

POPE PRAYS FOR PEACE AHEAD OF 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II OUTBREAK

POPE FRANCIS PRAYS THAT THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE START OF WORLD WAR II, WHICH FALLS ON 1 SEPTEMBER, MAY BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON THE HORRORS OF WAR.

BY DEVIN WATKINS

SUNDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER, MARKS 80 YEARS SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR. ON THAT DAY IN 1939, GERMANY INVADED POLAND, LEADING BRITAIN AND FRANCE TO DECLARE WAR ON ADOLF HITLER'S NAZI STATE, TWO DAYS LATER.

POPE FRANCIS RECALLED THAT TRAGIC DAY ON WEDNESDAY, AS WELL AS THE COMMEMORATIONS TO BE HELD IN WARSAW, WIELUN, AND OTHER POLISH CITIES.

PEACE OVER HATRED "WE SHALL ALL PRAY FOR PEACE, SO THAT THE TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES OF HATE — WHICH BROUGHT ONLY DESTRUCTION, SUFFERING, AND DEATH — MAY NEVER BE REPEATED," HE SAID.

THE POPE ALSO INVITED EVERYONE TO PRAY TO GOD, SO THAT "PEACE MAY REIGN IN THE HEARTS OF ALL AND IN FAMILIES, SOCIETIES, AND AMONGST PEOPLES."