



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

The Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa and the Franciscan Peace Center are excited to invite you to participate in a special virtual program to commemorate the International Day of Peace on September 21. The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace.

As people of faith, we understand the profound significance of fostering peace and justice in our world. In solidarity with the global community, we are organizing a day of prayer dedicated to various important topics that align with our *Laudato Si'* values.

The program entails dedicating time to silent prayer to reflect on specific subjects. Each individual, community, or organization is invited to hold their own event, at a location and time which is most convenient to you. We have designed the program with a suggested schedule that will commence at 8:00 AM and conclude at 4:00 PM, allowing each of us to participate at a convenient time within this duration.

To aid you in your prayer, we have prepared an hourly guide to lead you through the day, including

- a brief prayer for each hour's topic to serve as a starting point (However, we encourage you to spend additional time in personal contemplation, offering your own intentions, petitions, and reflections on the specific subject.),
- a list of additional resources to learn more about the issues of each hour,
- suggested actions you can take to help bring about the change needed in the world, and
- a reflective YouTube video for each hour's topic.

We believe that our collective prayers can ignite transformative change, manifesting God's love and compassion in our world. The power of prayer knows no bounds, and by participating, we join hands in creating a ripple effect of peace that extends beyond our immediate community.

To participate in this Day of Prayer, please visit <https://clintonfranciscans.com/international-day-of-peace-2023>. On September 21, prayers will also be posted each hour on the Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa Facebook page.



Franciscan Peace Center

8:00 AM [IMMIGRATION REFORM](#)

9:00 AM [CARE FOR THE EARTH](#)

10:00 AM [ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY](#)

11:00 AM [NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT/ ENDING WAR](#)

12:00 PM [RACISM](#)

1:00 PM [AN END TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING](#)

2:00 PM [REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE](#)

3:00 PM [BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS](#)

Additionally, visit our Facebook page on September 19th and 20th to hear reflections from Sisters of St. Francis on the International Day of Peace.



EXAMPLE DAY OF PRAYER RESOURCES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE:

PRAYER, EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES, ACTION ITEMS

IMMIGRATION REFORM

PRAYER:

Almighty God,
Millions of our brothers and sisters are on the move
around the world,
Not by choice, but by desperation.
We encounter their stories in the news
And their faces in members of our own communities.
We pray that we may lead the way to bring about God's vision
of peace and justice to all,
And hope and love to those on the move near and far.
For those forced to flee violence,
We pray they find safety.
For those seeking economic opportunity,
We pray they find secure livelihoods.
For those trying to support and protect their families,
We pray they find communities to embrace them.
For those searching for peace and hope,
We pray that we may be bearers of
The Good News.
We are called to be prophetic advocates in this world.
To call out injustice and be heralds of Truth and Love.
We pray that all migrants, refugees and displaced persons
May find safe and loving communities
And the opportunity to thrive.
And we pray that we may have the courage to stand and act
In defense of human dignity for all our brothers and sisters in need.
Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us.
Amen

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RESOURCES:

CLINIC encourages us to see immigrants as our neighbors in their [Neighbors, Not Strangers](#) project, an interactive digital storytelling project.

Justice for Immigrants calls us to learn about [immigration reform and the Church](#). Read about the current immigration crisis, efforts for immigration reform, and some of the Catholic Church's efforts to promote reform.

ACTION:

Tell Our National Leaders to Support Welcoming, Humane Border Solutions

The end of Title 42 represents a critical opportunity to turn toward humane solutions that would both effectively manage the border and meaningfully welcome those seeking protection. Church World Service urges us to tell our elected officials to reject anti-immigrant, anti-asylum regulations and legislation and instead invest in concrete solutions that expand our capacity to welcome. [TAKE ACTION](#)



JUST *Living* FESTIVAL

10.1.2023
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Outdoors at The Canticle

The Just Living Festival will be a fun multi-generational outdoor event where community organizations will celebrate diversity, foster unity, and inspire positive social change and sustainability.

Visit our website for more information



EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED


Sisters of St. Francis
CLINTON, IOWA
Franciscan Peace Center