

# *Pope expresses concern about children in poverty amid virus*

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Vatican City, June 11 (RHC)-- Pope Francis has appealed for help to protect children who are being forced to work to help their families living in extreme poverty during the coronavirus pandemic.

Speaking from the Papal library at the Vatican during his weekly audience, the Pope said that in some circumstances this amounted to child slavery or imprisonment. Pausing from his prepared text, the Pope added: "And we are all responsible for this."

There have been 12 cases of COVID-19 among the employees and residents of the small Vatican city state.

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