

APOSTOLIC LETTER
Misericordia et
misera
OF THE HOLY FATHER
FRANCIS
AT THE CONCLUSION
OF THE EXTRAORDINARY
JUBILEE OF MERCY
Francis
to all who read this Apostolic Letter
mercy and peace

20 November 2016

[Link](#)

18. [...] In our own day, whole peoples suffer hunger and thirst, and we are haunted by pictures of children with nothing to eat. Throngs of people continue to migrate from one country to another in search of food, work, shelter and peace. Disease in its various forms is a constant cause of suffering that cries out for assistance, comfort and support. Prisons are often places where confinement is accompanied by serious hardships due to inhumane living conditions. Illiteracy remains widespread, preventing children from developing their potential and exposing them to new forms of slavery. The culture of extreme individualism, especially in the West, has led to a loss of a sense of solidarity with and responsibility for others. Today many people have no experience of God himself, and this represents the greatest poverty and the major obstacle to recognizing the inviolable dignity of human life. [...]