

Pax Christi Massachusetts Newsletter



Violence Ends Where Love Begins

Volume 29, Number 2, Winter-Spring 2023

Co-Coordinator's Corner

By Fr. Rocco Puopolo

Change just is. It is part of life. If we don't change, we die. That said, change is often not so easy. It may be a challenge, a fear of loss, or an experience of the new that can surprise us and stretch us.

The leadership of our Pax Christi state board has changed. After many great and fruitful years, Pat Ferrone is handing over the role of co-coordinator to Dr. Phil Harak, another long-serving board member who accepted the invitation to join me in this role. Pat served as sole coordinator for four years. Eight years ago, she invited me to join her in a shared leadership role as a co-coordinator that worked out well for us both. We complemented each other well and made the job easier to handle,

Pat is not abandoning us. She remains on our board and still leads the St Susanna Pax Christi chapter. Pat has agreed to continue writing occasional reflections for our newsletters. Those writings have been one of her strengths and gifts from which we wish to continue to benefit. Thank you, Pat, so very, very much.

I am excited to serve alongside Phil. We both have teaching

backgrounds, having served youth as mentors, teachers, and, in my case, as a chaplain. We are committed to attracting youth to our peace movement. Recently, the board has tried reaching out to youth in an intentional way. We have lately offered some inter-generational gatherings, bringing together seasoned peacemakers and young enthusiastic ones, both at a retreat and at an assembly.



Pat (center right) and friends in action 2015 (agapecommunity.org)

Phil and I are planning a focused outreach to Catholic high schools and colleges in our state. Today, there are 35 Catholic high schools and 6 Catholic colleges in Massachusetts, along with many Catholic Campus Ministries in other colleges. Pax Christi groups are found in only one high school and one college. But how many of our Catholic schools have JROTC or ROTC programs? I dare say most! What are we teaching our young people? Why is the official Catholic peace movement absent

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Heartfelt Thanks to Pat Ferrone

By Philip Harak

Pat Ferrone, longtime peace activist, recently decided to step down as co-chair of our state board of Pax Christi MA. She served as sole chair from 2012 to 2016 and as co-chair since 2016 with Fr. Rocco Puopolo. I have taken over her position on the board, and while I am thrilled at the different ways I can now serve, I know I cannot replace her.

She has earned the respect and admiration of peace and justice activists locally, across the state, and beyond. In addition to her work as a board member since 2008, she co-founded a very active Pax Christi local group in her home parish of St. Susanna in Dedham. Along with their pastor, Fr. Steve Josoma, and many parishioners, that group remains a vital and stalwart source of information and critically important peace actions. If you are not familiar with this wonderful

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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.

Co-Coordinator's...

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from these campuses? Why do we sacrifice the best and the brightest to our military?

If these schools are truly Catholic (my humble judgment, of course), they need to seriously consider having a Pax Christi group in their school. They may "teach social justice" or "teach Scripture," but do they engage their students in the actual action and advocacy based on that Word of God and prayer?

Pax Christi will guide them to engage in such a dynamic as well as link them with like-hearted young people around the state and around the country. It is a powerful way to feed their faith.



PCUSA Young Adult Caucus in action 2022 (paxchristiusa.org)

I suggest that if you are a graduate of a Catholic high school or college, you should write to your school administration or theology department, asking that they respond to the board's invitation to form a PC group. For our part, we are now sending this newsletter to all 72 of the campus ministry centers at Catholic high schools and college campuses in our state.

In the near future, Phil will share the peace studies and social justice courses he wrote and taught for years to high school students. Pax Christi will sponsor courses that are offered as a real alternative to

the ubiquitous presence and allure of the organized violence praised through military service. We will thus seek to expand students' understanding of service.

The board has also produced a promotional brochure inviting parishes and social justice committees to be part of Pax Christi. A video is also in the works, inviting youth and parishes to our movement. If your parish has a social justice committee, invite them to consider being part of Pax Christi Massachusetts. I will gladly send you as many brochures as you need. The video should be available in May.

So, let's be part of the change for Pax Christi Massachusetts. Let that change help grow the community of peacemakers in our midst. Change reminds us that we are very much alive and ready to inspire a new generation of peacemakers who are among us and committed to a better world. Let's make it happen!

-Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x., is co-coordinator, with Dr. Phil Harak, of Pax Christi Massachusetts.

MAPA COLLABORATION

As part of PCMA's ongoing collaboration with Massachusetts Peace Action, Mike Moran, Peter Metz, and Sr. Linda Bessom joined Santa Fe (NM) Archbishop John Wester as presenters at MAPA's January 21, 2023 conference "Reducing the Threat of Nuclear War." You can view much of the event at these two links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11P-qnL69q0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oA19efrfTW8>

Heartfelt Thanks...

Continued from page 1

parish, I urge you to attend religious services and/or peace actions there. Visit their website at [Saint Susanna Parish Home Page](#)

Pat has an indefatigable passion for nonviolence, justice, and peace. She researches critical issues such as climate change, nuclear weapons proliferation, gun violence, and immigration issues and writes clearly and persuasively on them. But perhaps she feels most effective in her role as a pragmatic person "on the street," using herself as a witness in helping create the nonviolent kingdom of God as taught and lived by Jesus.



Domsday Clock in St. Susanna Christmas Creche 2022 (photo by Pat Ferrone – see also page 3)

Fortunately for us on the Pax Christi MA board, this recently awarded Peacemaker for Lifetime Achievement will stay on as a vital contributing member. We on the board, and all the peacemakers she touches, are grateful for her tireless efforts, and will continue to rely on her standing by our side in this wonderful journey.

-Dr. Phil Harak is co-coordinator, with Fr. Rocco Puopolo, of PCMA.

The Clock Is Ticking

By Pat Ferrone

On March 12, we will glimpse the promise of Spring as we advance the hands of our clocks by one hour. Almost magically, there will be more daylight and sunshine, and the hint of warmer days to come. As the chill of dismal winter days begins to wane, our spirits will be nourished by the return of color, the smell of newness, the chatter and song of birds, and the easy steps of walk-about people in neighborhoods and city streets. We will be aglow with smiles, and alive to fresh starts.

On January 24, in contrast to a happy 'spring-ahead' in 5 and 1/2 weeks, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists unveiled the Doomsday Clock, its hands advanced to 90 seconds before midnight - the closest ever - suggesting that as a species, we are 10 seconds closer than last year to human-caused annihilation of the earth and its living beings. Unless we do a turnabout. (The furthest they've been from midnight was in 1991, at 14 minutes.) Speaking at the Bulletin's press conference, Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland, reminded us that the challenges before us are global, "We are faced by a gathering storm of extinction-level consequences, and time is running out...Nuclear weapons, the climate crisis, pandemics, all demand a crisis mindset from leaders. We need urgent multi-lateral actions and bold ethical leadership... We have no choice, but to act."

The "Clock" was initiated in 1947 by scientists associated with the Manhattan Project as a response to the horrific atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It was

conceived as a means to warn people of the grave threat to humanity inherent in nuclear war, and "to equip the public, policy makers and scientists with the information needed to diminish the man-made threats to our existence." Its hands were set at 7 minutes to midnight, the hour of doom. In 2007, noting the ongoing fear of nuclear war, as well as the increasing existential threats of the global climate crisis and biological and technological developments, the Bulletin's Science and Security Board added these concerns. Professor Robert Rosner, a physicist at the University of Chicago, thinks of the Clock as the "canary in the coal mine" - not so much to terrify people, as to spur them to action.



Doomsday Clock 2023 (cnet.com)

And, there is action...as well as ever deepening concern: Russia's war against Ukraine and its targeting of civilians, strikes near the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, the "saber-rattling" of nuclear weapons and the heightened commitment of nations to update their nuclear weapons, all raise the level of alarm. Consider also the undeniable evidence of the climate crisis as weather patterns become harsher and more unpredictable, sea levels rise, and species go extinct. Covid persists, and, as Suzet McKinney, DrPH-MPH, of the Board warned, danger exists in "the total number and diversity of infectious disease outbreaks...increased significantly over the past four years, with more

than half originating in animals and transmitted to humans." Additionally, there is great worry about biological and cyber-weapons. As the situation becomes more chaotic in Ukraine, fear about the use of these instruments of mass destruction increases.

However, despite - or because of - the dire state of the world, many refuse to go along with a blind acceptance of things as they are. They trust the evidence and believe their actions matter. Included in this courageous lot is the Catholic Archbishop of New Mexico, John Wester. In January 2022, he released a brilliant pastoral letter called, "Living in the Light of Christ's Peace: A Conversation Toward Nuclear Disarmament," a contribution in the spirit of "resurrection politics" - to raise up, from a faith and humanitarian perspective, the moral objections to the diabolical nature of nuclear weapons. After all, he said, "We are the people who designed and built these weapons of mass destruction. We were the first to use them. We must be the people to dismantle them and make sure they are never used again."

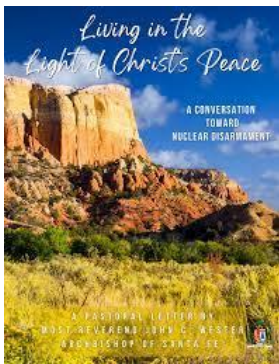
Archbishop Wester's work builds on the insights, outrage and commitments of past and current nuclear abolitionists and peacemakers, religious efforts and writings, and scientific professionals who understand the global consequences of a deliberate or accidental deployment of ever more "useable" nuclear weapons of death. All agree that nuclear weapons must become "taboo." There will be no winners in this dangerous game of brinkmanship in which we are engaged.

Though "midnight" on the Doomsday Clock represents

apocalypse and the end of life as we know it, other meanings for the Greek word “apokalypsis” are “unveiling” and “revelation,” words which can lead to hope - if we are willing to first name and expose the myth of redemptive violence (which biblical scholar and theologian Walter Wink called the “dominant religion of contemporary society”), and our idolatry of war-making and the creation of “terrifying new weapons” - from pistols and assault weapons to militarized drones, missiles, and “nukes.”

There are many avenues available to work on the abolition of nuclear weapons and “begin the conversation.” Educating oneself is always a good start, especially in company with others. Opportunities abound! I will suggest a few:

*Read the pastoral mentioned above (at www.paxchristiusa.org);



*Learn about the grassroots effort in the US, “Back from the Brink,” a proposal to move us into an interim safety zone with our current nuclear arsenal (www.preventnuclearwar.org);

*Urge support of the UN “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons” (TPNW), signed by 92 States Parties and ratified by 68 to date (<https://www.icanw.org/tpnw>);

[full text](#));

*Follow/join Mass Peace Action (<https://masspeaceaction.org>) and Pax Christi USA;

*Divest from corporations involved in nuclear armaments (<https://www.icanw.org/divestment-and-nuclear-weapons>);

*Contact legislators to oppose nuclear funding;

*Pray and work on behalf of the Global Common Good and the flourishing of the earth and all its creatures;

*Practice nonviolent love and compassion toward both friends and enemies;

*Nourish yourself in a loving, activist community, and have good conversations.

-This letter to the editor, published February 3, 2023 in the Dedham Times, is reprinted here with permission of the author.

Book Reviews

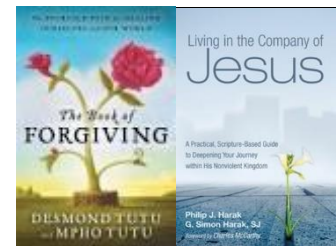
Desmond Tutu (and Mpho Tutu), *The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World* (HarperOne, 2014)
By Mike Moran

As the 12th of 13 books by South African Anglican bishop, spiritual leader of his country’s anti-apartheid movement, and Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu (co-authored with his daughter Mpho, also an Anglican priest), this inspiring book offers the typical mix of down to earth and transformative guidance that made him a familiar and beloved moral authority around the world long

before he died at age 90 on December 26, 2021.

In it the authors present and explain, using real-life examples, four steps to forgiveness (telling the story; naming the hurt; granting forgiveness; renewing or releasing the relationship), as “the greatest gift we can give to ourselves when we have been wronged.” From testimony by both perpetrators and victims of apartheid-era violence before the 1996-1998 Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which Archbishop Tutu chaired, to the 2012 murder in Mpho’s home of her housekeeper, Angela (to whom the book is dedicated), these cases often depict heartrending losses and tough personal struggles to forgive those responsible.

But several examples of successful reconciliation in the book powerfully illustrate the authors’ conclusions that “with each act of forgiveness, whether small or great, we move toward wholeness” and “forgiveness is how we bring peace to ourselves and our world.”



Philip J. Harak and G. Simon Harak, SJ, *Living in the Company of Jesus: A Practical, Scripture-Based Guide to Deepening Your Journey within His Nonviolent Kingdom* (Cascade Books, 2022)
By Jane Morrissey, SSJ

Living in the Company of Jesus reminds any reader of the praxis that makes faith real. At the same time, it provides you with the wise

company of its authors, Simon and Philip Harak, on the road that people of faith need to follow. While reading, we do well to remember that early Christianity was known as “The Way.” The book puts you on that Way and walks it with you.

It takes the Word of God seriously and strips it of platitudes and outdated interpretations. It puts us in touch with faith in and for our times. That faith deals honestly with all that is not faithful to the Divine Word now. Between its covers we meet Jesus walking the streets of our century in the midst of political turmoil, bitter and systemic violence, and a pandemic. We are challenged, enlightened, and strengthened to do the work of social transformation. Grace grabs us and gives us strength for a change of heart, a more direct and daring dealing with the God Whom Jesus incarnates.

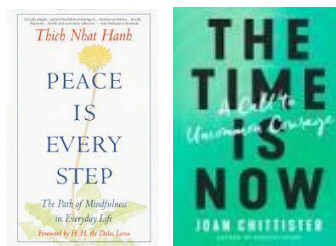
The Harak brothers “walk the walk” with you. They interlace the Scriptures with stories from across the globe and new insights into the religious and historic context of Christ’s life. They take you from the frills to what Graham Greene named “The Heart of the Matter.” In the context of God’s Word, you are startled to find yourself anew. I promise you: if you care, read it. This book empowers its readers. You will not be disappointed. You will be even more alive in Pax Christi.

Thich Nhat Hanh, *Peace Is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life* (Bantam, 1991)
By Mike Moran

When he died on January 22, 2022 at the age of 95, this Vietnamese Buddhist monk and peace activist who befriended and inspired such kindred peacemakers as Fathers

Dan and Phil Berrigan, Thomas Merton, John Dear, and Joan Baez and who was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1967 by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., left behind over 130 published books.

But there is no better introduction to his philosophy of “engaged Buddhism” than *Peace Is Every Step*, compiled by a small group of his friends, and edited by Arthur Kotler, during Thay’s (Vietnamese for “teacher”) decades-long exile before he returned to Vietnam late in his life. From “conscious breathing” exercises that can be done anywhere, anytime (while doing chores, driving, etc.) to deeper forms of frequent meditation, he shows how “we can realize peace right in the present moment with our look, our smile, our words, and our actions.”



My favorite chapter is “A Love Letter to Your Congressman,” but other chapters, with often provocative titles like “Thinking Less,” “Hope as an Obstacle,” and “What’s Not Wrong?,” remind us that “We Are All Linked to Each Other” in a worldwide web of “interbeing” where by “practicing mindfulness in...our daily lives ...we can sustain a life of action and be real instruments of peace.”

Joan Chittister, *The Time Is Now: A Call To Uncommon Courage* (Convergent Books, 2019)
By Mike Moran

This stirring book is the latest of over sixty that Sister Joan, an American Benedictine, has written

in the past half century. In eighteen short chapters, she argues that each of us can and should lead a life of “prophetic spirituality.” This book, she says, “is about the prophet in you...the prophet is the person who says no to everything that is not of God.”

She recalls her early training in the Benedictine style of guided meditation called “lectio divina” (“the devotion of sacred reading”), in which a Gospel episode is read about Jesus helping various people in need, then asking us bystanders, “And you, what will you do for these?” She cautions that while immersion in the Gospel strengthens our personal piety, Jesus is really calling us to the full Christian life of the prophet, “to hear the word of God for the world and repeat it, shout it, model it until the world comes awake.”

Reminding us that “the prophets were people like you and me,” Sister Joan invokes a wide range of role models, from the Biblical prophets to St. Oscar Romero, Dorothy Day, and Fr. Daniel Berrigan to show that “every prophet contemplated the price of risk and went on regardless – calling to the world to become its best self – and so must we.”

-Mike is editor of this newsletter.

-Sr. Jane is a PCUSA Ambassador of Peace and a PCMA co-founder.

Grants from PCMA to Local PC Groups

Local groups may apply for grants of up to \$250 to support projects which are in keeping with Pax Christi’s mission by asking PCMA treasurer Nancy Carapezza for an application form: Pax Christi MA, Good Shepherd Parish, 99 Main Street, Wayland, MA 01778; or npez@comcast.net

Riding on the Edge
By Barbara O'Connor
(inspired by Richard Rohr)

Diverging from the mainstream
Heading toward the periphery

Centrally located
Heading for the marginal

On the side line
From major to minor

Congregate
Go between

Right and left
(as left is right sided
and right is left sided
to do with the brain)

Go to the edge - coming from the
heart

Step off and emerge
Sink or swim
Submerge

They do it every day
Join in
Immerse

Situated at the threshold
Out on a limb
At the outer limit
There is no boundary
In this new frontier

In the meadow
As an extension
Wings in flight
Extended like a branch
From the tree of life
Spreading
Expanding

Gradually
Reaching the border
The margins of an altered zone
Corrupted

Making an arc
Into time and space

Forming a circle
On an angle turned
At the outer edge
Jump into liminal space

Knock at the door
And it will open
To grace
Grace so radical.

*-Barbara O'Connor, formerly of
East Longmeadow, MA, is a Pax
Christi activist in New Mexico.*



*Richard Rohr's Center for Action
and Contemplation, Albuquerque,
New Mexico (www.cac.org)*

The Witness
By Pat Ferrone

We are the remnant people,
the rag-tag weary reminders
of past pain brought forward in
time:
the old story of guns and blood
birthed
in force-fed enmity,
in fear fashioned from the
knowledge
that death's stop-station waits for
all.

We stand together this night
in the wind and cold,
our aging bodies set in defiance
of the weather and the insistent
claim that
how it is in the world is how it is,
nothing to do except to bear with
it,
suffer its savages, go along,
hurrah the military, and the might,
the blistering wounds and absent
limbs

for the sake of distant goals
of "peace" and "freedom."

But the dead on this year's menu of
war
keep whispering our names
from the burial grounds of our
hearts,
seeking cause and rhyme and
reason
for untimely endings,
when beginnings had only just
begun.

Standing quiet we listen (their
voices soft)
to tune our souls to theirs as they
rest, finally,
in hearts' safe harbors,
believing, it seems, that our life's
blood,
though thinned with age,
is a river of hope
carrying them to new birth.

Is this it, we ask,
as we stand in hunkered down
positions
while wind whips flags
and noses drip, and fingers freeze?

Can this standing, this prayer-
leaning into one another
constitute the Beloved Community
out of which will flow
heart pumping passion, the 'no' to
death-dealing
and blood-letting of nations and
neighbors?

Yes, the voices speak (voices now
more than whispers),
Yes.



*-Pat (lower right above) read this
poem at a December 19, 2022
Christmas Truce vigil in Boston.
(photos by Steve Gallant, MAPA)*

In Memoriam: Edouard Rocher, 1932-2022

-By Philip Harak

Former Pax Christi board member and co-chair, Edouard Rocher, PhD, died peacefully at his home last October, surrounded by family members. Born in France, his experience with the Nazis shaped his life, and was an instrumental motivation for his life-long quest for peace and justice.

He and his beloved wife Françoise, whom he married in 1964, jointly served on the board from 2002 to 2010. Since about 1996, Edouard and Françoise coordinated the local Cape Cod Pax Christi group. In 2007, they jointly received our Pax Christi MA Peacemaker Award. From 2008 to 2010, he was our board co-chair, along with Patrick Whelan, MD, PhD.



Edouard with his familiar smile

I was serving on the board when Edouard and Françoise joined. I recall them both as being dedicated peace servants. I had several private conversations with Edouard. I found him a fascinating and very intelligent person. We disagreed on the use of warfare, and he explained how his personal experiences in his country shaped his views. Yet we could still work together on peace initiatives, and I

appreciate his sincerity and his peace actions, such as his arrest while protesting at the School of the Americas.

Just before he left the board, I asked him about his work in physics. He told me that he had discovered, and demonstrated, significant changes to Einstein's relativity theory, challenging some of its foundations. Edouard reported that publishers refused to consider his paper because it questioned accepted norms of physics. I immediately equated that with Pax Christi's difficulties in becoming a legitimate voice in discussing the validity of violence, and in offering creative nonviolent alternatives. Like Edouard and his scientific offering, we too experience obstacles in breaking through the accepted social norms.

Pax Christi MA thanks Edouard and Françoise for their years of service, and we pray for him and his family.

Edouard's full obituary is here:
<https://www.capecodtimes.com/obituaries/pneo0342012>

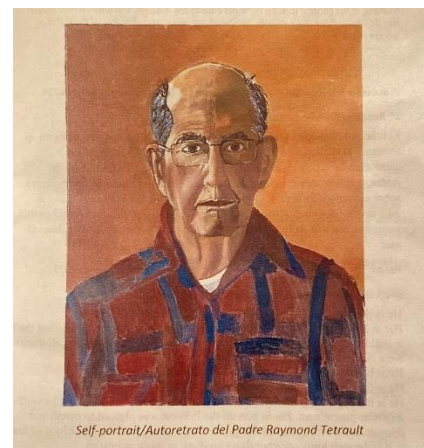
Fr. Ray Tetrault, 1935-2023

-By Willam Waters

Fr. Raymond Tetrault was a humble, gentle man who preferred to be called simply "Ray" or "Raymond." Ray was a very good listener and an accommodating group member. He, along with Fr. George Behan, founded Pax Christi Rhode Island in 2001, immediately following "9/11" in an effort to bring "Gospel Peace" to bear on that tragic situation. PC Rhode Island was launched using the "Prayer, Study, Action" paradigm. Over his 21 years as a leader of Pax Christi Rhode Island,

Ray consistently advocated for the "conversion" of military spending into priority domestic needs. He was a keen advocate for "green" energy such as wind power.

Ray was also a consistent advocate over many years for nuclear disarmament. He strongly supported the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Just a few weeks before he died, Ray was distributing TPNW leaflets in downtown Providence. Ray, also, initiated periodic Rosaries at Quonset Point where nuclear submarines are built.



A self-portrait by the talented Fr. Ray (courtesy of Bill Waters)

He was an activist who lobbied Congress, participated in numerous street demonstrations, and wrote letters to the editor. Ray said "We have to do something." He, along with Fr. Bob Beirne, also led numerous book study groups focusing on prophetic books for our times, such as *Laudato Si*, by Pope Francis. Both before and after Ray passed on, many people said that he was truly a "Saint". We will miss him for sure!

-Bill Waters is a longtime member of Pax Christi Rhode Island.

Fr. Ray's full obituary is here:
<https://www.providencejournal.com/obituaries/ppvp0394605>

Power of Prayer

By Fr. Rocco Puopolo

If you doubt the power of prayer, read on! A Pax Christi member at Fatima Shrine, Rosemarie Marsh, shared a very interesting article about a scientific study that was done in Jerusalem on the power of prayer during the Lebanese war in the 1980s. In this video Dr John Hagelin presents these findings: <https://youtu.be/yVF6Wtuxu8>.

The long and short of it is that if enough people pray for peace together, even if they are not in the same room or of the same faith, the power of that prayer will positively affect efforts to bring peace to that conflict in measurable, practical ways. It is scientifically proven!



Dr. John Hagelin (Wikipedia.org)

That inspired our group to offer during Lent the possibility for many peacemakers to join them in prayer for peace. On Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 am, before the 12:10 pm Lenten Mass at the Shrine Church, those interested in praying for peace can gather. For others, it will be livestreamed:

<https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyyofFatimaShrineHolliston>

Each day will focus on a different country experiencing conflict and violence. Besides praying the Rosary, we'll offer background on each country and the conflict. There will be 12 sessions, focusing on: the USA and violence on our

streets and in our schools; Ukraine; Democratic Republic of Congo (Kivu Region); Ethiopia; Nigeria; Central America/ Colombia; Myanmar; Mexico; Yemen; Cameroon; Syria; and Eritrea.

“There was far more evidence that group meditation can turn off war like a light-switch than there was that aspirin reduces headache pain. It is a scientific fact.” (Dr. John Hagelin). Let's make that happen!

Prayer, Reflection, Fun at Anniversary Assembly

By Jeanne Allen, PCMA Secretary

It was a crisp fall day that called 40+ peacemakers from across Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine and the National Office to St. Susanna's Parish in Dedham (and 25 more virtually) on October 29, 2022 to celebrate their 30th, 42nd and 50th anniversaries.

After a rocking opening ceremony, keynote speaker Johnny Zokovitch (Executive Director, Pax Christi USA) reviewed the key issues Pax Christi has been involved in since its founding: in the 70s, ending the war in Vietnam and dismantling nuclear weapons; in the 80s, supporting sanctuary movement, building ties with oppressed communities in Latin America and the Philippines, and working to abolish the death penalty.

In the 90s, deepened solidarity with Haiti, examining our relationship with the earth through the new cosmology, post-Cold War realities for the Global North and Global South, and economic justice at home and abroad were our major issues. The lens of oppression/liberation helped us

recognize our own white privilege and repent via an antiracist lens with the development of PCART (Pax Christi Anti-Racist Teams). The aftermath of 9/11/01 defined the 2000s in both Afghanistan and Iraq. The 2010s saw continued antiracist work, as well as response to the onslaught against human dignity in the Trump years.



Johnny, Lauren (paxchristiusa.org)

But do not be dismayed! While we continue to work on these issues, there have been many nonviolent victories throughout the world. In the Philippines, nonviolent resistance ousted dictator Marcos. Many states have abolished or put moratoriums on the death penalty. We must remember that “we are leaven, not the bread; we are salt and not the meal,” Zokovitch said.

Changing gears, we split into breakout sessions on nuclear disarmament, racism (including the Indigenous experience) and “Bread Not Stones” (a movement to demilitarize the US budget and make it responsive to human needs – led by PCUSA's Lauren Bailey, also available virtually). Each group received action suggestions for continuing the work.

We reconvened for a Bread Not Stones ritual led by Nancy Small. A simple meal followed, and free time to browse literature tables from Pax Christi, our co-sponsors Agape, and Fr. Emmanuel Charles

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2023 Pax Christi Spring Retreat (in person and zoom)

Saturday April 22

St. Thomas Parish Center

1076 Thorndike Street (Rt.32) Palmer MA

9:00am to 3:00pm

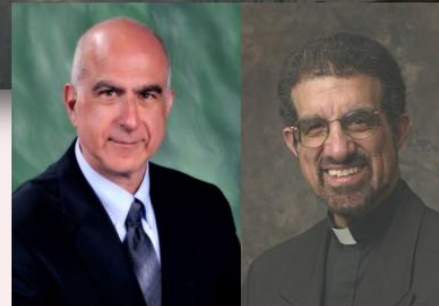
4:00pm Parish Mass for those who wish to attend

Living in the Company of Jesus

A Practical, Scripture-Based Guide
to Deepening Your Journey
within His Nonviolent Kingdom



**Philip J. Harak
G. Simon Harak, SJ**
Foreword by Charles McCarthy



Dr. Phil Harak honors his brother, Fr. G. Simon Harak S.J. who passed into eternal life in 2019, by presenting a series of Fr. Simon's homilies with his own reflections, directing the reader to Jesus' commitment to a nonviolent kingdom. Phil is co-coordinator of Pax Christi Massachusetts. Both Fr. Simon and Phil have led us in retreats in the past. Phil is an long serving educator and holds a doctorate in Social Justice Education.

Using the lessons in Chapter Three, "Reaching out to Jesus in times of upheaval: can we who are imperfect still be loving servants?" the retreat will offer everyone an opportunity to rediscover the power of nonviolent discipleship for our turbulent world through Scripture stories, journaling, silence, & sharing, as well as the reflections of Fr. Harak and those of his brother Phil. *Come be inspired, empowered, graced!*

++++Registration Form++++ clip and return

Name _____ Street Address _____

City/State _____ Phone _____

Email _____

I/we will attend in Person # attending _____ other names on back of slip I/we will attend via Zoom. Send me the link.

Donation* \$40.00 (including lunch) High School and College Students with ID Free

I am a retreat sponsor and will donate an additional tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to help defray the cost of the Retreat.

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

Pax Christi Massachusetts Good Shepherd Parish 99 Main Street Wayland, MA 01778

*Scholarships available

www.paxchristima.org

For information: paxchristima@gmail.com

Co-sponsored by the  & St Susanna Parish, Dedham

2023 Pax Christi Massachusetts Peacemaker Award Nomination
To be awarded at the annual Pax Christi Massachusetts Assembly Fall 2023

This award is given to an outstanding peacemaker who embodies the ideals of Pax Christi. She or he need not be a member of Pax Christi and may be a person as young as 16, or older. Nominations may be submitted by PCMA members, teachers, campus ministers, parish pastoral leaders, youth ministers, family members or friends who have been inspired by the nominee.

DEADLINE: Nominations must be received by September 1, 2023.
SEND TO: Mike Moran, 135 Shearer Street, Palmer, MA 01069 (or email: moran3@comcast.net)

Nominee's name/s _____
School, if applicable _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Social justice & peacemaking activities, volunteer involvement, etc. (attach, as needed)
Your name _____ Relationship to nominee _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

2023 Pax Christi Massachusetts John Leary Youth Peacemaker Award Nomination
To be awarded at the annual Pax Christi Massachusetts Assembly Fall 2023

This award is given to an outstanding young peacemaker who embodies the ideals of Pax Christi, as John Leary lived them. John was a Harvard University graduate who worked with PC Massachusetts co-founder Gordon Zahn at the Pax Christi Center on Conscience and War in Cambridge and died at age 24 while jogging to Haley House, a Catholic Worker House in Boston, during the summer of 1982.

Nominees for the John Leary Award need not be members of Pax Christi but must be no older than 24. Nominations may be submitted by PCMA members, teachers, campus ministers, parish pastoral leaders, youth ministers, family members or friends who have been inspired by the nominee.

DEADLINE: Nominations must be received by September 1, 2023.
SEND TO: Mike Moran, 135 Shearer Street, Palmer, MA 01069 (or email: moran3@comcast.net)

Nominee's name/s _____
School, if applicable _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Social justice & peacemaking activities, volunteer involvement, etc. (attach, as needed)
Your name _____ Relationship to nominee _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Prayer, Reflection

Continued from page 8

McCarthy. We also had an “Archives” area to review some literature from the early days; a Book of Remembrance” which honored Pax Christi members who have died; and the 50th Anniversary Tapestry.

Next came PCMA’s annual meeting, with the 2022 Peacemaker Award going to Dr. Ira Helfand for his lifetime dedication to shalom and the abolition of nuclear weapons. Prior Peacemakers were honored in “prayer flags” throughout the hall, and Youth Peacemakers were featured in a “Where Are They Now?” review. Fr. McCarthy shared memories on the founding of Pax Christi USA, and representatives of Maine, Massachusetts & Rhode Island reviewed their histories.

And music! Along with sing-along favorites led by Frank Pendola and John Roarke, was a haunting rendition of Pete Seeger’s “I Come and Stand at Every Door,” in the voice of a child of Hiroshima. We shared Anniversary cake, and then Johnny gave closing remarks.

The future will be based on three pillars: discipleship, relationships, and community. They are our foundation, our energy and our sustenance. Peacemaking can be a lonely road in our society, but we are nurtured by our faith and each other. We closed with prayer and song, and a renewal of the Vow of Nonviolence.

Agape Turns 40

By Mike Moran

Agape’s in-person Francis Day program on Saturday, October 1, 2022, marked their 40th anniversary with memories shared by those who were present at the creation and others who joined in later decades before a typically multigenerational Agape audience in brisk weather.



Fr. McCarthy, Frida (Agape)

After an opening prayer by longtime Agape friend Fr. John P. Sullivan, co-founders Suzanne and Brayton Shanley traced the roots of Agape to the legacies of Church monastic communities, the nonviolent direct action of Gandhi, and the examples of “renegade” priests and sisters, like Dan and Phil Berrigan and Liz McAlister.

Fr. Emmanuel Charles McCarthy recalled that when he first met Suzanne and Brayton in 1970s Boston, she was “quite a looker,” and Brayton, a skilled biker around the city. He noted that while it “takes real work” to turn words into deeds, “good things happened” when the Shanleys met the challenge of building a new community. Among others reflecting on Agape’s vast influence, John and Carrie Schuchardt, co-

founders of the House of Peace in Ipswich, saw the community as “Old Testament prophets” against war, and Worcester Catholic Workers Michael Boover and Claire and Scott Schaeffer-Duffy praised Agape’s “gospel living” for evoking the “still small voice” of the Divine in every person.

Special guests prayed at various trees planted across the Agape landscape in honor of departed peacemakers. Frida Berrigan’s humorous, touching memories of her uncle, Fr. Dan, and her father, Phil Berrigan, drew appreciative crowd laughter. Musical inspiration came from Springfield’s Sr. Melinda Pellerin and Sr. Clare Carter and Rev. Kato Shoni of the Buddhist Peace Pagoda in Leverett.

The many young attendees inspired by Agape bode well for 40+ more thriving years ahead.

Pax Christi MA Board of Directors 2022-2023

<u>Co-Coordinator:</u> Philip Harak 6 Geryk Ct. Southampton MA 01073 413-478-7542 philharak@yahoo.com	<u>Co-Coordinator:</u> Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x 101 Summer Street Holliston MA 01746 202-997-8049 (email page 12)
<u>Treasurer:</u> Nancy Carapezza 13 Red Barn Road Wayland, MA 01778 508-740-4500 npez@comcast.net	<u>Secretary:</u> Jeanne Allen 10 Sutton Place Easthampton, 01027 413-270-5880 (email page 12)
<u>OTHER BOARD MEMBERS:</u>	
Bessom (Somerville); (Jamaica Plain); (Needham); (Springfield); (Palmer/Newsletter Editor); Morrissey Sr. Rita Raboin	Sr. Linda Irene Desharnais Pat Ferrone Sally Markey Mike Moran Rose (Westborough) (Somerville);
<u>QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS</u> are held virtually at 10:00 AM and are open to all PCMA members. The next two will be held on March 11 & June 10, 2023.	

Local Groups

Berkshire P.C.

Carolyn Zablonty
P.O. Box 14
Mill River, MA 01244
berkshire.pax.christi@gmail.com
Contact for meeting info

Beverly P.C.

Sr. Linda Bessom, SNDdeN
(857) 236-1370
linda.bessom@sndden.org
Mtgs 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
St. Mary's Convent

Boston (Citywide) P.C.

Sr. Rita Raboin, SNDdeN
Paulist Center, 5 Park St
Boston, MA
rita.raboin@sndden.org
Contact for meeting info

Cape Cod P.C.

Francoise Rocher
77 Old Post Road
Centerville, MA 02632
(508) 771-6737
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
St. Rose of Lima Parish
Northborough, MA 01532
Contact for meeting info

Fatima Shrine P.C.

Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x.
101 Summer Street
Holliston, MA 01746
(202) 997-8049
rndpsx@hotmail.com
Mtgs 2nd Friday, 4:00 PM
Upper Room

Holy Cross College P.C.

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

Holy Cross Parish P.C.

221 Plumtree Road
Springfield, MA 01118
Marilyn Paul-Lewis
(413) 739-3278
parishsocialministry@gmail.com
Contact for meeting info

Metro West P.C.

Jan Leary
peacejpl@comcast.net
Mtgs 3rd Wednesday, 1:00 PM
Natick Public Library

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

Sheila Matthews
199 Maple Street
Somerset, MA 02726
(508) 674-8220
sheilmathews@aol.com
Mtgs 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Chapel of Reconciliation

Rhode Island P.C.

Margo Murphy
(401) 861-6988
margomurph@aol.com

Madeline Labriola
(845) 691-8015
mlabriola@mac.com
St. Peter's Church
350 Fair Street
Warwick, RI 02888
Mtgs last Sunday, 6:00 PM

St. John's Prep P.C.

St. John's Preparatory School
72 Spring Street
Danvers, MA 01923
Bill Mackinson
(978) 774-1057
wmackinson@stjohnsprep.org
Prayer for Peace, Tuesday mornings, 7:45-8:00 AM

St. Susanna Parish P.C.

Pat Ferrone
262 Needham Street
Dedham, MA 02026
(781) 752-9722
parferrone@gmail.com
Contact for meeting info

SHOL Collaborative P.C. – Sacred Heart & Our Lady's

Ann Capoccia
573 Washington Street
Newton, MA 02458
(617) 527-7360
anncapoccia@verizon.net
Contact for meeting info

Western Mass P.C.

Jeanne Allen
10 Sutton Place
Easthampton, MA 01027
(413) 270-5880
jallen10sp@gmail.com
Mtgs 2nd Friday, 7:00 PM
Elms College, Chicopee

(NOTE: Meetings of some groups may be virtual due to Covid)

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, or if you would like to be added to a list of Pax Christi "friends" and receive current messages from the Board, please send changes or additions to Mike Moran: moran3@comcast.net (135 Shearer Street, Palmer, MA 01069)

Pax Christi Massachusetts
Good Shepherd Parish
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