

James's Street Parish

01-4531143 - Working with Francis Street and Meath Street Parishes



30th Sunday Ordinary Time – 29 October 2023

HOLY SEE SAYS TWO-STATE SOLUTION ONLY PATH TO PEACE



Portraits of hostages taken by Hamas displayed at the UN in Geneva

Pope Francis' poignant words pleading for peace and the end of violence in the Holy Land resonated strongly in St. Peter's Square during the Angelus prayer on Sunday, 22 October. Those words were echoed in New York this week in a statement the Holy See's Permanent Observer to the UN addressed to the Security Council on the crisis amid the relentless retaliatory bombing and blockade of the Gaza Strip, concrete risks of the conflict extending and international tensions ramping up. He highlighted the distressing escalation of the violence, "resulting in deplorable levels of suffering" for civilians, and recalled again that "war is always a defeat" for humanity because "it hinders the human family's innate vocation to fraternity."

Archbishop Gabriele Caccia then focused his intervention on three points.

First, he conveyed the Holy See's "absolute and unequivocal condemnation" of the terrorist attack carried out by Hamas and other armed groups on 7 October against the people of Israel.

"As Pope Francis clearly stated, terrorism and extremism fuel hatred, violence and revenge, and only cause mutual suffering", he said, emphasizing that "these crimes demonstrate utter contempt for human life and are unjustifiable."

Archbishop Caccia therefore relaunched the call for the immediate release of all the 222 Israeli hostages held in Gaza, which Pope Francis reiterated on Wednesday during his General Audience.

So far, Hamas has only set free four captives, including an American citizen and her daughter and two elderly women, with the Emirate of Qatar (which has relations with Hamas while maintaining security ties with the United States), playing a major diplomatic role in the negotiations for the liberation of the hostages.

The second point highlighted by the Apostolic Nuncio was that criminal responsibility for terrorist acts "can never be attributed to an entire nation or people".

"The right to self-defence in every conflict must always comply with international humanitarian law, including the principle of proportionality," he stressed.

Finally, Archbishop Caccia expressed the Holy See's "grave concern for the unfolding humanitarian disaster in Gaza, which has claimed thousands of lives and has displaced hundreds of thousands of people."

The "total siege" imposed by Israel on the Strip "has caused indiscriminate suffering among the population", including many children, due to shortages of food, water, fuel and medical supplies.

He, therefore, called for the "facilitation and the continuation of humanitarian corridors", so that aid can reach all the Gazan population.

The Apostolic Nuncio concluded his intervention by appealing to both the State of Israel and the State of Palestine "to demonstrate audacity to renew their commitment toward a peace based on justice and respect for the legitimate aspirations of both sides". In this regard, he reaffirmed that the "Holy See remains convinced that the two-State solution still offers hope for such a peace."

Courtesy: Lisa Zengarini—Vatican News

November Mass of Remembrance

In each of our three parishes there will be a special Mass of Remembrance taking place during November. On Thursday 02 November this celebration takes place in Francis Street at 7.30pm. In James's Street the celebration is on Saturday 11 November at 6.30pm. In Meath Street you are welcome to come along on Sunday 19 November at 11am.



Miscarriage Association

Their Annual Service of Remembrance takes place on Sunday 12 November at 3pm in St. Teresa's Church Donore Avenue Dublin 8. All parents, siblings, grandparents and others are welcome to attend/



Liberties Haunt—31 October

The spooktacular Liberties Haunt returns this Halloween with a ghoulstastic parade from 4.15pm and fun and games and live entertainment from 5pm in Thomas Court. It promises to be a wicked night! Entry is free of charge but a creepy Halloween look is essential!



Towards Peace

is a service offering spiritual support for anybody who has been abused, physically emotionally, sexually, or spiritually, in a religious/church environment. It was established in October 2014 by the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Association of Leaders of Missionary & Religious Leaders of Ireland. (AMRI). Full details at: www.towardspeace.ie

30TH SUNDAY - ORDINARY TIME

Penitential Rite

As we begin our celebration, rejoicing in the Lord, let us remember God's immense love and his hopes for us.

You challenge us to seek new possibilities.
Lord have mercy

You challenge us to be hopeful in the face of despair.
Christ have mercy

You challenge us to be creative in facing our life's journey. Lord have mercy

May our loving and creative Lord, give us confidence in his mercy, forgive us our sin and accompany us on the journey of our life. Amen

Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. "If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. "If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread - and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me they will keep my word,
and my Father will love them, and we shall come to them. Alleluia!

Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Prayer of the Faithful

Lord God, you are Father, Son and Spirit. You create in us the ability to truly love, as you do. For this we praise you and thank you. Lord hear us

We bless you Lord, for the uniqueness of our lives. May we bring to the world what you have gifted to us.
Lord hear us

We pray for all who feel isolated and alone. May we learn to treasure those who are different to ourselves.
Lord hear us

We are mindful of those living with violence and war, in particular the people of Israel and the people of Palestine. May Nations and Peoples learn the meaning of compassion. Lord hear us

Let us remember all who have died. May their families and friends find comfort and peace and may we be one again in the Kingdom of God's love.

In silence, we remember all who need our prayer and supportLord hear us



Reflection

May you be blessed in the holy names of those Who, without knowing it, Help to carry and lighten your pain. May you know serenity When you are called To enter the house of suffering. May a window of light always surprise you. May memory bless and protect you With the hard earned light of past travail; To remind you that you have survived before And though the darkness is now deep, You will soon see approaching light. May the grace of time heal your wounds. May you know that though the storm may rage, Not a hair of your head will be harmed.