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## UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION

### JULY

**“We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.”**



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## PRAYER INTENTION COMMENTARY

### POST-SYNODAL APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION

#### CHRISTUS VIVIT<sup>8</sup>

Francis

25 March 2019

169. I ask young people to go beyond their small groups and to build “social friendship, where everyone works for the common good. Social enmity, on the other hand, is destructive. Families are destroyed by enmity. Countries are destroyed by enmity. The world is destroyed by enmity. And the greatest enmity of all is war. Today we see that the world is destroying itself by war... So find ways of building social friendship”.<sup>[90]</sup> It is not easy, it always means having to give something up and to negotiate, but if we do it for the sake of helping others, we can have the magnificent experience of setting our differences aside and working together for something greater. If, as a result of our own simple and at times costly efforts, we can find points of agreement amid conflict, build bridges and make peace for the benefit of all, then we will experience the miracle of the culture of encounter. This is something which young people can dare to pursue with passion.

183. Dear young friends, do not let them exploit your youth to promote a shallow life that confuses beauty with appearances. [...] There is also a beauty, unrelated to appearances or fashionable dress, in all those men and women who pursue their personal vocation with love, in selfless service of community or nation, in the hard work of building a happy family, in the selfless and demanding effort to advance social harmony. To find, to disclose and to highlight this beauty, which is like that of Christ on the cross, is to lay the foundations of genuine social solidarity and the culture of encounter.

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<sup>8</sup> See full message:

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20190325\\_christus-vivit.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20190325_christus-vivit.html)

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