



PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE
January 1 – World Peace Day

Traditionally, the Catholic Church considers the New Year a time of reflection, a time to pray for peace.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons and daughters of God...You have learned how it was said, "You must love your neighbor and hate your enemy"; but I say to you, "Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you. In this way, you will be daughters and sons of your Creator in heaven."

"Wherever and whenever men and women are enlightened by the splendor of truth, they naturally set out on the path of peace."

Pope Benedict XVI

On my knees I beg you to turn away from the paths of violence. . . .I say to you, with all the love I have for you, with all the trust I have in young people: do not listen to voices which speak the language of hatred, revenge, retaliation. Do not follow any leaders who train you in the way of inflicting death. . . .Give yourself to the service of life, not the work of death. Violence is the enemy of justice. Only peace can lead the way to true justice."

Pope John Paul II

A "peacemaker" seeks to bring harmony and reconciliation between those who are estranged. Peacemaking seeks to produce right relationships between persons.

Peacemakers are needed in our churches.

Peacemakers are needed in our homes.

Peacemakers are needed among nations.

The greatest need is to carry to people the message of "peace with God" (Romans 5:1).

www.sspeterandpaul.net (Ministries/ Christian Service/ Peace)

Next Social Justice Mtg.: Thurs.1/25/06; 7:30-9:30, Rm. 227