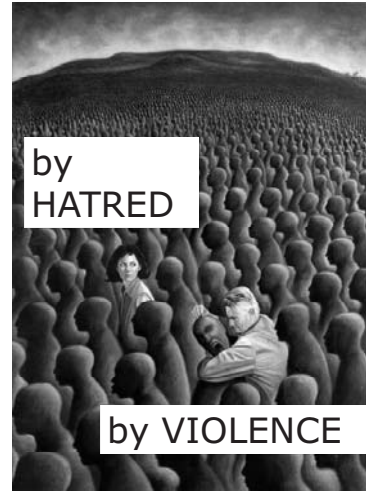


*The  
CIRCLE of LIFE  
JOURNEY*

*SESSION 8  
Respect for Peace  
and Love for  
Our Enemies*

As our JOURNEY continues . . .  
We now acknowledge, with great sadness . . .  
. . . that the SEAMLESS GARMENT OF LIFE  
has been ripped, torn apart, & unraveled . . .



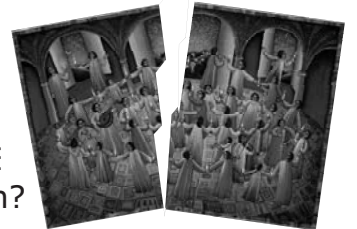
and especially . . .  
by the tragedy of WAR



How can the  
SEAMLESS GARMENT OF LIFE

be repaired;  
be re-woven;

be made  
WHOLE  
again?



We must learn to spin  
new threads of PEACE,  
and weave them together  
with JUSTICE.



Gandhi —architect of peaceful resistance,  
spinning his own thread

Dorothy Day  
— peace activist  
at her spinning wheel.



The profound effect  
of her work was noted  
when the U.S. Bishops  
declared

**PEACEMAKING**

a requirement for  
Catholics in the  
United States.

Blessed are the PEACEMAKERS,  
for they shall be called  
the children of God.



Matthew 5:3-10

Jesus,  
the Prince  
of Peace . . .



embodied  
NONVIOLENCE . . .

preached  
FORGIVENESS . . .



taught  
RECONCILIATION . . .





. . . and made  
PEACE  
by the blood  
of his cross.

Col 1:20

. . . Bringing to the world  
a new reign of PEACE  
long foretold  
by the prophets . . .



“They shall beat  
their swords  
into  
plowshares  
and  
their spears  
into  
pruning hooks.”



Isaiah 2:4

“One nation  
shall not raise the sword  
against another, nor shall  
they train for war again.”



Isaiah  
2:4



*The Peaceable Kingdom*

Then the wolf shall be  
a guest of the lamb,  
and the leopard  
shall lie down  
with the kid;

The calf and  
the young lion shall  
browse together,  
with a little child  
to guide them. . . .

Isaiah 11:6

*Respect for PEACE,  
and LOVE  
FOR OUR ENEMIES*



*What the Church teaches . . . .*

Peacemaking is not  
an optional commitment.



It is a requirement  
of our faith.

We are called to be peacemakers,  
not by some movement of the moment,  
but by our Lord Jesus.

U.S. Bishops "The Challenge of Peace"



"But to you who hear I say,  
**LOVE YOUR ENEMIES,**



do good to those who hate you,  
bless those who curse you,  
pray for those who mistreat you."

Luke 6: 27-28

"Do to others  
as you would have them  
do to you."

Luke 6:31



"Do not repay  
anyone evil for evil . . .

If possible, on your part,  
live at PEACE with all."

Romans 12:17-19



"To the person who  
strikes you on one cheek,  
offer the other one as well,



and from the person  
who takes your cloak,  
do not withhold  
even your tunic."

Luke 6: 29-30

Rather, "if your enemy is hungry,  
feed him;

if he is thirsty, give him  
something to drink;



for by so doing  
you will heap burning coals  
upon his head."

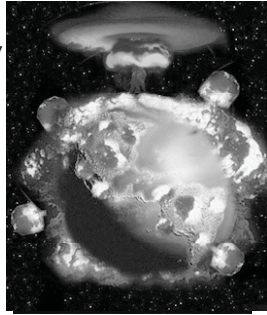
"Do not be conquered by evil  
but conquer evil with good."

Romans 12:17-19

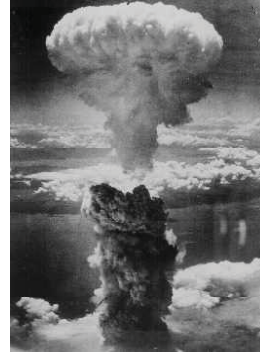
God is the Lord of life,  
and so each  
human life  
is sacred . . .

Modern warfare  
threatens  
the obliteration  
of human life

on a previously unimaginable scale.



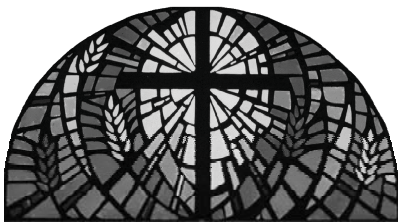
The protection of innocent people . . .  
has been a core principle  
of the Just War theory  
almost from  
its inception . . .



Yet it was flagrantly  
violated  
by all participants  
in WWII.

Catholic Update "What is Just War Today"

*What the Church teaches . . . .*  
. . . about "JUST WAR"



## JUST CAUSE

War is permissible only to confront  
"a real and certain danger"

- to protect innocent life
- to preserve conditions necessary  
for decent human existence
- &
- to secure basic human rights

## COMPETENT AUTHORITY

War must be declared by those  
with responsibility for public order,  
not by private groups or individuals.

## COMPARATIVE JUSTICE

One side in the dispute must  
be sufficiently "right", and  
the values at stake must be critical enough  
to override the presumption against  
war and the killing that will result.



## RIGHT INTENTION

War can be legitimately intended only for the reasons set forth above as a just cause.



## LAST RESORT

For the resort to war to be justified, all peaceful alternatives must have been exhausted.

## PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS

Irrational resort to force or hopeless resistance must not take place when the outcome will clearly be disproportionate or futile.

## PROPORTIONALITY

The damage to be inflicted and the costs incurred by war must be proportionate to the good expected by taking up arms.

The development and use of nuclear weapons introduced a new reality:



the possible destruction of the world . . .

if there should be a massive exchange of nuclear weapons.

We are the first generation since Genesis with the power to virtually destroy God's creation.

We cannot remain silent in the face of such danger.



The harvest of justice  
is sown in PEACE  
for those who  
cultivate PEACE.



James 3:18

May we sow the seeds  
of PEACE so that . . .

Kindness and truth will meet;  
JUSTICE and PEACE will kiss.



Psalms 85:11

This day,  
let us commit ourselves  
ever more firmly . . .  
to cultivating PEACE on Earth.



### *Prayer for Peace*

by Pax Christi

Oh God,  
we believe that peacemaking  
means planting seeds  
even though we may  
never see the flower,  
and that it means  
never losing sight  
of the vision promised by You.

We hold fast to Your word  
that one day swords  
will be beaten into plowshares.

May we, as peacemakers,  
stake our lives on that promise.

We ask this  
through your life-giving Spirit . . .

## *Amen*

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