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At the public audience in Rome this morning, Pope Francis recalled that Our Lady at Fatima asked for the daily recitation of the Rosary to bring peace in the world.

Today, at the weekly public audience in St. Peter's Square in Rome, the Holy Father alluded to the message of Fatima, in an appeal to pray the Rosary for world peace, recalling that May is the month that marks the first of the Apparitions of 1917, in Cova da Iria.

"At the beginning of this month of May, I recall the request of Our Lady of Fatima to the three Little Shepherds: 'Pray the Rosary every day for peace in the world and an end to the war'. I ask you too: pray the rosary for peace," Pope Francis said in his greeting to the Portuguese-speaking pilgrims present.

"Mary, Mother of Jesus and ours, help us to build paths of encounter and paths of dialogue, and give us the courage to undertake them without delay," concluded the Supreme Pontiff, in an appeal for peace.

On the Holy Father's agenda for the coming months is his presence at World Youth Day 2023, which will take place this year in the Portuguese capital from 1 to 6 August, and

the desire, already expressed by the Holy Father himself, to return to Fatima on that occasion.

Pope Francis was in Fatima as a pilgrim in 2017, on the Centenary of the Apparitions, when he canonised the first two saints of Fatima, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, in a presence that touched him deeply.

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