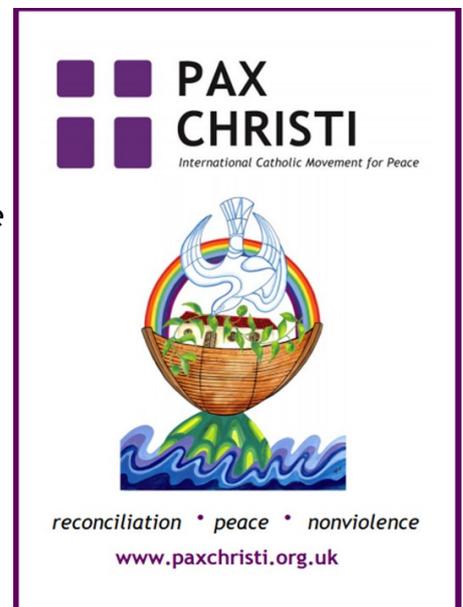


This year the Pope's peace message on 1st January was entitled "Peace as a Journey of Hope: Dialogue, Reconciliation and Ecological Conversion". Each Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, Pax Christi promotes this message in parishes across England and Wales.

This resource is intended to be used as a way to highlight some of the ideas presented in the message and to encourage conversation about some of the key themes, such as fear, dialogue, forgiveness and care for creation. These discussion themes could be used in a variety of ways, such as during registration, in an assembly or as a lesson starter.

The information below is a suggestions potential thoughts and ideas to explore the discussion points further.

- **Slide 3:** This slide asks students to consider what things could be scary and how they might react. If possible, it might be interesting to discuss attitudes that create fear and deeper fears within society itself. You might also consider how these fears affect or provoke reactions and even individual vs. group reactions
- **Slide 4:** This slide gives some information on some thoughts in the Pope's peace message and asks how we can overcome fear/ what could give us hope. Some ideas for this may correspond with discussions later on in the resource. It might be helpful to look at how we can overcome fear or find hope either as an individual, as a group or in a particular situation.
- **Slide 5:** Prayer. The prayer slides are open for you to do them in a way that is appropriate for your group. They could also be used together with other Peace Sunday liturgy resources found on the link at the bottom of this resource, or the Peace Sunday prayer card (<http://paxchristi.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2020prayercardNov14-VF-ed.pdf>).
- **Slide 6:** This is an animated slide explaining a tale of children with sticks. It is meant to reflect the idea of nuclear deterrence and this is explained on a later slide.
- **Slide 7:** This slide asks students whether this idea creates true safety. It may be worth looking at work from CND Peace Education (<https://cnduk.org/education/>) for more information.
- **Slide 8:** This slide looks at the idea of 'true' peace and security. This topic could be further explored using the *Human Security* resource on the Pax Christi website (<http://paxchristi.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Human-Security.pdf>) or the *Elements of Peace* cards *Security* and *Joined-Up Thinking* (<http://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-education/lessons-workshops/elements-of-peace/>)
- **Slide 9:** Prayer



- **Slides 10 and 11:** This slide uses the well-known idea of a glass being half empty or half full and links to the idea of perspective- could it be both things at once?!
- **Slide 12:** This slide talks about the idea of dialogue. This may have come up as an answer to the question around overcoming fear and could be linked to previous ideas during the discussion. It may be interesting to think about where these kind of discussions could take place- would it be in conferences and formal spaces or could it be youth groups and community events? Does it depend on context?
- **Slide 13:** This slides encourages students to try an active listening activity. It may be interesting at the end to see how students felt or to explore how we can learn to listen and communicate more effectively.
- **Slide 14:** Prayer. This slide leaves space for young people to add in their own intentions. This could be done in a variety of ways such as allowing students to call out intentions, asking students to write intentions down and perhaps take them to the front or a prayer space or by passing round an object. It is also possible just to have a few minutes of silent prayer.
- **Slide 15:** This slide looks at the idea of forgiveness and what Jesus meant by forgiving someone 70x7 times- it might be fun to do the maths first as a competition!
- **Slide 16:** This slide considers the idea of forgiveness and reconciliation. In his message Pope Francis also talks about the sacrament of reconciliation, so this may be an interesting topic for discussion and development. It might also be interesting to look at the *Elements of Peace* card *Love Your Enemies* (<http://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-education/lessons-workshops/elements-of-peace/>)
- **Slide 17:** Prayer
- **Slide 18:** This slide asks students whether we have a responsibility for creation. Potentially this could create discussion and it might be interesting to look at our *Elements of Peace* card *Sowing Seeds of Peace*
- **Slide 19:** This slide outlines Pope Francis' call to 'ecological conversion' and asks what we could do.
- **Slide 20:** Prayer

For more information about the work of Pax Christi, visit our website at: <http://paxchristi.org.uk/>

More resources for Peace Sunday can be found here: <http://paxchristi.org.uk/news-and-events/peace-sunday/>