

Peace with us.

The proposal of THE IDEA OF THIS MONTH is to make an experience of a new life and peace, that true gift that penetrates the soul and transforms life, so that we can share it with others. And this requires us to leave ourselves, our fragile assurances and our horizons, to extend in time and space the mission of announcing love for the construction of universal fraternity.

In May 2005, Chiara Lubich said this same slogan about peace: *"Words are no longer enough. The announcement of the proposal of love will be effective if it is based on the testimony of life, it will be effective if it can be said of us: 'Look how they love one another, willing to die reciprocally'; It will be effective if our love responds to those who are in need, if we know how to give food, clothes and rooms to those who do not have them, friendship to those who are alone or desperate, support those who go through a trial. By living like this, we will witness to concrete love."*

We can find love with men and women prisoners of pain and loneliness. We can offer, with respect, to be their companions in the path of life towards peace, as María Pía did with her friends in a small centre in southern Italy where they are at the service of migrants. In their faces there are stories of pain, war and violence suffered.

"What am I looking for? -explains María Pía-: it is the love that gives meaning to my life and I know that I can live it with all the most wounded brothers and through the association with which I collaborate we offer language courses and we help them find room and work, attending to your material needs. When we asked if they also had needs for spiritual support, the proposal was received with joy by some Orthodox women. People of diverse convictions also arrived at the reception centre for immigrants. With this concrete love was born a friendship that is also consolidated through cultural meetings, round tables and concerts. We discover people that seeks and finds new ways of unity in diversity to bear witness to the love of our brothers and sisters".