

POPE FRANCIS
GENERAL AUDIENCE
Saint Peter's Square

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[...] When the image of the Virgin appeared on the tilma of Juan Diego, it was the prophecy of an embrace: Mary's embrace of all the peoples of the vast expanses of America – the peoples who already lived there, and those who were yet to come. Mary's embrace showed what America – North and South – is called to be: a land where different peoples come together; a land prepared to accept human life at every stage, from the mother's womb to old age; a land which welcomes immigrants, and the poor and the marginalized, in every age. A land of generosity.[...]