Pope Francis said the following in his Christmas address in 2017 but with all that is happening in the world it is just as apt for this time.

Christmas invites us to focus on the sign of the Child and to recognize him in the faces of little children, especially those for whom, like Jesus, ‘there is no place in the inn’ (Luke 2:7).

We see Jesus in the children of the middle East, who continue to suffer because of tensions between Israelis and Palestinians.

We see Jesus in children worldwide, wherever peace and security are threatened by the danger of new conflicts.

We see Jesus in children whose childhood has been robbed, and who, from a very young age, have been forced to work or to be enrolled as soldiers by unscrupulous mercenaries.

We see Jesus in the many children forced to leave their countries to travel alone in inhuman conditions, and who become an easy target for human traffickers.

May our hearts not be closed, as they were in the homes of Bethlehem. May we welcome in the Baby Jesus, the love of God made real for us.

And may we commit ourselves, with the help of his grace, to making our world more human and more worthy for the children of today and of the future.’

Pope Francis, Urbi et Orbi message, Christmas 2017