

Pope says gossiping is 'worse than COVID'

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

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| 1. Pope Francis said communities divide gossiping. | T / F |
| 2. Francis said the biggest gossip was the devil. | T / F |
| 3. Francis advised people to listen to trolls on the Internet. | T / F |
| 4. The Pope suggested praying and being quiet if something goes wrong. | T / F |

GOSSIPING: Put the things you gossip about most at the top. Discuss your answers.

- movie stars
- neighbours
- other students
- the boss
- teachers
- best friends
- a spouse
- celebrities