

# *Pax Christi*      *Massachusetts Newsletter*



*Violence Ends Where Love Begins*

Volume 25, Number 1, Summer-Fall 2018

## **A Letter to the Editor**

*By Pat Ferrone*

[This letter was published in the Dedham Times, June 9, 2018.]

There was no stealth, no secrecy, and no violence in the low-key, but potent, event that occurred at Hanscom Air Force Base on the Sunday, May 27, of Memorial Day weekend. Organized by Mass Peace Action and a working committee, months of meetings culminated in a witness and action meant to draw attention to the relatively recent designation of Hanscom as the location of the Program



*(lowellsun.com)*

Executive Office (PEO) for the Nuclear Command, Control and Communications Systems (NC3).

According to the Department of Defense, it will “manage a portfolio of 17 programs valued at \$1.2 billion that provide survivable and enduring communications for the nuclear enterprise... Additionally,  
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the directorate is responsible for integrating over 60 individual nuclear command, control, communications systems that underpin and enable nuclear deterrent systems.”

After gathering at First Parish (UU) church in Lexington, approximately 40 people walked the streets of the town, distributing leaflets about Hanscom’s deep connection with the robust \$1.3 Trillion commitment of the U.S. to “modernize” US nuclear resources, greatly increasing the threat of a nuclear exchange, either by design, or accident.

In their 2018 assessment of current threats to our very existence, the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, honorable purveyors of moral and scientific acuity, moved the minute hand of the “Doomsday Clock” to two minutes before midnight, indicating the world’s “vulnerability to catastrophe from nuclear weapons, climate change and new technologies emerging in other domains,” noting, “The greatest risks last year arose in the nuclear realm.”

Precisely choosing their words in reference to the danger, the *Bulletin’s* writers speak of “looming threats,” a “bleak overall picture,” and the “downward spiral of nuclear rhetoric between President Trump and Kim Jong-

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## **We Take Stands from Where We Sit**

*By Rocco Puopolo, s.x.*

“People take stands on issues...from where they sit!” This little phrase opened a whole world of meaning for me at a very dark and confusing time in my life. It gave me permission to speak my truth to many who found what I had to say challenging, to say the least.



*“Radio Rocco” (photo courtesy of Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x.)*

I first learned and used this phrase when I returned from six years of mission service in Sierra Leone, West Africa in 1984. I had left in 1978, a young, newly ordained Catholic Missionary Priest, full of energy, hope and purpose. I came home in 1984

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**NOTE: To promote a greener future with a leaner budget, print copies of this newsletter are mailed only to our readers who have no access to email.**

# A Letter to the Editor

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un.” They also starkly remind us that “humankind has invented the implements of apocalypse.”

And yet, despite the outcry coming from myriad sources, seemingly “rational” explanations continue to be proffered by military and governmental leaders to justify the upgrade and fine-tuning of our land, sea and air nuclear capabilities. Members of the Massachusetts congressional delegation speak of the positive impact of Hanscom’s new mission, citing the jobs created, the economic benefits to the state, and the ways in which it will “help protect our nation,” as if technically superior nuclear weapons and delivery systems can assure the safety of US citizens, and allow us to rest in peace at night. The fact is, it’s a lie, to be discredited and resisted by all human beings who value life for our world and its global community.

A 4-mile walk from Lexington Center to Hanscom following the leafletting was led by monks from the New England Peace Pagoda in Leverett, Massachusetts. They drummed and chanted, their mindful presence a somber reminder of the seriousness of our focus. We walked alongside Veterans for Peace (whose stunning flags were lofted high) and members of Mass Peace Action; representatives from faith communities and nonviolent anti-nuclear peace activists carried signs reading “Nuclear Resistance Is an Act of Love and Hope,” and “The Human Race Cannot Coexist with Nuclear Weapons.”

On public land a short distance from the entrance to the base, in the

chill of late afternoon, Michelle Cunha, Assistant Director of Mass Peace Action, Professors Elaine Scarry of Harvard University and Jonathan King of MIT, and Dr. Joseph Gerson of the American Friends Service Committee, each spoke passionately about the insanity of nuclear weapons - harbingers of apocalyptic devastation if used; and in present time, rabid thieves of life-giving funds for human-based programs, the mending of infrastructure, and elemental needs like health care, education and housing.



*John Schuchardt arrested (masspeaceaction.org)*

All these necessities go wanting due to grandiose plans for an overhaul of our nuclear arsenal and the creation of smaller, sleeker, and more deadly “tactical” weapons which only increase their justification and likelihood of use.

At the conclusion of the talks, and following the almost gentle warnings from the Lincoln police that we would face arrest by going beyond the delineated marker, six witnesses to the goodness of life, and in symbolic resistance to our country’s allegiance to nuclear ensnarement, ‘crossed the line,’ and were promptly arrested for trespassing. Those booked were: John Bach, Cambridge Friends; John Schuchardt, House of Peace; Laura Fillmore, Rockport UU; Jerald Ross, Bedford UU; Dan McLaughlin, Cambridge; and me.

Metal handcuffs were clicked in place, processing followed, and a court date designated. In some

ways, it felt bizarrely light-hearted, with conversations and the careful, rather friendly, handling of each of us. Two days later, after hours of waiting in Concord District Court, and the acceptance by the judge of our signed explanatory statement, all charges were laid aside and we were dismissed.

Who can tell what effect, if any, there might be as a result of our small, nonviolent gesture of resistance? And yet, no matter. It still seems crucial that our voices arose from deep within - rooted in gratitude for the plenitude and richness of life -and we spoke out. Maybe others will do the same, before it’s too late. Truly, aren’t the ignominious bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki enough reminder of the genocidal horror that would result if even one of the hydrogen bombs in our current arsenal - 50 times more powerful than those of 1945 - is used?

Finally, as a person who carries within her the call of the gospel to try to love both friends and enemies unconditionally, and to extend that realm of care beyond my local tribe, I am encouraged in active resistance to the horrendous violence of nuclear weapons by recent words of Pope Francis who said, “The threat of their use as well as their very possession is to be firmly condemned,” and by Elaine Scarry, who wrote in *Thermonuclear Monarchy*, “...by the solitary invention of nuclear weapons” [the earth’s surface has] “been converted into a surface where all that swims or swoops or skips or sways - arabesques of aliveness so hilariously inventive they are like laughter itself - can, within a few hours be burned, sickened, and slain.”

With these words, I am granted permission to resist, while remembering all we must save.

# We Take Stands ...Where We Sit

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ready to contribute my experiences and learnings from this wonderful African experience engaged with youth, teachers, young Church, and more to the home church and others.... But where was home?

So much had changed, beginning with me. Issues of Church and society here were so foreign and “small” in my mind. I had moved on from who I was in 1978, and Church and society had moved on as well, in a direction I did not feel at home with.

I could not wrap my head around some priorities of the Reagan administration, having left early in the Carter years. How could I share my concerns with pastors and parishioners over issues of Church and Ministry here while theirs



*Child soldier in Sierra Leone  
(childsoldierslmgm.blogspot.com)*

seemed so trite, so small! Fighting over women lectors? Altar rails or not? There were bigger issues that I felt called to engage people in. What would validate what I had to share and say?

Somehow in my musings and madness, this phrase came to light: “People take stands in life from where they are”... as simple as that. Government officials and business

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people who sit behind mahogany desks in large corporate or government offices take stands on the economy, security and more from where they sit. Instead, I had sat with struggling teachers in Sierra Leone, most earning a meager \$50.00 a month salary. I taught very talented high school youth who had very little hope of getting a decent college education.

I interacted with farmers who saw their crops being priced low in a faraway futures market in Chicago that gave them no hope of getting a return for their labor. So, many left the fields fallow and the classrooms empty and moved to the city, looking for work with few skills. These were seeds of discontent that I sat with, and we missionaries knew in our bones that the people would not be able to sustain hope for long... And violence and war came in 1991, a war we saw coming from where we sat years before.

And that war disrupted and destroyed all the good that we worked 50 years to build. It took ten years to settle the conflict. And it will take ten years for every one year of war to bring the country to peace. Do the math. A whole century lost. But the lives and future of that country, as in any country after any war, has been scarred and stunted for years to come. The healing is slow. Aren't we still fighting our civil war?

We take stands from where we sit. We sit with Scriptures that call us to love our neighbor, love our enemy, love ourselves, love God. We sit with children whose future may be compromised due to the violence of war, or to a poisoned climate from unchecked industrialization. We sit by streams that are now poisoned by pollution. We sit under trees whose leaves are scarred by chemicals in the air that are toxic to those living

creatures as well as to us..... or now we see the forests ravaged by fire due to temperatures and storms that are ever so much more than “normal.”

And we sit in small circles of Pax Christi friends, wrestling with these above mentioned issues and more. We sit. We pray. We weep. We stand. We speak. We take stands from where we sit.

As I tried to put these thoughts together, one who took stands from where he sat had recently died. He is one of my heroes in faith and ministry. I admire the resolve and passion for God and humanity that placed him in that prophetic place where his ministry was questioned, clipped, and ended before its time. But his humility and respect for the Church and our leaders allowed him to live through this humiliation with grace and prophetic clarity. I



*Archbishop Raymond “Dutch”  
Hunthausen (America Magazine)*

am speaking of Archbishop Raymond “Dutch” Hunthausen, emeritus archbishop of Seattle, Washington, who died at the age of 96 in his home state of Montana.

He was a Pope Francis bishop well before Pope Francis came on the scene. He took a powerful and prophetic stand against the production of Trident nuclear missiles and other weapons of war in northwest Washington, legally refusing to pay 52% of his annual federal taxes, the percentage of our taxes that supports the military.



From the time of his seminary training, he was aware of the consequences of war to civilian populations. On August 6, 1945, when the atom bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, as most of his seminary classmates cheered the vanquishing of the enemy, Dutch took a long walk in the outdoors, then entered the chapel, where he buried his head in his hands and wept. In that moment he brought to mind and prayer the 70,000 people who lost their lives. He sat with those victims, those civilian brothers and sisters, considered coarsely by many as “collateral damage” then and now.

As Archbishop he pastorally reached out to those in the margins of Church and society, the gay community, those divorced Catholics who wished to find a way to be reconciled, and many more. . . And by his life and ministry he took many stands.



*Archbishop Hunthausen with Fr. Ryan 1986 (ncronline.org)*

“His passion for peace and his reputation as a courageous prophet of peace flowed out of who he was as a person – a grounded, holy, happy, perfectly-put-together, incredibly authentic person who never preached a word that he didn’t first live....” (from the homily at his Seattle funeral by Fr. Michael Ryan, August 1, 2018 [http://www.stjames-cathedral.org/Pubs/Pastor/2018/18rg\\_hfuneral.aspx](http://www.stjames-cathedral.org/Pubs/Pastor/2018/18rg_hfuneral.aspx)).

I invite you to open the link and read, enjoy, and reflect on Fr.

Ryan’s homily. Through a number of stories that are framed by the Beatitudes of the Gospel of Matthew, we come to see where and with whom Archbishop Hunthausen sat and why he took the stands he did. Rooted in Scripture, grounded in a faith that centered him, he sat with all, listened to the joys and struggles of his people, and took stands out of love for the truth.

I find this a necessary lesson for us in our times. We need examples of peacemakers like Archbishop Hunthausen. We need to become examples of peacemakers like Archbishop Hunthausen. I offer his example of faith and ministry as a guide for our Pax Christi movement.

Knowing where one sits as one takes particular stands on issues is needed to encourage dialogue today and bring people together in peace. It can become an important part of the bridge that may connect differing and sometimes divergent perspectives. Knowing where the others sit helps me understand where they are coming from. I may not agree with where and why they are there, but at least I made the effort to know why they sit where they are. My only wish is that they do the same with me. It takes faith, humility, truth, passion and courage to make this happen. And make it happen we must!

*-Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x., is Co-Coordinator, with Pat Ferrone, of Pax Christi Massachusetts.*

## Report from Kateri Peace Conference

*By Pat Ferrone*

On August 18, I attended the 20th annual Kateri Peace Conference at the National Shrine of Kateri Tekakwitha in Fonda, NY,

organized by John Amidon and Maureen Aumand. The theme of the day was “The Fierce Urgency of Now,” a call from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who said, “We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum and history there is such a thing as being too late.” Though these words were spoken in 1963, in the “urgency” of confronting civil rights issues, they continue to rouse us to uncover and respond to the violence, lies and injustice that plague our “Now.”

The day was replete with details of pervasive subterfuge within our government - a condition Ray McGovern, former CIA analyst, attributes to the overlapping designs of the “Military- Industrial-Congressional-Intelligence-Media Complex,” and the control of the media by the CIA. Former Army Colonel, and US diplomat, Ann Wright, who resigned from government service in opposition to the Iraq war, and embraced the role of international peacemaker, strongly suggested that a model for hope, and an antidote to despair and “craziness,” is the commitment to Citizen Activism. As an



*Gaza Freedom Flotilla 2018  
(jfp.freedomflotilla.org)*

example, she cited the Gaza Freedom Flotillas which, since 2008, have challenged Israel’s illegitimate blockade of Gaza and exposed the realities of its merciless destruction of Palestinian people, and the infrastructure of Gaza. By shining a light on the cruelty of the Israeli stranglehold and death-

dealing, they hope to educate people and promote international outrage and action.

Ann also spoke of her participation in “Women Cross the DMZ” in 2015, when 30 women from 15 countries, and 250 North Korean women, walked for peace, creating the possibilities for change. As an easy but effective action open to all of us, she and Ray agreed that we should “never be seen in public without some kind of writing on (our) shirts” - to promote conversation and remind people of the power of Citizen Activism to draw attention to issues and promote conversations about things that matter. (To hear their entire talk, search “Kateri Peace Conference 2018” on YouTube.)

Ray, addressing the many elderly participants, reminded us of Joan Chittister’s “gift of age,” saying that “Americans don’t like old people getting beat up,” so we can encourage young people in the “urgency of the moment” by putting our bodies where our convictions are (this, by the way, to a seasoned group of resisters whose accumulated days in jail are already impressive!).

“The fierce urgency of now” weaved its way through the day in the challenging reflections of journalists Rosemary Armao, investigative reporter and regional editor of the “Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project,” who cited the increasing danger of telling the truth in journalistic reporting, evidenced in the extreme by jailed, beaten and dead journalists around the world, and Jay Jochowitz Editorial Editor, both of the Albany Times Union.

We heard a powerful presentation by Greta Zarro, a founder of the group <https://worldbeyondwar.org/> which works for the “abolition of the institution of war” - “NOT necessary, NOT beneficial, and

NOT inevitable” – and of the Unadilla Community Farm in upstate New York: <http://unadillacommunityfarm.blogspot.com/>.

A brilliant young woman, she noted that the new Poor People’s Campaign needs “fusion organizing and interdisciplinary activism,” as the “war system is the elephant in the room,” impeding progress on all other major issues.

Finally, we were reminded of the Kings Bay Plowshares action on April 4-5, 2018, when they were arrested inside the Kings Bay Naval Base in St. Mary’s, Georgia, home of six Trident nuclear ballistic missile submarines. One of their banners read, “The Ultimate Logic of Trident is Omnicide.” All 7 (Liz McAllister, Fr. Steve Kelly, Carmen Trotta, Clare Grady,



Greta Zarro ([worldbeyondwar](https://worldbeyondwar.org/))

Martha Hennessy, Mark Colville, and Patrick O’Neil, were held without bail for 6 weeks, and 3 remain in jail. The latest news, an address to write them, and the opportunity to donate, are at: <https://www.kingsbayplowshares7.org/>

A poignant reminder of the “urgency” to search out the truth from reliable sources and find ways to act in resistance came from Ray McGovern. He spoke of the “confession” found on the executed body of Professor Albrecht Haushofer of the University of Berlin, on April 23,

1945. After early support of the Nazis, he eventually distanced himself from the regime and joined the German resistance. His support for the failed assassination attempt on Hitler led to his arrest by the Gestapo. He was shot to death with a bullet to the head days before the liberation of Berlin. While imprisoned, he wrote the posthumously published *Moabit Sonnets*, including “Guilt:”

I am guilty,  
But not in the way you think.  
I should have recognized my duty;  
I should have more sharply called  
evil evil / I reined in my judgment too  
long / I did warn / But not enough,  
and not clearly / And today I know  
what I was guilty of.

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## A Meeting of Two Shrines

By Rocco Puopolo, s.x.

On Sunday, August 5, members of the LaSalette Shrine Pax Christi group joined the Fatima Shrine Pax Christi group for an afternoon of prayer, sharing, evaluation, and food at Fatima Shrine, Holliston. It was the first time the two groups came together. The event was coordinated by Elaine L'Etoile of LaSalette and Fr. Rocco Puopolo of Fatima. The plan for the afternoon was simple: time to meet and greet, time for prayer, and time for sharing/discussion and food.

The opening prayer was led by Elaine, Psalm 85. Three questions then guided our sharing time. We started with this challenge. Each of us is called to be a peacemaker and seeker of justice. What opened each of us to embrace the mission of Pax Christi, and how does Pax Christi sustain us as we struggle to live out the Gospel of Jesus?

Many of us appreciated finding a group where our individual concerns

about doing and living justice could be supported by one another. Often finding a lack of such support in our parishes, we have moved beyond the parish. The LaSalette group started in 2003 after the invasion of Iraq so that those of us who were against the war could find support. The Fatima group started two years ago and is finding its way.

There was mistrust on the part of some with “written peace accords” which supposedly end conflicts but in fact do not change the plight of the people on the ground. We need to find a way to make those written statements work.

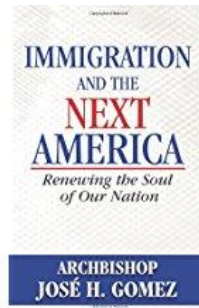
Some were opened to Pax Christi by a high school course that introduced them to justice ministry. Some were attracted by the vow of nonviolence, the desire to have an action plan, the desire to be together and not alone. To sum up, it seemed that it was not so much the action plans or issues but the support we got from one another that keep us coming back

Then we had an evaluative question. What were some of the ways our Pax Christi groups have “prayed, studied and worked” toward justice and peace this year? How would we evaluate our efforts?

Both groups found it hard to take on any one issue and deepen their awareness of and response to it. Besides studying various issues, LaSalette has held some events that the general public attended. In its recent history, Pax Christi LaSalette has addressed the increasing gun violence in our schools and communities, and has offered programs on fostering interfaith dialogue between Christians and Muslims, and on the challenge of Christian nonviolence.

Fatima has studied the immigration issue, reading parts of *Immigration*

*and the Next America* (OSV, 2013) by Los Angeles Archbishop Gomez. They have also joined a local welcoming committee for refugees coming to the area. The group is now reading the book edited by Marie Dennis from the 2016 Vatican Conference on just peace theory, *Choosing Peace* (Orbis, 2018).



We did not get into the third question, about our response to the “signs of the times,” because two other guests joined us - Brian Ashmankas and Father Carl Chudy. A past member of the Central Mass Pax Christi group and of the PCMA state board of directors, Brian is now in Washington DC, studying for the priesthood at Theological College of Catholic University, for the Diocese of Worcester. Recently elected to the national board of Pax Christi, he shared where the movement is going on a national scale.

Brian began by clarifying what was once a puzzle and a concern for him: was Pax Christi becoming more an anti-racism organization to the loss of its antiwar/anti-nuclear stance? Engaging with the national board, he has discovered that it is a both/and rather than an either/or situation. Both areas attend to nonviolence. In fact, Pax Christi is the only national Catholic organization that attends to both as one focus.

The national office and board now offer a number of well-prepared webinars to members at the PCUSA web site: <https://paxchristiusa.org/>. A recent one focused on clarifying

racism and nonviolence. The board is preparing a national strategy that includes an outreach program to parishes and universities which recognizes Pax Christi on the same level as other Church organizations. We are not fringe!

They are also gathering “best practices” to be shared with other groups throughout the country for their mutual benefit. They want to find creative ways to introduce Pax Christi to younger generations.

Xaverian Father Carl Chudy from Rocco’s community focuses on dialogue among faith traditions and between believers of any kind and humanists. He recently attended a conference in Washington DC where 300 people from different faith traditions explored moving like-hearted people to work together on common issues. Carl is facilitating an afternoon at Fatima Shrine entitled “Passing on the faith when our children do not want it!” on Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. It will address why so many young people leave our Churches.

Carl also invited Pax Christi to collaborate on another upcoming program with congregations near the Shrine on October 20-21, a local interfaith conference addressing challenges in our society today.

Fr. Rocco asked how each Pax Christi group assists in the purpose of its host shrine? At Fatima, whose message is to pray and work for peace, he makes Pax Christi part of the Shrine’s outreach. For a new labyrinth to be built at Fatima next year, combining the labyrinth walk with the journey to peace, Fr. Rocco is inviting Pax Christi to help plan and promote this prayer area. Our Lady of LaSalette also brought a message of peace and reconciliation, which that shrine’s Pax Christi group supports with their programing and events.



# Honoring Franz and Franziska Jagerstatter

*Rev. Mark Seltzer, Elms College chaplain and faculty member, celebrated the annual Mass sponsored by Pax Christi Western MA in honor of Blessed Franz and Franziska Jagerstatter for broadcast on the local NBC affiliate's "The Chalice of Salvation" on August 12, 2018 and delivered this homily.*

There are times in all of our lives when we feel we've had enough and simply can't go on. Sometimes, a feeling of physical and spiritual exhaustion arises as a result of a job or a relationship that simply places too many demands on us. Other times, a feeling of physical and spiritual exhaustion arises as a result of chronically poor health and pain that we or others close to us are enduring. Still other times, a feeling of physical exhaustion arises because we've been championing a cause or trying to right an injustice and simply seem to get nowhere.

Whatever the source of the exhaustion, the result is the same. We feel powerless and want to give up. Perhaps this is why all of us can identify so readily with Elijah in today's first reading. Fleeing forces which sought to kill him because he refuted those who believed in false gods, Elijah finds himself in the desert, out of food and out of water. Collapsing under a tree, he gives up. He tells God, "I can't continue your mission to Israel; I can't go on."

While he sleeps, the angel of the Lord provides him food and drink. Refreshed by this food from heaven, Elijah is able to continue his mission and heads to Horeb. Like Elijah, some days and times in our lives are tougher than others. There are days

and times when we know deep down that there are things we really need to get done, work we really want to accomplish, injustices we want to help right, yet we feel stuck. Even if we don't collapse physically, we collapse spiritually and mentally.

In today's Gospel Jesus, like Elijah, is being criticized. Even more so than His ministry, Jesus' claim to be the Bread of Life come down from heaven is being questioned. It's fairly obvious to all of us listening to today's gospel that Jesus is foreshadowing the gift of the



*Fr. Seltzer (elms.edu)*

Eucharist he would leave the Church: the Eucharist which gives us strength for all things.

As we welcome members of Pax Christi and JustFaith, movements for peace and justice at work within our Church and active here in the Diocese of Springfield, we can't help but think about what Pope Benedict XVI called the "social implications of the Eucharistic mystery" in his pastoral exhortation "Sacramentum Caritatis."

In that beautiful exhortation delivered in 2007, Benedict reminds us that in Jesus, the bread of life come down from heaven, "a sacrament of communion is effected between all who allow themselves to be reconciled in Christ." Benedict stresses that in this great sacrament we call "Eucharist" Jesus spurs us to be mindful of the situations of extreme poverty in which a great part of humanity still lives. This food of truth received in the

Eucharist, says Benedict, demands that we denounce inhumane situations in which people starve to death because of injustice and exploitation. Formed by what Benedict calls "the school of the Eucharist," we are challenged to assume and fulfill our particular social and political responsibilities.

We know that the work for justice to which the Eucharist challenges each of us can be hard. Like Elijah in today's first reading and Jesus in today's gospel, we may be rejected. We may feel powerless and may want to give up. It is precisely at moments such as these that we, like Elijah and like Blessed Franz and Franziska Jagersätter whom we remember in this Mass, find unexpected nourishment and refreshment.

Long ago, Saint Augustine told us that we "eat the Body of the Christ to become the Body of Christ." Conscious that we are what we eat, let us be grateful for the witness of Pax Christi and JustFaith here in the Diocese of Springfield and beyond.

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*Pax Christi member Marilyn Paul-Lewis ended her reflection on the Jagerstatters at the Mass as follows:*

In southern Germany and Austria the common greeting is not "Guten Morgen" or "Guten Tag" but grüß Gott, "may God bless you." During the years of Nazi occupation when the Nazis made the standard greeting "Heil, Hitler," it was common in these regions for people who were against the regime to reply, "grüß Gott." When challenged, they would respond, as Franz did, "What's wrong with offering you God's blessing?" So today I would like to conclude by saying "Grüß Gott, Franz und Franziska," and rest in peace in the Cloud of Witnesses. Amen.



## *Pax Christi 2018 State Assembly*

### **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE 101:**

#### **AN ALTERNATIVE THAT WORKS!**

a presentation by

COMMUNITIES FOR  
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE



**Saturday, October 20th at**

**St Malachy Parish, 99 Bedford St. Burlington, MA**

For directions: <http://www.saint-malachy.org/New/TopHeader/Direction>

**Registration begins at 11:00am with food and fellowship.**

**Program includes speaker, panel and Q & A and ends at 3:30pm**

**Parish Mass at 4:00 pm for those who wish to remain.**



Erin Freeborn is the Executive Director of Communities for Restorative Justice (C4RJ). Erin has a decade of study and experience in both the practice of restorative justice and non-profit leadership. As a social entrepreneur she encourages programs to think about new ways to create positive change in society. She is an attorney who helped found the Massachusetts Restorative Justice Collaborative and coauthored the 2010 exploratory study of Project Restore, a Study of Restorative Justice and Sexual Violence, commissioned by New Zealand's Ministry of Justice. Erin has been deeply involved with pending Massachusetts legislation that would make restorative justice available to all stakeholders in the Massachusetts criminal justice system. For more information see [www.c4rj.org](http://www.c4rj.org).

"Restorative justice is a process to involve, to the extent possible, those who have a stake in an offense and to collectively identify and address harms, needs and obligations, in order to heal and put things right as possible."

— Howard Zehr, PhD, *The Little Book of Restorative Justice*, 2002

Restorative justice can take place in many kinds of cases as long as there are willing participants and a safe environment. Dr. Zehr (quoted above) has conducted restorative justice in crimes of severe and mass violence. At C4RJ, police partners set referral criteria and typically refer adults and youth who are facing criminal charges such as breaking and entering, hate speech, assault and battery, larceny (e.g., shoplifting), vandalism, illegal substances, and trespassing.

### **Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation\* \$40 at the door, \$35 if postmarked by October 12th (Lunch Included)**

**Student Donation\* \$15, registration by October 10th suggested. (Lunch included)**

**I would like to be an Assembly Sponsor and will donate an additional tax-deductible gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help defray the cost of the Assembly.**

**Mail Registration and check, made out to "Pax Christi MA" to:**

**Charles Gobron, 6 Bolser Avenue Natick, MA 01760**

**\*Scholarships available**

**[www.paxchristima.org](http://www.paxchristima.org)**

**For information: [paxchristima@gmail.com](mailto:paxchristima@gmail.com)**



# Roots of Peace: Reflections on 2018 PCMA Retreat

By Phil Harak

On April 7, 2018, Fr. Warren Savage, a priest in the Springfield Diocese, led about 50 of us in a day-long retreat at Elms College in Chicopee, MA. A lecturer in the Religious Studies Department at the Elms, an expert in diversity training and race relations, and a seasoned retreat facilitator, Fr. Savage led a thoughtful and scripturally-based retreat entitled, “Witnessing the Roots of Peace in a World of Discord and Hate.”

He emphasized several factors that continue to resonate with me. First, he required our full attentiveness, asking us to put away our cell phones, as he asks of his students. That practice of mindfulness (and mistrust in the efficacy of the internet in building sustainable relationships) is helpful in our daily practice of prayer and scriptural study.

Another essential practice is to pray the Scriptures daily. He offered his own practice as a model for us. He arises early and reads the daily Scripture, prays about it, and seeks to enact its meaning in his life that day. I get my own daily Scripture reading by subscribing via email to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). This free service is at: [dailyreadings@usccb.org](mailto:dailyreadings@usccb.org).

Fr. Savage gave us an abundance of written materials to read and reflect upon. Some were from the USCCB, like: “Brothers and Sisters to Us: U.S. Catholic Bishops Pastoral Letter on Racism in Our Day;” others were reflections by the Pope, such as his address to the U.S. Congress on September 24, 2015. In the pastoral letter, a highlighted quote is “...racism is not merely

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one sin among many; it is a radical evil dividing the human family...” And that quote points to the crux of this day’s message: as followers of Jesus, we cannot separate the human family because He did not.

I will share a few final thoughts on racism and Christian discipleship from my professional and personal perspectives. As a social justice educator, I know that race is not a biological category but a social construction by the powerful to maintain their status and to justify systemic inequities. As with all unearned privileges, seeing the damaging and dehumanizing effects is particularly difficult for those of us who benefit from them. The privileged, or benefactors of institutionalized racism, tend to be blind to the lived realities of the victims, who today experience intolerance and demonizing of immigrants, and blaming or scapegoating others not “like us.”



Fr. Savage ([elms.edu](http://elms.edu))

If we find ourselves justifying our privilege, ignoring or minimizing others’ struggles, we simply need to invite Jesus into our hearts and ask how He would like us to behave. Take Fr. Savage’s advice and apply the Scriptures from today or past days. As he reminded us, “social justice involves right relationships with people, first and foremost.” Even if we see immigrants or those of other races as our enemy, how does Jesus want us to treat enemies?

It might also help to imagine the appearance of the historical Jesus Himself. Most visual depictions of Him show a white person, and we

can attribute that to the wonderful artistry of the Europeans during the Middle Ages who naturally tend to see through their own culture. But anthropologists tell us that since He was a Semite from Western Asia, He was almost certainly a person of color, darker in complexion than the European images. Should His skin color matter to His followers? The answer to that question also applies to intolerance and stigma from racial—and any other differences—within our one human family.

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*-Philip Harak, Ed.D., is a founding PCMA board member.*

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## Restorative Justice in New State Law

By Nancy Carapezza

On June 22 at Concord District Court, police officers, judges, legislators, a district attorney, and supporters of restorative justice gathered to celebrate the inclusion of a new restorative justice provision in the Criminal Justice Reform Act of April 2018 as Chapter 276B of the MA General Laws.

After sharing and exchanging credit for this accomplishment, the group was challenged with the questions of how best to implement and educate Massachusetts citizens about this new legal option, which can heal communities hurt by crime through guided dialogue between victims and offenders.

On October 20, at the PCMA annual fall Assembly (see details on page 8), you can learn more about restorative justice here in the Commonwealth from our keynote speaker, Erin Freeborn, Executive Director of Communities for Restorative Justice, who also addressed the group in Concord on June 22.

*Nancy Carapezza is a PCMA board member from Wayland.*

35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
**Agape**  
Community

# CONFRONTING SYSTEMIC RACISM Voices for Racial Justice

Saturday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> 10 AM - 4 PM

**Francis Day 2018**

**Convener of the Day:**  
**Fr. Warren Savage**



Natl Black Catholic Clergy Caucus,  
Albert and Amelia First Interfaith  
Center, Westfield State University

**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Prof. John H. Bracey Jr**



W.E.B. DuBois Dept. of Afro-  
American Studies, UMass Amherst

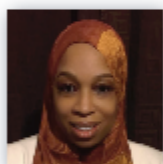
**Featured Guest Speaker:**  
**Eduardo Sarmiento,**  
Youth Organizer and Legislative Advocate



Hampshire College student; Undocumented  
Immigrant; Pioneer Valley Workers Center;  
260 mile National Walk for the DREAM Act

## Panel Dialogue

**Panel Themes: Immigration, Black Lives Matter, Latino Voices, and White Supremacy**



**Tahira**  
**Anwarul-**  
**Wadud,**  
Chicopee  
Armory, Council  
on American-  
Islamic Relations



**Maritza**  
**Cruz,**  
Director,  
Racial and  
Gender  
Equity, YWCA  
of Central MA



**Brenna Cassen**  
**Anglada,** Catholic  
Worker (CW) co-founder  
of the St. Isidore CW  
Farm, Southwest  
Wisconsin, anti-racism  
speaker

**Edgar Hayes,** Member of  
Agape's Mission Council and co-  
founder with wife, Ann Hader of  
Freedom Farm in Middletown NY,  
dedicated to racial harmony,  
peace, and sustainable agriculture.



**Alex Mooradian,** Immigration  
Lawyer in Worcester, MA, including  
representing those seeking  
citizenship and Deferred Action  
(DACA); student attorney Boston  
University's Immigrant's Rights Clinic

## Native American Voices

**Elena Croft,** Prof. Wellesley College; **Nicole Brathwaite Hunt,** Worcester Intertribal Indian Council

**Dr. Ruth Bass-Green,** Founder and  
president of the Hazelle Catherine Bass  
Institute for the Arts; teacher across diverse  
fields of age, race, and gender in the arts for  
50 years including Europe and Africa.



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Hardwick, MA 01037  
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**Bring friends,  
bring lunch,  
and join us  
for the day!**

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Massachusetts

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
"CELEBRATING GOD'S ABUNDANCE!"

# MetroWest Pax Christi Update

By Jan Leary

The **MetroWest Pax Christi** group has been revived, and we welcome with enthusiasm anyone who might be interested in becoming part of this source of Pax Christi energy. We meet on the second Thursday of each month. September 13 at 1PM is the date of our next meeting. Other public events will usually be held in the Natick library.

This renewed PCMW will follow the same format as we did before our original Pax Christi group disbanded years ago: members will share their individual interests with the group, and the next month's meeting agenda will highlight that interest for discussion. Those who have the interest and energy to present a particular issue will agree to facilitate that specific interest with the group.

One item of interest from the past PCMW group is the seemingly intractable conflict in Palestine and Israel. The **Steadfast Hope** 3-meetings series program will be one item on our agenda. Information about this series, including a book and video, can be found at this link: <http://new.israelpalestinemissionnetwork.org/component/content/article/5/3-steadfast-hope> Avoid other links to this series, which may have a virus inserted by anti-Palestine people or groups.

We have decided to participate in area multifaith actions and groups. As such we have become a member of the "Multifaith Alliance for Human Rights," which has held its first two meetings in the Wayland Islamic Center. Twenty-one faith-based groups are represented in this Alliance, along with our MetroWest Pax Christi group.

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We are also discussing becoming a member group of the Massachusetts Multifaith Network: <https://mamultifaithforpalestine.wordpress.com/>

Please contact Faith Madzar for information about events and membership ([FMadzar@gmail.com](mailto:FMadzar@gmail.com)) and contact Jan about meetings: [MetroWestPaxChristi@comcast.net](mailto:MetroWestPaxChristi@comcast.net).

*-Jan Leary is a longtime Pax Christi MetroWest member.*

## RI-PC's Pat Fontes Runs for U.S. Senate

By Mike Moran

Retired 81-year-old educator Patricia "Pat" Fontes of Hopkinton, RI, recently recalled to Uprise RI a conversation she had with Senator Sheldon Whitehouse after a campaign event in April:



*On the campaign trail (twitter.com)*

"I told him how disappointed I was by what seemed to me his increasingly warlike positions and that I would find it impossible to vote for him. He asked, 'Well, who will you vote for then?,' and I replied, 'I would rather not vote than vote for you.'"

Two months later, after receiving some grassroots encouragement, Pat declared her own candidacy for the Democratic Party primary election for U.S. Senator on September 12, reflecting her Pax Christi roots:

"The focus of my candidacy will be that of opposing the militaristic and

imperialistic position of the United States with respect to the rest of the world and promoting peace, domestically and internationally, through the collaborative establishment of justice in all the various spheres of human interaction."

Pat goes on to state in a press release: "I spent several years working on a European environmental education research program which framed environmental education within a broader action competence model. The model was also applied to both health education and education for citizenship and has inspired my own activism since that time... As a result of my experiences with universal health care services in Europe, I am committed to the creation of such a system here in the United States."

Whatever the outcome of the primary vote, Pat's courageous decision to throw her hat into the ring comes at a time when prophetic voices like hers have never been more needed.

*-Mike Moran is the editor of this newsletter.*

## Pax Christi MA Board of Directors 2017-2018

<b>Co-Coordinator:</b> Pat Ferrone 238 Harris Avenue Needham MA 02492 781-449-3890 <a href="mailto:patferrone@rcn.com">patferrone@rcn.com</a>	<b>Secretary:</b> Jeanne Allen 10 Sutton Place Easthampton MA 01027 413-527-0037 <a href="mailto:jeanne.allen@hbcinc.org">jeanne.allen@hbcinc.org</a>
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<b>Treasurer:</b> Charles Gobron 6 Bolser Avenue Natick, MA 01760 774-270-2442 <a href="mailto:cgobron@aol.com">cgobron@aol.com</a>	<b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Mike Moran 135 Shearer Street Palmer, MA 01069 413-283-5716 <a href="mailto:moran3@comcast.net">moran3@comcast.net</a>
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**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS:** Nancy Carapezza (Wayland); Irene Desharnais (Jamaica Plain); Phil Harak (Southampton); Sue Malone (Westborough); Sally Markey (Springfield); John Monaco (Boston); Rose Morrissey (Westborough); Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x. (Holliston), Co-Coordinator [508-421-2144; [frocco@xaverianmissionaries.org](mailto:frocco@xaverianmissionaries.org)]

Quarterly Board meetings (the next are Sept 8, Dec 8, and March 9), held in the Hogan Campus Center at Holy Cross College in Worcester at 10:00 AM, are open to all PCMA members.



## Local Groups

### **Berkshire P.C.**

Carolyn Zablotny  
P.O. Box 14  
Mill River, MA 01244  
[berkshire.pax.christi@gmail.com](mailto:berkshire.pax.christi@gmail.com)  
Contact for meeting info

### **Beverly P.C.**

Sr. Linda Bessom, SND  
15 Bubier Street  
Lynn, MA 01901-1704  
(781) 595-7570 x18  
[linda@mahomeless.org](mailto:linda@mahomeless.org)  
Mtgs 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
St. Mary's Convent

### **Boston (Citywide) P.C.**

Christina Abbey  
Paulist Center, 5 Park St  
Boston, MA  
(781) 286-5004  
[LNCabbey2004@yahoo.com](mailto:LNCabbey2004@yahoo.com)  
Mtgs 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 1-3 PM

### **Cape Cod P.C.**

Edouard & Francoise Rocher  
77 Old Post Road  
Centerville, MA 02632  
(508) 771-6737  
[paxchristi-cc@comcast.net](mailto:paxchristi-cc@comcast.net)  
Our Lady of Victory  
Centerville, MA 02632  
Contact for meeting info

### **Central Mass P.C./Our Lady of**

**Guadalupe P.C. (MCI  
Shirley prison chapter)**  
Roger & Charlotte Stanley  
55 Pleasant Street  
Berlin, MA 01503-1610  
[cstanley041258@verizon.net](mailto:cstanley041258@verizon.net)  
St. Rose of Lima Parish  
Northborough, MA 01532

Contact for meeting info

### **Fatima Shrine P.C.**

Rocco Puopolo, s.x. 101  
Summer Street  
Holliston, MA 01746  
(508) 429-2144  
[frocco@xaverianmissionaries.org](mailto:frocco@xaverianmissionaries.org)  
Mtgs 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 4:00 PM  
Upper Room

### **Holy Cross College P.C. One**

College St, Box 16-A  
Worcester, MA 01610  
Marty Kelly  
(508) 793-2617  
[mkelly@holycross.edu](mailto:mkelly@holycross.edu)  
Meetings and activities geared  
to college calendar

### **Holy Cross Parish P.C.**

221 Plumtree Road  
Springfield, MA 01118  
Martin & Sally Markey  
(413) 739-3278  
[parishsocialministry@gmail.com](mailto:parishsocialministry@gmail.com)  
Mtgs 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 6:30 PM

### **Metro West P.C.**

Guido Jacques  
121 East Central Street  
Natick, MA 01760  
(508) 330-9035  
[gjmjeagles@yahoo.com](mailto:gjmjeagles@yahoo.com)  
Mtgs 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 1:00 PM  
(see also article on page 11)

### **National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette P.C.**

Sheila Matthews  
199 Maple Street  
Somerset, MA 02726  
(508) 674-8220  
[sheilmattthews@aol.com](mailto:sheilmattthews@aol.com)

Mtgs 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays, 7:15  
Chapel of Reconciliation

### **Rhode Island P.C.**

Bill Waters  
(401) 438-6612  
[wjtwj157@gmail.com](mailto:wjtwj157@gmail.com)  
Fr. Ray Tetrault  
(401) 374-5036  
St. Peter's Church  
Lower level  
350 Fair Street  
Warwick, RI 02888  
Mtgs last Sunday, 6:00 PM

### **St. John's Prep P.C.**

72 Spring Street  
Danvers, MA 01923  
Bill Mackinson  
(978) 774-1057  
[wmackinson@stjohnsprep.org](mailto:wmackinson@stjohnsprep.org)  
Prayer for Peace, Tuesday  
mornings, 7:45-8:00 AM

### **St. Susanna Parish P.C.**

262 Needham Street  
Dedham, MA 02026  
Pat Ferrone  
(781) 449-3890  
[parferrone@rcm.com](mailto:parferrone@rcm.com)  
Contact for meeting info

### **Western Mass P.C.**

Jeanne Allen  
10 Sutton Place  
Easthampton, MA 01027  
(413) 527-0037  
[jeanne.allen@hhcinc.org](mailto:jeanne.allen@hhcinc.org)  
Mtgs 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 7:00 PM  
Elms College, Chicopee

*If you belong to a Pax Christi group that is not listed above, please let us know so we can add it to our list. If any information above is incorrect, please email corrections or additions to: [moran3@comcast.net](mailto:moran3@comcast.net).*

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Natick, MA 01760