, to heal the injustice that is undermining the health of the entire human family!”

He continued: “Let us learn from the early Christian community described in the Acts of the Apostles. It received mercy and lived with mercy: “All who believed were together and had all things in common; and they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need” (Acts 2:44-45). This is not some ideology: it is Christianity.”

Pope Francis reiterated the need for those who have to come to the aid of the needy, the poor, the marginalized as well as show mercy to most vulnerable people in order to build a new world order. His remarks: “let us not think only of our interests, our vested interests. Let us welcome this time of trial as an opportunity to prepare for our collective future. Because without an all-embracing vision, there will be no future for anyone.”

The Pope concluded: “Today the simple and disarming love of Jesus revives the heart of his disciples. Like the apostle Thomas, let us accept mercy, the salvation of the world. And let us show mercy to those who are most vulnerable;

for only in this way will we build a new world.”