

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

JANUARY 1, 2017



Heavenly Father,
You blessed the Virgin Mary with the fullness of grace. She is my model of faith, hope, and love. I give this new year to her intercession and ask for her holy prayers. Place my needs into the protection of her motherly love. With her help, I want my faith to grow. Give me an increase in the virtue of hope when troubles tempt me to despair. Guide me in understanding Your infinite love. And join my heart, dear Lord, to the Holy Mother's Immaculate Heart, so that I may improve in loving everyone unconditionally, in imitation of my Savior, Jesus.

Amen.

Author Unknown

NEW PRAGUE AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY *Three Sites of Worship, One Faith Community*

**Including St. Wenceslaus &
The Western Catholic Community of St. John the Evangelist and St. Scholastica**

215 MAIN STREET EAST ■ NEW PRAGUE, MN 56071 ■ 952-758-3225 ■ NPCATHOLIC.ORG

We welcome you...

Welcome to the greater New Prague Area Catholic Community which includes the Church of St. Wenceslaus and the Western Catholic Community of St. John the Evangelist and St. Scholastica. We are happy you are here. Should you be visiting just for today, WELCOME! If you are seeking a church home, we would be honored to have you consider joining our faith community. If you are interested in a membership, please phone the parish office for assistance and registration. If you are over the age of 21, we ask that you register. Please feel free to stop by the parish office during office hours to register or you may do so online. Again, we are happy you are here.

At the Church of St. Wenceslaus**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

MASS SCHEDULE**Weekend Masses**

Saturday..... 4:00 pm
 Sunday..... 8:30 & 10:30 am

Morning Word & Communion

Monday & Tuesday 8:00 am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00 am

SACRAMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION**Anointing of the Sick**

Available to those who are seriously ill or suffering from a prolonged illness. Call 952-758-3225

Confirmation

Preparation required. Call 952-758-5131

Reconciliation

Saturdays at 3 pm in the church.

Baptism

Preparation required. Call 952-758-3225

Marriage

Six months to one year preparation time required.
 Call 952-758-3225

Rosary

Monday – Friday 7:30 am & Saturday 8:00 am in the church.

Fatima Prayer Cell

Monday – Wednesday after 8 am service in the chapel.

Adoration

Friday 9:00 am to midnight in the chapel

Early Morning Scripture Study

Wednesday 6:45 to 7:50 am - Pius X Room in church basement.

Fr. Kevin's Bible Study

Saturdays 9:30 to 11 am - Pius X Room in church basement.

Prayer Chain

Judy: 952-758-2220 or Arnita: 952-758-4943

From the Desk of Father Kevin**Solemnity of Mary ~ Mother of God**

Many of you have heard the wonderful Christmas song "Mary, did you know?" This new Christmas carol has really captured me this Christmas. I think the questions asked by it pushes us deeper into what we celebrate as a Christian community, not only here in this Christmas season, but also weekly when the Christian community gathers for Eucharist.

Note some of the words of "Mary, did you know?":

Mary did you know that your baby boy will save our sons and daughters? Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?

Mary did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand? Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? And when you kiss your little baby, you have kissed the face of God.

Mary did you know, Mary did you know, Mary did you know?

What is the answer to all those questions? In working toward an answer of did she or didn't she, you and I enter more deeply into why we are here.

So, what did Mary know?

- ◆ As she was carrying the fetal Christ within her? Did she know?
- ◆ As she held her newborn infant in her arms, what did she know?
- ◆ When mysterious strangers from the east came with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh for anointing the dead body of her son, did she know?
- ◆ When Mary, Joseph, and infant Jesus had the political environment threaten their very lives and they fled to Egypt becoming refugees in a foreign land so that they could survive, did Mary know?
- ◆ When Joseph and Mary, parented the adolescent Jesus and they lose him in Jerusalem and Mary expresses her displeasure with her teenage son, did she know?
- ◆ Finally, when she held the lifeless, crucified body of her deceased son, did she know? What answer would Michelangelo give who carved the "Pieta" of Mary holding the lifeless body of her son?

I believe the answers we give to these questions enrich the mystery of the Incarnation of God which we celebrate as a church. My answers are "No" ~ primarily in her conscious thinking Mary did NOT know. She was like us, trying to consciously understand why things are the way they are and dealing with a lot of bewilderment and sometimes painful, alarming shock.

But on the other hand, my answers to "Mary, did you know....?" are also YES she did! Her spiritual intuition unconsciously allowed her to trust the hand of God in the realities of her life and her Son's life. Her life teaches us who we are as disciples of Jesus. She was convinced that whatever happened, her life would "magnify the Lord". She wasn't doing "her thing" her own way. She was pregnant with Christ ~ before and after she gave birth to Him. She was living her life with Christ, in Christ, and thru Christ. It is what got her to where her life needed to be.

Our living as disciples of Jesus gets us to where we need to be. Of course, as with Mary, our journeys are meandering trips where most of the time we don't know the way, except to trust that we journey with Christ. That journey includes the support and guidance that comes from journeying with other disciples within a faith community who are also "pregnant" with Christ living with, in, and through them.

Fr. Kevin Clinton, Pastor

Western Catholic Community

From the Desk of Father Dave

Rejoice in the Newness

As we look back on 2016, we planned some significant changes in our community. We will spend a big chunk of 2017 implementing those changes and create a different phase in our history. Know that God is with us in our wonderful accomplishments and in our sorrows. I believe 2017 will be a year we can roll up our sleeves and really become intentional disciples. We must cultivate a personal relationship with Jesus and students of our church. We want to learn all we can by participating in the weekend liturgies, paying more attention to scripture by reading the readings ahead of time, and reaching out to the poor. If we work on this in the coming year, we may help to build the Kingdom of Heaven right here on earth.

Changes to the Western Catholic Community Site Pastoral Council will occur in 2017. Mary Carol Wolf, who has been with us since the beginning, is now stepping down from the council. She will still have a major impact on our community; we thank her for her work on the council. Ann Prochaska joins the council for three years in the seat that was occupied by Mary Carol. Amy Lemke has finished the term of Dave Gallagher. She has been offered and accepted her own three year term. Leonard Pexa has resigned from the council due to health reasons and Jessica Weckman has agreed to fill out the last year of his term. I am grateful to Leonard for his insights and I will likely seek out his advice. Amy, Ann, and Jessica join Linda Brooks, Tony Brezina, and Cindy Jirak who are already on the council. Please contact any of them with, compliments, questions, and concerns. I look forward to working with this group!

I wish to thank all of you for your wonderful Christmas prayers and gifts. I need your prayers, and the gifts will make me a regular shopper at Coborn's and other area businesses. Your generosity is overwhelming. It is great to be appreciated and I will strive to work even harder to help make Jesus Christ known and loved.

Fr. Dave Barrett

Regional Associate Pastor

New Prague Area Catholic Community

Mass Schedule Volunteers - St. John's & St. Scholastica

January 7 & 8, 2017	Saturday St. John's 8:15 PM	Sunday St. Scholastica 8:00 AM	Sunday St. John's 10:00 AM
Lector	Mary Carol Wolf	Karen Odenthal	Amy Lemke
Eucharistic Ministers	Carol Weiers	Mariene Dohmen, Geraldine Odenthal & Jenna Heimer	Jill Holden, Jonila Weiers & Dave Webb
Servers	Mitchel & Hunter Pomije	Steven & Billy Odenthal	Gloria, Owen & Sylvia Lemke, Katelynn Brezina
Gift Bearer Family		Gary Odenthal Family	Nate Sticha Family

Important Information

Weekend Masses

Saturday.....	8:15 pm	St. John's
Sunday.....	8:00 am	St. Scholastica
Sunday.....	10:00 am	St. John's

Weekday Masses

Wednesday.....	5:00 pm	St. John's
Thursday.....	5:00 pm	St. Scholastica

SACRAMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

Reconciliation

Wednesday.....	5:30 pm	St. John's
Thursday.....	5:30 pm	St. Scholastica

Baptism & Confirmation

Preparation required. Call Fr. Dave Barrett

Anointing of the Sick

Call Fr. Dave Barrett

Marriage

Prep required. Call Fr. Dave Barrett

Adoration

Fridays 9:00 am to midnight at St. Wenceslaus Daily Chapel

WESTERN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OFFICE

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kpgiesen@bevcomm.net

Prayer Chain WCC:

Jackie Henle 952-758-3465

Noreen Giesen 952-758-2608

Marlene Dohmen 952-492-6879

COLLECTION INFORMATION

WESTERN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016

**Due to the holidays,
collection information
was unavailable
at press deadline.**

Thank you for your support!

Bulletin E-mail: info@npcatholic.org

Website: <http://www.npcatholic.org>

PARISH AND AREA NEWS

PLEASE NOTE ~

There will be no Word and Communion Service on Monday, January 2nd. The parish office will be closed.

Area Separated & Divorce Support Group

Area Separated & Divorce Support Group meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month, 7-8:30 pm, in the Parish Office Building. The Topic for Jan. 3 & 17, "What Gives You Inner Strength?". If you or a loved one is experiencing the loss of a long-term relationship, married or unmarried, you may desire to connect with this group since they understand what you are going through at this time in your life. Questions? Please call Deacon Bob Wagner at (952) 758-0463 or Mary Pieper at (952) 873-6781.

BeFriends Invite Special Guest

Pastor Diane Goulson will join BeFriends and guests on Tues., Jan. 10th from 7-8:30 pm in the St. Wenceslaus Parish office building. She will talk on beginning new things and self care. For more information contact Ann Schoenbauer at (952) 758-3456 or Lois Giesen at (952) 758-2138.

Adult Discussion Group

The Adult Discussion Group will meet at 6 pm at the Parish House (please enter at the back door) on Sun., Jan. 15th to discuss the "Development and Formation of Doctrine within the Church". As always, advance reading is not necessary. Be sure to bring your Bible. Bring a friend. ALL ARE WELCOME ~ especially newcomers! If you would like more information, call Dave or Susan Karan at (952) 461-3067.



What's your love language?

Sat., Jan. 21st at 9 am

St. Wenceslaus Parish Activities Center

As featured in Dr. Gary Chapman's timeless book, *The Five Love Languages*, there are different ways to speak and understand emotional love. **Couples of all ages are welcomed** to join us as we further understand our "second language" and the language of our loved ones. Keynote speaker, Stacia Christenson, will share inspiring information from this best-selling book, peppered with personal stories that offer a fresh and updated understanding of how to connect with others in a way that communicates authentic caring, understanding, and love. Fun, interesting, engaging ~ you'll be inspired and encouraged! Registration appreciated: lynn.sticha@npcatholic.org. Free childcare available.

Hope House Opening Doors Again

- ◆ Homeless families with children will receive a warm welcome, meals, and overnight accommodations at Hope House, Jan. 22-Feb. 5. Watch for Sign Up Genius next week if you have volunteered in the past.

- ◆ New volunteer training will be held Jan. 16 and 19 (attend one), 6:30-8 pm at Hope House, 305 Columbus Ave N. Contact Julie Huddock at (952) 994-5382 or Juliehuddock@yahoo.com to register.
- ◆ If you would like to provide a meal, contact Ruth Dols at (952) 758-2050.

To contribute needed items, go to signupgenius.com and Find a Sign Up. Enter this email address: hopehousefmf@gmail.com to find a list of needed items, which can be dropped off as indicated on the Sign Up. Call Beth Vander Heiden at (952) 378-7905 if you need help.

Groups Can Volunteer at Hope House

Service and professional organizations, scout and church groups are invited to spend time with our Hope House guests by providing and serving a meal or planning an activity to do with them some evening or on a weekend. Contact Mary Higgins at (952) 758-0464 for more information.

BeFriends Training Offered

Compassionate, active listening is the foundation of the BeFriender ministry. After training, men and women are assigned to meet with someone who will be blessed by their nonjudgmental, caring presence. Does this sound like something you might be called to do? BeFriends training will be offered at St. Wenceslaus Sat., Jan. 28th and six Tuesday evenings in Feb. and March. If you would like more information about BeFriends or know someone who might benefit from having a BeFriender, please call Ann Schoenbauer at (952) 758-3456 or Lois Giesen at (952) 758-2138 or visit this website: www.befrienderministry.org. **Please call by Jan. 13th to reserve a place in the class.**

Marriage Enrichment/Retreat Feb. 10-12 in New Prague

Married Couples ~ if you have ever thought about doing something special together to enhance your relationship, there is a wonderful opportunity coming to New Prague. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is coming to St. Wenceslaus the weekend of Feb. 10-12. A WWME Weekend is a great way to step away from the busyness of life and just focus on each other. The Weekend is designed for couples married anywhere from 6 months to 60 years. Pre-registration is required. Space is limited. For registration or more information, contact Dick & Mary Jo Hruby (612) 226-8378 or dmjhruby@bevcomm.net.



Breakfast with Dad Will Continue in January

We will continue in January and run through May. Bring your children (all ages) and join us for food, faith, and fellowship 8-9:30 am Saturday mornings in the St.

SUPPORT OUR PATRONS

who make this bulletin possible by their advertising.

This week we thank

SKLUZACEK CONSTRUCTION, INC ~ STEVE SKLUZACEK

Wenceslaus Church basement. There are very few things a father can give his children that will last forever. Activities will be provided for the children. Registration appreciated, but not required. lynn.sticha@npcatholic.org.

~ **COLLECTION INFORMATION** ~

St. Wenceslaus Site
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016

Due to the holidays, collection information was unavailable at press deadline.

Get In the Game and Give Blood

What: New Prague Community Blood Drive
When: Tues., Jan, 3rd, 12 pm-6 pm
Where: Mayo Clinic Health Systems ~ New Prague, Jameen Mape Conference Center

Memorial Blood Centers is partnering with the Minnesota Timberwolves to celebrate National Blood Donor Month. As a thank you for helping save lives, all presenting blood donors will receive a voucher redeemable for two **Minnesota Timberwolves tickets!** All blood types are needed ~ especially O negative (O-) and O positive (O+). Visit MBC.ORG/WOLVES for details.

January Cursillo Ultreya

Western Ultreya will be held on Sun., Jan. 8th at St. Hubert Catholic Community in Chanhassen. Witness speakers, Paul & Michelle Tisl. Please join us at 7 pm in the North Fellowship Hall. Rosary will be prayed in the family room at 6:30. ~DeColores! Jackie Helmeke and Erin Berg

Begin the New Year on a Good Path

January 17-19 Women's Mid-Week Retreat

Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center, Prior Lake
2017 Theme ~ **Find the Missing Peace** ~
Pathways to Prayer

Set the tone for the year ahead while reflecting on the year past in a space designed precisely for prayer, contemplation, reflection and growth of faith. Be among the first to experience our new theme ~ *Find the Missing Peace* ~ *Pathways to Prayer*. Enjoy the cozy ambiance of the retreat center as you cast your winter cares aside while enjoying four new thought provoking retreat conferences, the peaceful Chapel setting, and Chef Judy's home cooking. Besides the retreat conferences, prayer experiences, and liturgies, enjoy open time for confession, rest, or 'one on one' spiritual direction while enjoying the cozy confines of the retreat center. Retreats begin with the Welcome and Orientation at 7:30 pm, but retreatants may arrive as early as 3:30 pm. A light supper will be served at 5:30 pm. The Retreat will conclude with a Brunch on Thursday. To register, call the retreat center at 952-447-2182 or register online at franciscanretreats.net/register.

FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY



Grade 9 & 10 Sessions Resume ~

We welcome our SWS teens back to Confirmation on Jan, 15th. Freshmen will begin with 10:30 Mass and continue with a NET retreat until 5:30. Sophomores will begin, as usual, at 8:45 until 11:30. Cheryl and Eric's class will meet with Father Kevin for pizza immediately following Mass in the Parish House.

NET Retreat

Grade Nine teens from both sites will be joining teens from other area parishes for a NET (National Evangelization Team) Retreat on Sun., Jan, 15th. We will begin with Mass at 10:30 at the SW site, followed by lunch, and a full day of fun and faith sharing. Our day will be completed at 5:30.

NET Ministries challenges young Catholics to love Christ and embrace the life of the Church. Every August, 175 young Catholics aged 18-28 leave behind their jobs, school, family, and friends to devote nine months to serving with the National Evangelization Teams (NET).



SCHOOL NEWS from SWS

Snowman Celebration

Join in the Snow Fun!
Tues., Jan. 10th 6-7:15 pm

This party is free and open to any community children age 2-6. Fun filled indoor snow games and prizes. Sponsored by the Kindergarten parents. Games designed and run by students in Grades 5 and 6.

WESTERN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY St. John's & St. Scholastica

We would like to thank the following for their donations of poinsettias for Christmas:

Patty Bell & Family *in memory of Lawrence Kes*; Ron & Lois Solheid *in memory of Maurice Brown*; Betty Gill & Family *in memory of Norbert Gill*; Ron & Shirley Pint *in memory of Greg Walerius Family and Edmund Pint Family*; Leona Weiers *in memory of Edwin Weiers*; Mark & Mary Carol Wolf and Jim & Carol Weiers *in memory of Carol Koenig, Joe & Marcella Koenig, Ervin Bendzick*; Dave Halvorson *in memory of Julie Halvorson*; Maxine Holden & Family *in memory of Thomas Holden*; Vic & Jonila Weiers *in memory of Norbert & Viola Weiers and Al Hoffman*; Joe & Cindy Hrabe *in memory of Clarence & Clara Giesen and Edwin & Martha Hrabe*, Our Lady of Good Help Council of Catholic Women *in memory of Deceased Members*.

WCC Faith Formation Classes

Classes will resume on Wed., Jan. 4, 2017. Happy New Year!

Happy New Year!

Another WINE Women's Night Out

with Nancy Jo Sullivan

Becoming a Woman of Hope:

Lessons from Mary and Elizabeth



Sun., January 22

7-9 pm

St. Wenceslaus Parish
Activities Center

Free will offering

Wine, non-alcoholic
beverages and

chocolate, of course

Nancy Jo will draw on the stories of Mary and Elizabeth, two women who lived extraordinary lives of hope, to share simple ways to live out our faith. They were ordinary, everyday women, but they said yes to God, to life, and to a divine plan that was much bigger than they were. As we say our own yes, we too will become women of hope.

Women of all ages welcome.

Invite your friend, daughter, mother or sister.

Registration appreciated but not required.

952-758-3225 by Friday, January 20

LITURGIES & PRIEST'S MASS INTENTIONS

INCLUDES ALL CHURCH LOCATIONS
WEEK OF JANUARY 2-8, 2017

Rosary at St. Wenceslaus
MONDAY – FRIDAY at 7:30 am
SATURDAY at 8:00 am

Monday, January 2
No Word & Communion – SW
Tuesday, January 3
8:00 am..... Word & Communion – SW
4:00 pm..... Mass – Mala Strana
Wednesday, January 4
8:00 am..... SWS Mass – SW
5:00 pm..... Living & Deceased Members of the
..... Greg Walerius Family – Mass – SJ
5:30 pm..... Confessions – SJ
Thursday, January 5
8:00 am..... Mass – SW
4:00 pm..... Mass – Philipp Square
Friday, January 6
8:00 am..... Mass – SW
Saturday, January 7
First Saturday Devotions
3:00 pm..... Confessions – SW
4:00 pm..... Raymond Lipinski, Julia E. Tupy,
..... Emil Chlan – Mass – SW
8:15 pm..... Mass – SJ
Sunday, January 8
Epiphany
8:00 am..... Eleanor Rynda, Bob Hauer – Mass – SS
8:30 am..... Mass – SW
10:00 am..... Joseph & Alma Pint,
..... Florian & Irene Hauer – Mass – SJ
10:30 am..... Mass – SW

STAFF DIRECTORY NEW PRAGUE AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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Lisa.Leverson@npcatholic.org

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FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

On campus in Parish Activity Center

ST. WENCESLAUS SCHOOL

227 Main St E, New Prague, MN 56071
PH 952-758-3133 FAX 952-758-2958

LITTLE SPIRITS PRESCHOOL

On campus of SWS ~ 1950's building
952-758-0480

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

952-758-2327

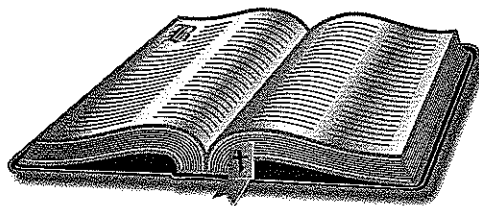
ST. WENCESLAUS MEETINGS & EVENTS CALENDAR

WEEK OF JANUARY 2-8, 2017

Monday, January 2:
No School
SWS Basketball Practice (tentative), Gym
Tuesday, January 3:
Separated & Divorce Support Group, 6:45 pm
– Parish Office
Wednesday, January 4
Early Morning Scripture Study, 6:45-7:50 am
– Pius X Room, CB
Children's Choir I & II – Choir Room
SWS Basketball Practice, 2:30 pm – Gym
CORE Team, 5 pm – Faith Formation Office
Youth Alive, 6 pm – Parish Office Upper Parlor
Faith Formation 1-8, 6:15 pm – Campus Wide
Adult Bells & Choir – Choir Room
Thursday, January 5:
Teen Choir, 2 pm – Choir Room
SWS Home Basketball Games – Gym
Friday, January 6:
Adoration, 9 am-midnight – Chapel, PAC
Saturday, January 7:
Breakfast with Dad, 8 am –
Church Basement & Gym
Adult Scripture Study, 9:30-11 am
– Pius X Room, CB
Sunday, January 8:
CLW at 8:30 and 10:30 am Masses – SW Chapel

SCRIPTURE READINGS

WEEK OF JANUARY 2-8, 2017



Monday, January 2:

1 JN 2:22-28 / JN 1:19-28

Tuesday, January 3:

1 JN 2:29-3:6 / JN 1:29-34

Wednesday, January 4:

1 JN 3:7-10 / JN 1:35-42

Thursday, January 5:

1 JN 3:11-21 / JN 1:43-51

Friday, January 6:

1 JN 5:5-13 / MK 1:7-11

Saturday, January 7:

1 JN 5:14-21 / JN 2:1-11

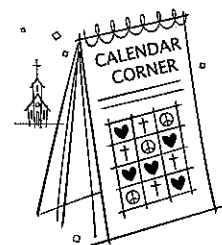
Sunday, January 8:

IS 60:1-6 / EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6 / MT 2:1-12

ST. WENCESLAUS CALENDAR CORNER

Thank you to the Following Sponsors:
David G. Barta Construction LLC,
New Prague Mini Storage, Inc.
& Bruzek Funeral Home

12/25	#1404	Evelyn Moore
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12/27	#1403	Evelyn Moore
12/28	#2292	Jim Terwedo
12/29	#0246	Roger Brezina
12/30	#0331	Joyce Cassidy
12/31	#2100	Adrienne Skluzacek



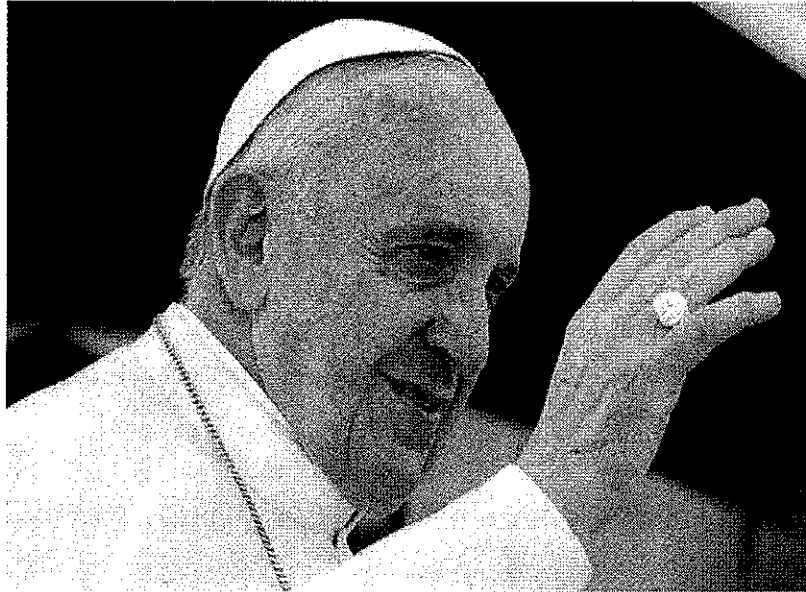
Pope Francis proposes an ethic of active nonviolence

In his message for the World Day of Peace on January 1, Pope Francis has called for “an actively nonviolent way of life” in the face of the “piecemeal violence” of the world.

Nicolas Senèze, Rome

Vatican City

December 13, 2016



Pope Francis on July 30 in Krakow.

In Pope Francis' view, there is no fundamental difference between domestic violence and nuclear dissuasion. Both of them are based on the same violent logic that he proposes in his message for the World Day of Peace on January 1 to replace with an ethic of non-violence.

In the face of “piecemeal violence,” Pope Francis therefore exhorts us to “make active nonviolence our way of life,” that is “the hallmark of our decisions, our relationships and our actions, and indeed of political life in all its forms.”

“To be true followers of Jesus today also includes embracing his teaching about nonviolence,” he insists.

Is this the end of the “just war” and “legitimate defense”? In Rome in April, an international conference organized by Pax Christi and the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace called on the Church to stop teaching “the theory of the just war.”

“This message is in continuity with that meeting,” answered Cardinal Peter Turkson, the current president of Justice and Peace.

For Cardinal Turkson, who will become the head of the new dicastery on integral development on January 1, when one sees that the theory of just war is being used to justify aggression and not just defense, then there is a need to verify whether the theory of the just war still remains valid.”

“This is a question that needs to be examined more deeply,” he recognized. “For example, it could be the theme of a synod.”

In Cardinal Turkson’s view, what needs to happen is to deal with the issue “starting from the human heart.”

“The culture of non-violence must commence inside ourselves,” he explained.

“Violence takes root inside us, then in families before later expressing itself in the arms trade and wars between states,” added Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, another member of the new dicastery.

This was the logic that the pope endeavored to apply in his message, explaining that “the politics of nonviolence have to begin in the home and then spread to the entire human family.”

Pope Francis therefore calls for “an end to domestic violence and to the abuse of women and children” inside the family before in the same movement launching “a call for disarmament and for the prohibition and abolition of nuclear weapons.”

Presenting the Beatitudes as “a program and a challenge for political and religious leaders, the heads of international institutions, and business and media executive,” he therefore proposes “active nonviolence” as “a way of showing that unity is truly more powerful and more fruitful than conflict.”

Certainly, Pope Francis admits, “differences can create frictions.” But “let us face them constructively and non-violently,” the pope counsels.

The Catholic Church too will assist “in every effort to build peace through active and creative non-violence.”

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