

**ADDRESS OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS ON THE OCCASION OF THE
LETTERS OF CREDENCE BY THE AMBASSADORS OF GUINEA, LATVIA, INDIA
AND BAHRAIN ACCREDITED TO THE HOLY SEE**

Clementine Hall

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[...] All this is necessary in order to overcome indifference and build peace. The year that is about to end has unfortunately been marked by an increase in violent conflicts, whether war-like or terrorist in nature. On the other hand, in more mature consciences, this situation is increasingly provoking a non-violent but spiritual and moral reaction. This is what we want and must nourish with the means at our disposal and according to our responsibilities. In keeping with her proper mission, with the Jubilee of Mercy that has just begun, the Catholic Church proposes to spread throughout the world the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation, calling the faithful and men and women of good will to open themselves up to the gift of God's grace and to practice what in our tradition are the "spiritual and corporal" works of mercy. "Civil society is likewise called to make specific and courageous gestures of concern for their most vulnerable members, such as prisoners, migrants, the unemployed and the infirm" (Message for the World Day of Peace 2016, n. 8). Moreover, in this Jubilee Year, I wish to formulate an "appeal to national leaders for concrete gestures in favour of our brothers and sisters who suffer from the lack of labour, land and lodging" (ibid.). At the international level, I earnestly hope that all nations will commit themselves to renew relations with others, cooperating actively to ensure the growth of fraternity in the great family of peoples as well (cf. ibid.). [...]