

Pope Francis has said (1) \_\_\_\_\_ than COVID-19. He said gossip is a danger that divides communities. He added that the devil is the "biggest gossip" who is seeking (2) \_\_\_\_\_ with his lies. The Pope spoke (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of gossiping during his weekly blessing at the Vatican. He said: "Please brothers and sisters, let's try to not gossip. Gossip is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ than COVID. Worse. Let's make a big effort. No gossiping." The Pope has regularly spoken about (5) \_\_\_\_\_ gossiping, especially on social media. He advises people not to listen to Internet trolls, saying: "If something goes wrong, (6) \_\_\_\_\_ prayer for the brother or sister who make a mistake, but never gossip."

The Pope was making his first (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the pandemic started. His latest speech on gossip is not the first time he has (8) \_\_\_\_\_ on the topic. In 2016, he warned people not to "fuel the terrorism of gossip". He (9) \_\_\_\_\_ resist the temptation to spread gossip. He said: "If you get (10) \_\_\_\_\_ say something against a brother or a sister, to drop a gossip bomb, (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Hard." Two years later he brought the subject up again. He told worshippers in St Peter's Square that gossip is lethal "because the tongue kills, (12) \_\_\_\_\_. A visitor to the Vatican agreed. She said: "Gossips are nothing but scandalmongers and busybodies."