

Appeal and prayer for peace in the Caucasus

POPE FRANCIS

*ANGELUS*

*Saint Peter's Square  
Sunday, 19 July 2020*

*“Dear brothers and sisters,*

At this time when the pandemic shows no signs of coming to an end, I want to assure my closeness to all those suffering from the illness and its economic and social repercussions. My thoughts go out especially to the populations whose sufferings are heightened due to situations of conflict. Drawing from a recent United Nations resolution, I renew the appeal for a global and immediate ceasefire that would allow the peace and safety that are indispensable in order to provide the necessary humanitarian assistance.

In particular, I am following with concern the past few days’ renewed intensification of armed clashes in the Caucasus region between Armenia and Azerbaijan. While ensuring my prayers for the families of those who lost their lives during the clashes, I hope that, with the dedication of the international community, and through dialogue and the good will of the parties, a lasting peaceful solution for the good of those beloved peoples may be reached.”