



OUR RESPONSE

December	Biblical Foundations For Bishops' Peace Pastoral	7:30-9:30 p.m.	St. Rita's Church	Adult Religious Education Committee	All	Margie Klehr (716) 671-6342
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We encourage parishes and groups throughout the Diocese who are sponsoring activities on the Bishops' pastoral to send information to M. Lourdes Perez-Albuerna, 750 W. Main St., Rochester, N.Y. 14611, so that it can be included in the calendar.

Prayer of St. Francis

"Lord,
 Make me an instrument of your peace;
 Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
 Where there is injury, pardon;
 Where there is doubt, faith;
 Where there is despair, hope;
 Where there is darkness, light;
 And where there is sadness, joy.

"O Divine Master,
 Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
 To be understood as to understand;
 To be loved as to love.
 For it is in giving that we receive.
 It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
 And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

U.S. Catholics Should Work, Pray for Peace, Pope States

Vatican City (NC) -- U.S. Catholics should work for peace, Pope John Paul II told a group of 15 U.S. bishops Dec. 3.

The pope met with the bishops during their official five-year visits to Rome.

"Your local churches are called to be communities promoting peace, living peace, invoking peace," the pope said.

He emphasized the relationship between prayer, especially the Mass, and efforts for justice and peace.

There is, the pope said, "a real relationship between the peace that is proclaimed and actuated in the Eucharist and all the initiatives of the church to bring Christ's

peace to the world. Your own dedicated efforts to promote peace and to help establish in the world those conditions that favor peace are, like peace itself, totally dependent upon God's grace."

Only a church at prayer "can show herself sufficiently sensitive to the needs of the sick, the suffering, the lonely -- especially in the great urban centers -- and the poor everywhere," the pope said.

"Her concern, manifested in various ways, embraces -- among others -- the areas of housing, education, health care, unemployment, the administration of justice, and the special needs of the aged and

the handicapped," the pope continued. "In prayer, the church is confirmed in her solidarity with the weak who are oppressed, the vulnerable who are manipulated, the children who are exploited, and everyone who is in any way discriminated against."

"The full and active participation in the liturgy has so rightly been pointed out by the Second Vatican Council," said the pope. "This principle is vital for a proper understanding of conciliar renewal and deserves repeated emphasis."

In his talk, the pope also stressed the importance of private prayer, especially the Rosary.



Swords into Plowshares
 This striking sculpture is by Moissaye Marans.

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