

Message to all teenagers

Dear friends,

After the celebration of the Jubilee for teenagers in Rome, we could not help but think of each and every one of you.

We are living this Easter Season in which we celebrate the power of life breaking through the darkness bringing us the Good News that something new is taking place. Your life in these beautiful and complex age, is like a light waiting for the right moment to shine forth to announce a new beginning.

To you, who are strong and creative and are venturing into the world, we ask of you three things.

First of all, we ask you with all our hearts: **Have the courage to shine forth!** Do not leave us adults in the dark. Let the light you have within you become visible. Through the darkness and in the night, believe in the light burning bright within you and protect it. We and all of you were created to shine! The difficult road ahead of you is to believe this and to protect it. You have the responsibility to believe in the light that is within you and nobody else can do this for you. But we hope you will meet many friends, educators, family members or other fellow travelers who will teach you how to protect the beauty and the goodness that is sown in your lives. Be a shining generation, capable of believing in this light and of guarding it, so that you can illuminate the lives of many.

Dear friends, the second thing we ask of you is to protect and help grow within the newness of life until the opportune moment when it will spring forth. May you **have the courage for new beginnings!** May you reawaken in us adults the taste for novelty. You are God's present, the power of novelty and the joy of living. We ask you to help us not to forget the enthusiasm, the joy, the sense of adventure, and the desire for knowledge that characterizes your age. Make use of the legacy that you have inherited and invest it in newness. Sometimes novelty frightens us adults! We ask you to be our strength, our enthusiasm and the confidence that speaks to us of a new beginning that is always possible.

Finally dear friends, we ask you to **have the courage to lift up your gaze**, and may you live in awe and wonder at you see the horizon ahead of you! Help us adults to remember

that in order to learn how to navigate through life, one must look at the stars. Look up and open your hearts to great things. Do not be afraid of your dreams and work hard to fulfil them. The horizon will show you the goal and suggest the possible step you can take to reach it, and when you fall, it will give you the strength to get up again, because it will remain imprinted in your heart. Teach us awe, wonder and the ability to look far ahead of us.

Dear friends, may you be pilgrims of hope. This is your time and your opportunity. We adults need you to awaken the power of life that is still hidden within us. May the Lord and Saint Paula be your friends and may they journey with you along paths of happiness.

May you enjoy your journey as you look up to the stars to shine with newness!

We embrace each one of you!

From your "elder sisters",

Rome, April 27, 2025

General Government