



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Dear brothers and sisters of many different faiths,

Besides the bloody armed conflicts whose tragic accounts we receive daily, there are many conflicts that are referred to as low-intensity because they involve fighting, terrorist acts, retaliation with deaths and injuries, trauma, kidnappings, violence of all kinds, forced migration, threats... Many of these situations are happening on a daily basis in Asia (Myanmar, Afghanistan, Kashmir, Yemen...), in the form of internal crises in Latin America (Mexico, Haiti, Ecuador...) and Africa (Congo, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Cameroon...) and do not receive due attention from the media. Among them, we ask you to pray for the crisis in **Mozambique** and specifically in the region of Cabo Delgado, which has casualties and violence at the hands of the so-called jihadist groups targeting mainly governing bodies, military bases, places of worship and unarmed populations.

On February 27, I ask that, like each month, everyone gather in prayer with the community they belong to and also invite others to join spiritually to ask for peace in Mozambique. "Let us not forget: war is a defeat, always," Pope Francis reiterated recently. "Wherever there is fighting the people are worn out, they are tired of war, which as always is useless and ineffective, and will only bring death, only destruction, and will never lead to the solution of the problems. Instead, let us pray without tiring, because prayer is effective, and let us ask the Lord for the gift of minds and hearts that are concretely dedicated to peace".

May the Lord give you peace

Assisi, February 2024

+ Domenico Sorrentino, Bishop