

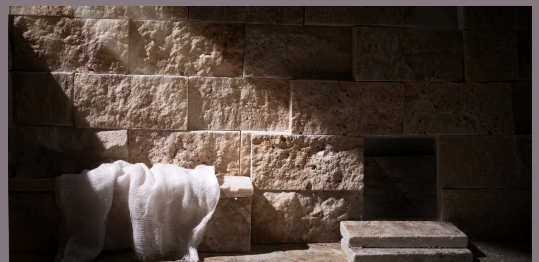
GLIMPSES OF RESURRECTION

As we celebrate Easter, we are reminded that the resurrection is not just an event of the past, but a living source of hope and renewal for us today. This season, we are honored to share reflections from Teresa Gomà RSCJ, Maricruz Trigueros RSCJ, and two students from Sacred Heart High School in Hammersmith, England. Let us rejoice together in these testimonies of faith and transformation.

During our Lent, we have coincided with periods of fasting observed by other religions: the month of Ramadan in Islam and the 19-day fast before the New Year in the Bahai faith. Three religions that seek, through certain practices of austerity, a greater awareness of one's own life and one's relationship with God and others. These practices, often misunderstood, speak to me of a humanity moving toward a better world, where the transcendent gains space and density.

The resurrection of Jesus and the life it brings includes all those who seek God, who do good, who work for the Kingdom. Let us feel invited to walk, sit, work, celebrate... with all those who, like us, feel like pilgrims of something more.

Teresa Gomà, rscj



Youth Advocates for Hope

Meet Eliana and Emanuela, two students from Sacred Heart High School in Hammersmith, London, who are passionate about building a more just and peaceful world. As young artisans of hope, they reflect on the impact of global conflict and the importance of raising awareness for those whose voices often go unheard.

We have a duty to learn about Gaza

by Emanuela Corrado

You may have heard of the crisis between Israel and Palestine but do you know what led up to this catastrophe? Do you know why Israel is recognised by only 164 of 192 UN member states and Palestine by just 146? Do you know why both countries are fighting over the same land? Do you know why there is tension between Jewish Israelis and Muslim Palestinians?

On 7 October 2023, an atrocity shook the Middle East. It is still affecting civilian lives today. On that day, Hamas, a Palestinian group recognised by the UK as a terrorist organisation, launched an attack from the Gaza Strip and killed 1,200 Israelis. So began the current war between Israel and Hamas. Since then, more than 40,000 Palestinians have been killed. Many have been women and children, say the UN. How would you feel living in fear of continuous war, in a society that threatens danger?

The conflict between Palestine and Israel has a long history, but here is a short summary. The Zionist movement, the nationalist movement to establish a Jewish nation (now known as Israel), was established as long ago as 1897. The British put their support behind the idea in 1917, when the Balfour Declaration established a “national home for the Jewish people” in Palestine, which was then an Ottoman region. For the next 30 years, Palestine was ruled by the British. In that time, thousands of Jewish people moved to the land, fleeing Europe. In November 1947, Britain handed over Palestine to the UN and adopted Resolution 181 (the Partition Plan) which established the separation of Arab and Jewish states. Six months later in 1948, the State of Israel was created and was admitted to the United Nations. The Arab world rejected the plan and a war broke out – and that year, more than half of the Palestinian population was displaced.

Israel and Palestine have gone through 16 wars or war-like clashes since 1947 to the present day. Sixteen wars! That’s up to six generations who had to face the reality of this war. But why is this important to us?



Well, by expanding our perspectives we can begin to understand how this war is affecting so many innocent people, allowing us to see the bigger picture. Remember that media outlets, and especially social media posts, are often biased and do not give the full story. By educating ourselves we will have more precise and informed opinions, enabling us to raise awareness and give victims the voice they don’t have.

Don’t let politics get in the way of the human race. We are one big community and helping each other lets us live in a better world. Now it is time to decide: what is your opinion?

Emanuela Corrado is a 15-year-old student at Sacred Heart High School in London who is a strong advocate for peace and the power of using voices instead of violence to create a better world. She recently wrote an article titled “We Have a Duty to Learn About Gaza” for The Day online newspaper, emphasizing that educating ourselves on complex issues like the Israel-Palestine conflict allows us to form more informed opinions, raise awareness, and give a voice to those who are often unheard. Drawing from her half-Croatian heritage, Emanuela understands the devastating effects of war, which deepens her commitment to promoting peace, respect, and mutual support.

The Forgotten Crisis

by Eliana Bulla

Imagine waking up one morning to seeing the world you know and love collapse into dust. Imagine fleeing your home with nothing but the clothes you wear, hoping, praying— if you would ever see your family again, or even if you would live to see another day. But who is listening?

Tensions are constantly on the rise in many parts of the world, with wars that barely make the headlines. Ethiopia, once again, is consumed by violence. The Democratic Republic of Congo is drowning in conflict. Families in Sudan are stripped of their human rights, experiencing extreme famine. In Myanmar, ethnic communities are facing violence, particularly the Rohingya Muslims, forcing hundreds of thousands into refugee camps. In Colombia, decades of civil unrest and drug cartel violence have displaced millions, making them one of the largest victims of emigration. These aren't just facts; they represent real people's lives, all of which are at risk and often overlooked.

A prominent example of one of the most overlooked conflicts in Africa is the Eritrea-Ethiopia war (1998–2000). Whilst the war officially ended with the Algiers Agreement (2000), tensions persisted for nearly two decades, leading to continued suffering, human rights abuse, and a refugee crisis that rarely gets brought up.

To this day, many refugees face exploitation in Libya, Sudan, and even Europe. Ethiopia, as a result of the conflict, left nearly a million people fleeing from their homes, many women and children being brutally attacked because of their ethnicity, particularly in border regions.

While a peace agreement was signed in 2018, border tensions and internal conflict continue to this day. Eritrean and Ethiopian people's suffering is largely ignored by global media and governments, despite them constantly living in fear that another war may break out between these two volatile countries. There is no war, there is no peace. Millions all over Africa now face global corruption as a consequence of these wars, and even at risk of a further proxy war. But no one notices—these wars are forgotten.

Meanwhile, in Myanmar, the Rohingya people, a Muslim minority, have faced decades of persecution. In 2017, a civil war forced over 700,000 Rohingya to flee their homes, seeking refuge in Bangladesh. Many remain in overcrowded camps, living in unrelenting worry and uncertainty. Despite being denied basic rights, the Rohingya continue to face repression. The crisis in Myanmar, despite violating basic human rights, we, internationally, continue to ignore it.

In Colombia, due to the five decades of armed conflict between the government, guerilla groups, and drug cartels, there has been immense suffering. While a peace deal was signed with the FARC guerilla group in 2016, there has been aggression toward indigenous communities, along with the influence of drug cartels, left Colombians no choice but to be forced to leave their homes in search of safety.



2.4 million people in Ethiopia rely on food aid, but support is disappearing. Nearly 10 million people in Sudan are displaced. The crisis in Congo has forcefully affected hundreds of thousands of families, some still yet to reunite. Over 1 million Rohingya refugees remain in Bangladesh. In Colombia, millions of people are forced from their homes due to the ongoing violence. We claim there's an end, but we are not striving for change, leaving countless lives lost as a result of our carelessness.

Where is the need for action? Where is the urgency? Where is humanity? The crisis is not just war—it is neglect. It is the silence of governments, the apathy of the media, the failure of us as a whole. We have the resources. We have the voice. But are we willing to offer our support?

How many children will be left to suffer in silence before we act? How many futures will be gone before I finish this sentence? The people of Congo, Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Burkina Faso, Myanmar, and Colombia—they are not just victims. They are survivors and fighters, trapped in corruption, poverty, and distress. They live in conditions most people can't bear—where clean water is a luxury, education is a dream, and healthcare is a privilege only a few can afford. Yet, each day, we watch as their leaders exploit them, and their governments show little regard for citizens' physical and mental abuse. Why do we condone this? Why do we let corruption thrive whilst millions are still vulnerable?

Despite all these factors, there is hope. In refugee camps, no matter their living conditions, communities come together, sharing what they have, no matter how much. In war-torn cities, children still laugh, and families have hope. Activists, aid workers, and ordinary people are fighting back against despair, proving that when united, humanity is not lost. No war, no exploitation, and no amount of torment can destroy the resilience of mankind.

Let us act as artisans of hope. Let us demand justice, and help them. Because they are not just statistics. They are people. The world cannot afford to forget them. And we must not turn away.



Eliana is a 14-year-old student at Sacred Heart High School Hammersmith. She has a keen interest in global conflicts, particularly in understanding their impact on victims worldwide. Eliana is especially concerned about why certain issues receive less attention than others, resulting in a lack of humanitarian aid for many countries that desperately need it. Her perspective highlights the uneven global response to crises and the urgent need for greater awareness and support for affected populations.



Review of the project "Homes with Heart"

A home built with supportive hands and open hearts

In the midst of a world that is often closed to the pain of the most vulnerable, projects are born that give us back hope, that remind us that fraternity is still possible and that social transformation begins with small acts of love: "Homes with a Heart" is one of those projects. It is not just about building walls or putting roofs. It is about building homes from shared dignity, from the encounter between people who, although different, mutually recognize each other as brothers and sisters.

This project arose from an alliance between the Sacred Heart of Mexico schools and the organization "Construyendo Comunidades Integrales A.C.", who have the mission of promoting solidarity in volunteers as a fundamental part of their human development, through experiences that touch the heart and raise awareness.

On March 14, 15 and 16, 2025, 194 people went to Ocuituco, Morelos to build houses for 6 families living in conditions of extreme poverty. The project is led by the sixth year high school students of the Sacred Heart School of Mexico and as guests are the schools of San Luis Potosí, Guadalajara and Monterrey, and on this occasion young people from 5 of our schools in the United States also came.



This process began in September 2024 when all these young people committed themselves to the cause and assumed the responsibility of raising the necessary funds to cover the cost of each home. Each wall placed, each mixture made under the sun, each word shared with the families, builds much more than a house: it builds community, commitment and awareness.

The beneficiary families also become protagonists of change. They provide the pavement of their house and offer food during the three days of construction for more than 30 people. Their generosity, hospitality and deep gratitude become a mirror that reflects the essential: that the true home is not measured by the square meters, but by the warmth of the heart that inhabits it.

"Homes with a Heart" is a proposal for mutual transformation. For three days, volunteers and families share not only work, but stories, dreams and hopes. Bonds are created that break with the logic of privilege and oblivion, and the certainty is sown in each young person that another way of living, more just and more humane, is possible. Values such as solidarity, generosity, service and justice come to life and are engraved in the heart of each one.

What is experienced in Ocuituco does not stay in Ocuituco. Each person who participates returns differently. With our hearts enlarged by love, with our hands more willing to serve, with our eyes open to realities that challenge. "Homes with a Heart" is an invitation not to settle for the world as it is, but to be an active part of its reconstruction.



Because when you build with your heart, the result is not just a house... it is a home, a hope, a strengthened community, one more step towards the Kingdom of God that we dream of.

Maricruz Trigueros rscj

Inspired by these glimpses of resurrection, this Easter we embrace a renewed hope and deepened faith. Let us carry forward Jesus' example by continuing to work and hope for a better world—one filled with compassion, peace, and love.

