



Serving Holy Name Province

Franciscan Friars

Office for Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation

6896 Laurel Street, NW
Washington, DC 20012
202-541-5245
202-541-5244 fax

October 17, 2001

Dear Friars and Friends,

Peace and All Good. I hope that this note finds you well. This is the cover letter for the second set of resources to help you in ministering to and with your communities. I hope that the first set of resources were helpful.

Since the last set of resources, the context of our ministry has continued to change. On October 7, 2001, the United States and its allies began the bombing of targets in Afghanistan. In many ways, this offered many people in the U.S. a sense of emotional relief. Though the case can be made for this and, potentially, other military action, it will never fully "solve" the problems that lead to the terrible attacks on September 11th. As this bombing continues it will be imperative that we help our people understand what are the desirable outcomes regarding this and other action. We must be clear that violence will most often breed more violence. In the midst of the military response, we continue the long process of sifting through the wreckage of the World Trade Center, and more importantly, support our people in their healing. We will continue the process of grief and comfort discussed in the reflection from Walter Brueggemann. Hopefully, we can continue offering healing liturgies and other reflection processes.

We also need to continue the preparation and implementation of other ways of helping our people to continue and/or begin the process of social analysis and faith reflection. The offerings in this packet of resources are designed to work in the bridging of these moments of pastoral leadership. Of course, each minister must determine the pastoral needs and location of their ministry. These resources are offered in that spirit. I hope that they can be helpful.

The first set of materials in this mailing is two statements that can help people put the events of September 11th and the U.S. response into some sort of faith context. They might be used as bulletin/newsletter inserts or as handouts located at ministerial entrances. The second set of materials is a list of some locations to find further sources for prayer, reflection, and understanding. There is a lot of information appearing out there. This is some of the best that we have found. If you have other sources, please let me know and we can forward them to everyone.

We are still working to place all past, current and future materials on the HNP website. We will let you know when this has been achieved.

Again, I hope that these are helpful to you and your ministries. If there is anything that I can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to let me know.

There will be additional resources coming in the next weeks. Until then, may our world may and we move closer to justice and peace.

In the Hope of Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Testa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Russell" and last name "Testa" clearly distinguishable.

Russell Testa, Director

STATEMENTS IN RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 AND US ATTACKS ON AFGHANISTAN

The following statements are worthy of your consideration as ministers. You may also wish to provide them to the folks in your ministry, as bulletin inserts or handouts. They offer us a way to insure that we are able to offer a realistic but prophetically oriented voice of reason. In essence, they both say that a military response may be necessary from a moral point of view. However, it is never a sufficient end on its own. We must always look beyond violence to find ways of building a stronger, more just society. This will be how peace can be achieved.

Deny Them Their Victory

A Religious Response to Terrorism (September 24, 2001)

We, American religious leaders, share the broken hearts of our fellow citizens. The worst terrorist attack in history that assaulted New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania has been felt in every American community. Each life lost was of unique and sacred value in the eyes of God, and the connections Americans feel to those lives run very deep. In the face of such a cruel catastrophe, it is a time to look to God and to each other for the strength we need and the response we will make. We must dig deep to the roots of our faith for sustenance, solace, and wisdom.

First, we must find a word of consolation for the untold pain and suffering of our people. Our congregations will offer their practical and pastoral resources to bind up the wounds of the nation. We can become safe places to weep and secure places to begin rebuilding our shattered lives and communities. Our houses of worship should become public arenas for common prayer, community discussion, eventual healing, and forgiveness.

Second, we offer a word of sober restraint as our nation discerns what its response will be. We share the deep anger toward those who so callously and massively destroy innocent lives, no matter what the grievances or injustices invoked. In the name of God, we too demand that those responsible for these utterly evil acts be found and brought to justice. Those culpable must not escape accountability. But we must not, out of anger and vengeance, indiscriminately retaliate in ways that bring on even more loss of innocent life. We pray that President Bush and members of Congress will seek the wisdom of God as they decide upon the appropriate response.

Third, we face deep and profound questions of what this attack on America will do to us as a nation. The terrorists have offered us a stark view of the world they would create, where the remedy to every human grievance and

injustice is a resort to the random and cowardly violence of revenge - even against the most innocent. Having taken thousands of our lives, attacked our national symbols, forced our political leaders to flee their chambers of governance, disrupted our work and families, and struck fear into the hearts of our children, the terrorists must feel victorious.

But we can deny them their victory by refusing to submit to a world created in their image. Terrorism inflicts not only death and destruction but also emotional oppression to further its aims. We must not allow this terror to drive us away from being the people God has called us to be. We assert the vision of community, tolerance, compassion, justice, and the sacredness of human life, which lies at the heart of all our religious traditions. America must be a safe place for all our citizens in all their diversity. It is especially important that our citizens who share national origins, ethnicity, or religion with whoever attacked us are, themselves, protected among us.

Our American illusion of invulnerability has been shattered. From now on, we will look at the world in a different way, and this attack on our life as a nation will become a test of our national character. Let us make the right choices in this crisis - to pray, act, and unite against the bitter fruits of division, hatred, and violence. Let us rededicate ourselves to global peace, human dignity, and the eradication of injustice that breeds rage and vengeance.

As we gather in our houses of worship, let us begin a process of seeking the healing and grace of God.

(Endorsements are personal, organizations listed for identification only)

Thomas J. Allio, Sr., Director, Diocesan Social Action Office, Cleveland, OH
 Dr. Philip A. Amerson, President, The Claremont School of Theology
 Rev. H. George Anderson, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 Bob Barnhart, Associate Director, CWSW/CROP, Lansing, MI
 Dr. Maxine Clark Beach, Vice President and Dean, Drew Theological School
 Dr. David Beckmann, President, Bread for the World
 Joshua Boettger, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
 Rev. Peter Borgdorff, Executive Director of Ministries, Christian Reformed Church
 Chuck Boyer, Church of the Brethren, LaVerne, CA
 Rev. Jeffrey L. Brown, Pastor, Union Baptist Church, Cambridge MA, Co-Founder, Ten Point Coalition
 Rev. Mary Lou Bowen, Executive Director, New York Community of Churches
 Commissioner John Busby, National Commander, Salvation Army
 Rev. Sandra Cain, Downtown United Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY
 Dr. Mas'ood Cajee, Muslim Peace Fellowship USA
 Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, Director, Department of Religion, Chautauqua Institution
 The Rev. Eliezer Valentin-Castañon, The United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society
 The Rev. Jonathan Chute, Rolling Hills United Methodist Church, California
 The Rev. James W. Crawford, Senior Minister, The Old South Church, Boston
 The Rev. Dr. Susan E. Davies, Faith and Order Commission, NCCCUSA, Bangor Theological Seminary
 The Rev. Dr. Tim Dearborn, Seattle Pacific University
 Rev. Boyd Drake, United Church of Canada, Rapid City and Area Pastoral Charge
 Christian and Ralph Dull, National Council Fellowship of Reconciliation, Englewood, OH
 Dr. Bob Edgar, General Secretary, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA
 Rev. Bruce Epperly, Ph.D., Director, Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health
 Rev. Kate Epperly, D. Min., Pastor, Palisades Community Church, Washington, DC, International Council of Community of Churches
 The Very Rev. Christopher Epting, Deputy for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, The Episcopal Church
 Rev. John Faneuil, Senior Pastor, Anaheim United Methodist Church, Anaheim, CA
 Rev. Patricia Adams Farmer, Pastor, Orangethorpe Christian Church, Fullerton, CA
 Rev. Diane R. Fleming, Community of Faith Church, Ann Arbor, MI
 Rev. Thomas A. Fleming, Community of Faith Church, Saline, MI
 Pam Folkers, Church World Service, Michigan
 Thomas J. Gallen, Executive Director, Preacher's Aid Society of New England
 Paul Gorman, National Religious Partnership for the Environment
 The Rev. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, Reformed Church of America
 Gloria Guard, People's Emergency Center, Philadelphia
 Dr. David P. Gushee, Raves Associate Professor of Moral Philosophy, Union University
 Rev. Dr. Maria Davis Hanlin, Light of Christ United Methodist Church, Charlotte, NC
 Rev. Gary L. Harke, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Council of Churches
 Rev. Mark Henderson, United Methodist Church
 Marvin D. Hoff, Executive Director, Foundation for Theological Education
 Robert N. Hosack, Senior Acquisitions Editor, Baker Book House

Rev. William C. Imes, President, Bangor Theological Seminary
Rev. L. Steve Horswill-Johnston, Associate General Secretary, United Methodist Communications
Rev. Colleen Hurley-Bates
Elenie Huszagh, Esq., Incoming President, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA
Rabbi Steven B. Jacobs, Temple Kol Tikvah, Woodland Hills, CA
Thomas H. Jeavons, General Secretary of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
The Very Rev. Arthur M. Johnson, SA, Minister General, Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, Graymoor, NY
Rev. Donna Lawrence Jones, Pastor, Cookman United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Aline Songco Joye, Innovative Short-Term Missionary, Faculty, Harris Memorial College
Scott Kennedy, Chair, Fellowship of Reconciliation National Council
Minister E. Terri LaVelle, Licensed Evangelist, Church of God in Christ, Program Director, The Faith & Politics Institute, Member of Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, DC
Rabbi Michael Lerner, Editor, TIKKUN Magazine
Sr. Beth LeValley, President, The Greater Rochester Community of Churches
Michael E. Livingston, International Council of Community Churches
The Rev. Ted Loder, former Pastor, Germantown United Methodist Church, Philadelphia, PA
Rev. Clark Lobenstine, Executive Director, Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington
Dr. JoAnne Lyon, Executive Director, World Hope International, Inc.
Jim Mannoia, President, Greenville College
The Rev. Michael A. Mata, Professor of Urban Ministry and Director of the Urban Leadership Institute at Claremont School of Theology
Dr. Kendall K. McCabe, Academic Dean, United Theological Seminary
Retha McCutchen, General Secretary, Friends United Meeting
W. Grant McMurray, President, Community of Christ
Bishop Freeman J. Miller, Mennonite Churches of Philadelphia
Stephen V. Monsma, Professor of Political Science, Pepperdine University
David Neff, Executive Editor, Christianity Today Magazine
Rev. Sandra Olewne, United Methodist Liaison, Jerusalem
Rev. Phil Olson, Evangelicals for Social Action, Vice President of Church Relations and Director of Network 9.35
Marilyn O'Rourke, RN, MSN, Rush University College of Nursing
Glenn R. Palmberg, President, The Evangelical Covenant Church
Dr. Peter J. Pizor, Churchwright Institute
Kathleen Pruitt, CSJP, President, Leadership Conference of Women Religious
Janet E. Raffel, J. E. Raffel & Associates, Baltimore, MD
Rev. Dr. Robert H. Roberts, Interim General Secretary, American Baptist Churches, USA
Rabbi David Rosen, International Director of Interreligious Affairs, The American Jewish Committee
Rabbi David Saperstein, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism
William and Marina Shaw, Crosscurrents International Institute
Amy Short, Executive Director, Brethren/Mennonite Council for Lesbian and Gay Concerns
Dr. Ron Sider, Evangelicals for Social Action
Max L. Stackhouse, Project on Public Theology, Princeton Theological Seminary
Mark Flory Steury, District Executive Minister, Southern Ohio District Church of the Brethren
Susan M. Swider, Ph.D., R.N., Rush University
Dr. Ronald F. Thiemann, Professor of Theology, Harvard University
Rev. Leslie Copeland Tuno, Associate Minister at Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, DC
Mr. Khalid Turaani, American Muslims for Jerusalem
Heidi Rolland Uhrich, Associate Director, Congregations, Communities and Leadership Development Project
The Rev. Jim Walls, Call to Renewal and Sojourners
Rabbi Arthur Waskow, Director, The Shalom Center
Dr. Denny Wayman, Free Methodist Church of Santa Barbara
Rev. Dr. Robert Welsh, President, Council on Christian Church, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
The Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker, Director of Admissions, United Theological Seminary
The Rev. Nathan D. Wilson, Executive Director, West Virginia Council of Churches
The Rev. Dr. Walter Wink, Auburn Theological Seminary
Dr. Richard Wood, President, United Board for Christian Higher Education in

Catholic Bishops' Conference President Issues Statement on Military Action

WASHINGTON (October 9, 2001) -- Following is the statement of Galveston-Houston Bishop Joseph A. Fiorenza, President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, regarding the military action by the United States:

"As our nation undertakes military action, our Bishops' Conference calls for continued prayer, resolve and restraint in response to the terrorist attacks of September 11. We ask for prayers for our President and national leaders, for our servicemen and women, and for all those touched by those terrorist attacks.

"We renew our call that our military response must be guided by the traditional moral limits on the use of force. Military action is always regrettable, but it may be necessary to protect the innocent or to defend the common good. We support efforts to make clear that this response is directed at those who use terror as well as those who assist them, not at the Afghan people or Islam. Measures to insure the safety of innocent civilians are both necessary and important. We strongly support humanitarian initiatives which respond to the plight of the Afghan people, especially refugees and displaced civilians.

"We are encouraged by the efforts to build a global coalition to seek justice and a comprehensive response using diplomatic, economic and humanitarian as well as legitimate military means. Beyond the crisis of the moment, we continue to urge the renewal of diplomatic and other measures to secure a just peace for Palestinians and Israelis, and a world which is more just and more peaceful for all who suffer the loss of their God-given rights. Our every effort should be guided by our desire for a world which truly respects the rights and dignity of every human person.

"In the midst of conflict, we pray for peace. In the aftermath of terrorism, we seek justice. In response to hate, we offer love. At a time of trial, we turn to God as our refuge and strength to show us the path to healing, reconciliation and peace."

Other statements by the U.S. Bishops (www.nccbuscc.org)

Including Bishops Say 'Resolve and Restraint' Must Govern Nation's 'Obligation to Defend the Common Good' (Sept. 20, 2001); Catholic Bishops and Muslim Leaders Issue Joint Statement (Sept. 14, 2001); Islamic-Catholic Liaison Committee Condemns Terrorist Attack (Sept. 13, 2001); Bishops' Administrative Committee Expresses Sorrow Over Tragedy, Calls for Prayer and Unity (Sept. 11, 2001). Also, Papal and Vatican statements are available on this same site.

RESOURCES FOR MINISTRY IN RESPONDING TO SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

There are a number of good resources that can help us to shape long and short-term ministerial direction to the attacks and U.S. responses to September 11, 2001. In these sites you will find prayer and reflection resources and more information to understand the situation and speak about it with fuller knowledge.

Stand Against Violence 2001

A resource packet for parishes and dioceses produced by the USCC. More information is available at www.nccbuscc.org

Confronting a Culture of Violence: A Catholic Framework for Action

A 1994 pastoral message by the U.S. Bishops. The full text is available at www.nccbuscc.org

Pax Christi USA Action Suggestions in the Immediate Aftermath of Sept. 11th

Three concrete suggestions for people of faith, including the procedure for reporting an incident of harassment made against a person of Arab descent. This is available at www.paxchristiusa.org

Center of Concern

The Center of Concern, based in Washington, DC, offers a number of resources on their website, including a selection of responses to the events of September 11th, a prayer service, images from around the world, etc. www.coc.org

National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, a national professional association for Catholic youth ministers, provide on their website a number of resources for prayer, reflection, and action in the wake of the events of September 11th. The references and links provided will be especially helpful for those who work with youth, but will also be of interest to all involved in church ministry. www.nfcym.org

National Catholic Education Association

The National Catholic Education Association provides on its website a Family Prayer service and information on Catholic Schools September 18, 2001 Solidarity Day. They also include links to other resources that may help in preparing a response to the attacks of September 11. www.ncea.org

GIA Publishers

GIA music has prepared a prayer service, reflection, and music resources for use with children and has granted permission for churches and schools to use these without charge. The prayer service and reflection could also be used with adults. www.giamusic.com

St. Mary's Press

Prayer services and lesson plans for those who work with teens, including teachers, youth ministers, and parents are available without charge at the St. Mary's Press website. I suspect any number of these could be adapted for use with adults.

www.smp.org

United States Institute for Peace

The United States Institute for Peace is a congressionally funded independent and non-partisan federal institute designed to investigate and promote the possibilities for peaceful resolution of international conflict. Their website, *www.usip.org*, offers, among other things, background articles about responding to terrorism and a report on the role of religious organizations, and the Roman Catholic Church in particular, in international affairs.

Foreign Policy in Focus

Foreign Policy in Focus is a "think tank without walls" that brings together policy analysts and advocates interested in advancing a citizen-based foreign policy agenda. Their website, *www.fpiif.org*, has many articles on terrorism and foreign policy issues.