



PEACE SUNDAY 2024

Artificial Intelligence and Peace



What is Peace Sunday?

Every year the Pope sends a message to people around the world on 1st January for the World Day of Peace. Pax Christi England and Wales encourages the Church to share the Pope's message on Peace Sunday, which takes place every year in January. Pax Christi shares the message as they are a Catholic peace organisation.

This year the Pope talks about Artificial Intelligence- a kind of technology that people are trying to teach to think and react like a human, whilst also being very fast and powerful. The Pope says that we can use it to work for good, for example by making the world fairer, but need to be careful that we don't let people use it for bad things.

Discussion points

- Where do you use technology in your everyday life?
- What do you think technology will be like in the future?





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First Reading from 1 Samuel

In the first reading we hear the story of Samuel being called by God. At first he doesn't realise it's God and thinks he is being called by Eli. This happens two more times before Eli realises it is God who is calling Samuel, and tells Samuel that the next time it happens he should listen to God. So Samuel goes back to sleep and next time God calls him, he tells God that he is listening.

Discussion points

- Why do you think Samuel didn't realise it was God calling? What would you do?
- When do you hear God calling you to be a peacemaker?
- Who helps you to hear and answer God's call?





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Gospel John 1:35-42

In the Gospel reading we see John the Baptist standing with two of his disciples. He says Jesus is the lamb of God and so the two disciples follow Jesus and spend the day with him. One of the disciples was called Andrew and he goes to tell his brother, Simon, that they have found the Messiah. Simon goes with Andrew to Jesus. Jesus looks at Simon and said he would now be called Peter.

Discussion Points

- John the Baptist and the disciples recognise Jesus as the Christ. Who do you recognise as a peacemaker?
- Why do you think Jesus is a peacemaker?
- How can you follow Jesus' example?





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Activities

- In a circle, go around and invite each child to say what they think a peaceful world in the future would look like.
- Create posters of peacemakers that they know- it could be members of their family, friends or somebody famous. Ask them to show on the poster why the person is a peacemaker.
- Using craft materials create an imaginary 'peace' robot. Label the parts of its body with their function for peace, for example, 'the hand is to help others'. You might want to draw it instead.
- Fill in the worksheet associated with this resource looking at being a peacemaker (www.paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday/). How can you share the message of peace in your family, church, school...?
- Have a look at the *Activities and Prayers for Children* sheet on our website for more ideas: <http://tinyurl.com/yyt2y34c>. The activities 'I am special', 'What makes for peace?' and 'I am a peacemaker when...' might be particularly relevant.



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Prayer

Dear God

We thank you for giving us your peace.

Help us to spread peace at home and at school
by loving and caring for one another
even when we don't agree.

Help us to spread peace
by sharing our time with those
who are lonely and who need a friend.

Help us to spread peace
by thinking and praying for
children who have no food
or who are frightened and live in fear.



Let us pray every day for peace
for our families, our friends and
ourselves.

Amen