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Theme of the Holy Father Francis' Message for the 56th World Communications Day

This is the theme that the Holy Father Francis has chosen for the 56th World Communications Day, to be celebrated in 2022:

Listen!

After the Message of 2021, which focused on *going* and *seeing*, in his new Message for World Communications Day 2022 Pope Francis asks the world of communication to learn to *listen* again.

The pandemic has affected and wounded everyone, and everyone needs to be heard and comforted. Listening is also fundamental for good information. The search for truth begins with listening. And so does witnessing through the means of social communication. Every dialogue, every relationship begins with listening. For this reason, in order to grow, even professionally, as communicators, we need to relearn to listen a lot.

Jesus himself asks us to pay attention to how we listen (cf. *Lk* 8:18). To be able to truly listen requires courage, and a free and open heart, without prejudice.

At this time when the whole Church is invited to listen in order to learn to be a synodal Church, we are all invited to rediscover listening as essential for good communication.