



XXI Anniversary

Bosco dei Faggi – 8 October, 2022

To all of you present here today goes my most affectionate good morning.

Good morning to family friends, always very numerous, who never miss this annual event as a testimony of the memory that always lives in our hearts.

Good morning to all the authorities, religious, civil and military, also very numerous, to the municipal administration, to the representatives of the region who, with their presence, will share with us an extremely important and significant moment.

For the first time, the day that 21 years ago marked the saddest moment in the history of Italian civil aviation, will not only see the commemoration of those who with the sacrifice of their lives, guided and still guide what we do and believe in, but will also be the celebration of a national day. In the words of the President of ENAC Pierluigi Di Palma, this day is dedicated to the culture of transport safety and, in particular, that of civil aviation.

Our 8th October from now on will always coincide with the official celebration of the National Day "Not to forget" dedicated to the memory of the victims of Linate's accident of 8th October 2001, and an opportunity to promote safety, established by an act of Parliament and very much wished for by all of us.

For this, I wish to thank once again the President of ENAC, the Director General Alessio Quaranta and the honorable member Raffaella Paita who have worked so hard to obtain the formalization at the Parliament.

Our hard work to obtain such day of remembrance is part of our commitment to air transport safety, and the protection of aviation workers as well as passengers', always assisted by our dear friends of the Technical Task Force who with their generous collaboration, are always by our side.



October 8th, from now on, will be the day that looks both to the past, to celebrate the memory of what must not be forgotten, and to the future, to promote the culture of transport safety and in particular that of civil aviation.

Any initiative aimed at promoting remembrance will always be celebrated on the 8th October each year. In schools, offices, wherever people will want to raise awareness on the subject of transport safety.

Although we expected our loved ones to be on a safe flight too, a tragedy happened and, in such tragedy, we joined our forces along the only path we could see: that of 'never giving up'.

21 years later we still try to put ourselves at the service of others by offering testimony of our painful experience, so that such tragedies won't happen again. We preserve the memory, the experiences, the pain, and pass on to the new generations the positive lessons.

I will never get tired of saying that everything we have done and continue to do, it is for our loved ones' memory, but especially to allow our young people - the new generations - to be part of a better world, where they can live with hope in their hearts and make their best dreams come true.

I know I am repetitive at times when I talk about young people, but they are so so close to my heart.

To them we must hand over a future, as well as a better present. It is up to them to work and follow the positive models that we testify to them, to them not to repeat past mistakes and always aim for the light, towards the sun, towards trust and hope.

"Fairy tales don't tell children that dragons exist, they already know that. Fairy tales tell children that dragons can be defeated" (said Roberto Benigni in a speech).

To you, children...and young people...to all of you who are just starting to experience life, take and make good use of the 'heavy baggage' we offer you, and make this a better world.



I conclude by reading part of the speech that His Holiness gave at the audience with the international air transport sector, held on May 13th, which was also attended by one of our delegations. The words addressed to the aeronautical world are also a praise to the work that we, family members, have dedicated and continue to dedicate to aviation safety.

His Holiness said "One of your concerns is also to implement adequate programs in order to prevent serious transport accidents, and in this regard, I hope that the national day "Not to forget", created to remember the victims of the tragic Linate plane crash, will be an opportunity to raise awareness among aviation stakeholders on the centrality of the passenger and the value of every single person. I encourage you to carry on with this annual appointment, and I congratulate you for being able to experience both the religious and the human dimension – your point of reference being the Holy House of Loreto, in your Patroness, to whom you are particularly devoted to."

I wish to greet everyone with a hug and a thought from Saint Teresa of Calcutta as per tradition: " "We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.'