

**A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE WAR
LIVING WITH FAITH AND HOPE**

INTRODUCTION

We are a group of individuals from Catholic institutions and religious congregations, as well as organizations with ministries to the Catholic community, who have gathered together to reflect in the light of our shared faith on the attacks of September 11 and on the response of our government to those attacks. In particular, we wish to respond to the invitation of the U.S. Catholic Bishops to engage a dialogue on the appropriate response of the Catholic community to the U.S. "war on terrorism."

At their recent semi-annual meeting, the bishops issued a Pastoral Letter entitled "Living with Faith and Hope after September 11th" in which they reviewed our government's response to those events, particularly in declaring war on the presumed perpetrators of the tragedies in New York, Arlington, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. The bishops call for dialogue among Christians and with other faith communities as a means to achieve peace. In that spirit of dialogue, we wish to comment publicly on the current crisis applying the principles the Pastoral Letter raised.

...

FURTHER ACTIONS

1. The bombing and the war against Afghanistan must stop and no new theater of military action should open. Let multinational police action replace these military efforts to capture the perpetrators of the terrorist violence of September 11th and turn them over to an international court.

2. The rhetoric of war should cease. Without doubt the destruction done in New York, Arlington, Virginia and Pennsylvania was massive. In fact, it represents a grave crime against humanity, the crime of mass murder. The act bears a greater likeness to the terrible crimes of international criminal networks than it does to war.

3. For these reasons, we call on the executive and legislative branches of our government to support and ratify the International Criminal Court. Failure to do so represents a failure to establish an appropriate and vital tool to address exactly these types of crimes.

...

December 17, 2001

Partial list of individual signers (organizations and titles are listed for identification purposes only).

Joseph Nangle, OFM, Co-Director Franciscan Mission Service	Sister Ann Oestreich, IHM, Congregation of Justice Coordinator Sisters of the Holy Cross, Notre Dame, IN
Marie Dennis, Vice President Pax Christi International	Joseph R. Hacala, SJ, Rector of Jesuit Community, and Senior Advisor to the President for Social Justice
Kathy Thornton, RSM, National Coordinator	

NETWORK: A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby

James E. Hug, SJ
Center of Concern

Judy Cannon, RSM
Leadership Conference of Women Religious

Rosanne Rustemeyer, SSND
U. S. Catholic Mission Association

Stan De Boe, OSST
Conference of Major Superiors of Men

David Robinson, National Coordinator
Pax Christi USA

Tom Cordaro, National Council Chair
Pax Christi USA

Sister Helene O'Sullivan, President
Maryknoll Sisters

Kathleen Pruitt, CSJP, President
Leadership Conference of Women Religious

Janet Mock, CSJ, Executive Director
Religious Formation Conference

Kevin Francis Day
U.S. Catholic Mission Association

Russell Testa, Director
Center for Ministry and Public Policy at
Washington Theological Union

Aline Marie Steuer, CSC, President
Sisters of the Holy Cross

Maura Browne, SND, Justice and Peace
Coordinator
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

Mary Ann Buckley, SHCJ
Religious Formation Conference

Rev. William R. Callahan, Co-Director
Quixote Center

Rosemary Mangan

Wheeling Jesuit University

Cathy Arata, SSND, Coordinator International
Network For Justice, Peace and the Integrity of
Creation
School Sisters of Notre Dame, Rome

Phil Reed, M.Afr.
Justice and Peace Office
Society of Missionaries of Africa, North
American Province
Sisters of the Holy Names, CA Province
Leadership Group, and Justice and Peace
Committee

Joan D. Chittister, OSB
Erie Benedictine Community

Joellen McCathy, BVM
for the Sisters of Charity, BVM, Dubuque

Margaret Swedish, Director
Religious Task Force on Central America and
Mexico

Carol L. Ries, snjm
Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
Justice and Peace Committee

Susan Thompson
Columban Justice and Peace Office

Jean Stokan, Policy Director
SHARE Foundation

Scott Wright, Co-Coordinator
Ecumenical Program on Central America and
the Caribbean (EPICA)

Barbara Boudreau, SNJM, Regional
Leadership, CA Province
Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary

Rose Marie Canty, csc
Sisters of the Holy Cross

Joan Mury, MM, Congregational Leadership
Team
Maryknoll Sisters

Mary Lou Daoust, MM, Congregational
Leadership Team

<p>Religious of Jesus and Mary</p> <p>Ellen D. Lynch, csc Sisters of the Holy Cross</p> <p>Carol Ann Kemp Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary</p> <p>Canice Connors, OFM, Conv. Order of Friars Minor Conventual</p> <p>Jeanne Moore, OP, Vice-President Eucharistic Ministers of St. Dominic, New Orleans</p> <p>Gary Lee, President Maryknoll Mission Association of the Faithful</p> <p>Kathleen McNeely Maryknoll Mission Association of the Faithful</p> <p>Theresa Carlow, SNDdN</p> <p>Sister Evelyn McKenna, SNDdN</p> <p>Maureen White, SDNdN</p> <p>Marcel Kitissou, PhD, Executive Director Africa Faith and Justice Network</p> <p>Pasquino Panato Comboni Missionaries</p> <p>Stephen G. Price SMA Office of Justice, Peace & Environmental Care</p>	<p>Maryknoll Sisters</p> <p>Pat Ryan, MM, Congregational Leadership Team Maryknoll Sisters</p> <p>Marilyn Wilson, BVM, The Women's Office Sisters of Charity, BVM</p> <p>Kerry McGrath</p> <p>Denise Curry, SND</p> <p>Debbie Polhemus</p> <p>Joan Hart, SSND Justice and Peace Office, Baltimore Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame</p> <p>Jane Abell, OP. Promoter of Justice, Peace, Care of Creation Houston Dominican Sisters</p> <p>Margaret Hoffman, SND, Justice/Peace Coordinator Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur of California</p> <p>Sue Miller, SCL, Community Director Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth</p> <p>Marie de Paul Combo, SCL, Social Justice Coordinator Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth</p>
---	--

<http://www.wcc-coe.org/wcc/behindthenews/us136.html>