A TOOLKIT FOR CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES

OCT. 1, 2018

OneDay Against Hate

NCEA

National Conference for Catechetical Leadership
Option 1

Call to Prayer:
Leader: Today we find ourselves often living in a world of hatred.
All: In the darkness we light a candle of hope.
   (The first candle is lit.)

Song: Refrain from “Christ be our Light” by Bernadette Farrell

Leader: We pray for all those who have suffered injury, disrespect, loss or death because of hatred.
All: In the darkness we light a candle of compassion.
   (The second candle is lit.)

Song: Refrain from “Christ be our Light” by Bernadette Farrell

Leader: We pray for those who perpetrate hatred through their attitudes, their words, and their actions.
All: In the darkness we light a candle of conversion.
   (The third candle is lit.)

Song: Refrain from “Christ be our Light” by Bernadette Farrell

Leader: We pray for ourselves and all those with whom and to whom we minister that we may be the face of God, the face of love, of respect, of peace in our world.
All: In the darkness we light a candle of commitment.
   (The fourth candle is lit.)

Song: Refrain from “Christ be our Light” by Bernadette Farrell

Opening Prayer:
Leader: God of Unity, you created us as one people, interconnected and interdependent. Your Son and our brother, Jesus Christ taught us to love one another, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and even to love our enemies.

Side 1: Jesus showed that the path to the liberation of the whole world lies in showing kindness to our neighbor, in returning hate with love.

Side 2: We beg for your help, God of Peace; nudge us, push us to right what has gone wrong, to speak the truth in all circumstances, to heal the wounds, to be instruments of love, peace and hope.
All: We pray – and vow to act – in the name Jesus, your son and our brother, who continues to challenge us to be his disciples. Amen.

**Reading 1:** From Martin Luther King, Jr.:
Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only Light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only Love can do that.

From Desmond Tutu’s *An African Prayer Book*:
Victory is ours
Goodness is stronger than evil;
Love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness;
Life is stronger than death;
Victory is ours through Him who loves us.

**Response:** This prayer – from Desmond Tutu - has been set to music by John Bell ([https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/two-songs-of-social-justice-print-p56710](https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/two-songs-of-social-justice-print-p56710)).

**Reading 2:** Leviticus 19:17-18, Ephesians 4: 29-31, or 1 John 2: 9-11

**Response:** Lead me from death to life,
from falsehood to truth;
lead me from despair to hope,
from fear to trust;
lead me from hate to love,
from war to peace.
Let peace fill our heart,
our world, our universe.

This World Peace Prayer is found in *A New Zealand Prayer Book/He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa* (p. 164). The prayer was first publicly used in July 1981 by Mother Teresa in the Anglican Church, St. James’s, Piccadilly in London.

The prayer has been set to music by Marty Haugen: ([https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/world-peace-prayer-print-p3627](https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/world-peace-prayer-print-p3627))

**Reading 3:** Matthew 22: 37-40

**Response:**
- Moments of quiet reflection
- Reflective sharing (groups of three): In our prayer and readings so far what word or phrase has touched you?
Closing Prayer:
Leader: Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Side 1: Make us instruments of your peace in ______ (mention the cities in which you live) and throughout your world.

Side 2: Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Side 1: Help us to sow acceptance and friendship whenever and wherever people are divided, wherever and whenever people are threatened, harassed, or harmed.

Side 2: Where there is injury, pardon.

Side 1: Nudge us to listen, to seek reconciliation and build peace wherever people live in fear, wherever people are not given their human dignity.

Side 2: Where there is doubt, faith.

Side 1: Strengthen us to be your presence when, because of the failure of Christians, people have given up on God.

Side 2: Where there is despair, hope.

Side 1: Empower us to bring healing and hope to a world that often looks for revenge, to people who look for superiority.

Side 2: Where there is darkness, light.

Side 1: Intensify our actions to be beacons of light, to shine your light on the possibilities of creating a more loving world.

Side 2: Where there is sadness, joy.

Side 1: Encourage us to be people of joyfulness and wonder, to rejoice in your goodness, and gently share that goodness that with those who suffer.

All: O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

Amen.

Closing Song: We Will Rise (https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/15735/we-will-rise)
Opening Prayer – Becoming Aware of the Presence of God:

- In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Heavenly Father, we praise you and thank you for giving us the gift of today. Thank you for being so good to us throughout the ups and downs of our lives. Please help us to become more aware of your presence everywhere we look: in the world you created, in the people we meet, and in ourselves. We come before you to pray for greater love in our world and in our hearts. We pray for the grace to learn how to truly listen to and encounter our neighbors and see them with the tenderness and openness with which you see them.

Scriptural Readings (RSV) – Listening to God’s Word of Love, the Antidote to Hate (You may use as many readings as suits your community’s prayer):

- Exodus 23:9 – You shall not oppress a stranger; you know the heart of a stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.
- Leviticus 19:17-18, 33-34 – You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason with your neighbor, lest you bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance or bear any grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord. When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. The stranger who sojourns with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.
- Proverbs 22:2 – The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the maker of them all.
- Malachi 2:10 – Have we not all one father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our fathers?
- Matthew 7:12 – So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.
- Matthew 22:34-40 – When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” And he said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.”
- Acts 10:34-37 – And Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the word which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), the word which was proclaimed throughout all Judaea.”
- 1 John 3: 15-18 – Any one who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But if any one has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth.
- James 1:19 – Know this, my beloved brethren. Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.
James 3: 6, 9-12 – And the tongue is a fire. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brethren, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening fresh water and brackish? Can a fig tree, my brethren, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Intercessions – Handing our Needs Over to God (Each prayer may be followed by a group response, such as “Lord hear our prayer”):
- For an end to all forms of hate in our community, especially prejudice and discrimination.
- That we, as individuals and as a community, may embody Christ’s love in our daily interactions with others and respect the inviolable dignity that belongs to every human being.
- For an increase in charity within the whole Church, that all of her members may strive to conform their lives to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- For the Pope, that God may guide his steps as he leads the Church in the modern world.
- That all people around the world may live according to the law written on their hearts by God and seek after greater peace and unity.
- Let us pray for any personal intentions we may wish to share.
- For all the intentions we hold in the silence of our hearts.
- We bring all of our needs before God as we pray:
  - Our Father...
  - Hail Mary...

Forgiving Those Who Have Done Wrong – Mercy and Love as the Path Forward (Each prayer may be followed by a group response, such as “Lord have mercy”):
- For all those around the world and throughout history who have committed grave acts of hatred against another person and lost sight of the dignity of human life.
- For all those in the Church who have lost sight of the dignity of the human person and wounded another member of Christ’s Mystical Body in any physical, emotional, or spiritual way.
- For all those who have done harm to me personally in any way throughout my own life.
- For all the moments in my life when I have lost sight of the sacredness of my neighbor and failed to love as God desires me to love.

Closing Prayer – Empowered by God to Live in His Love:
- Heavenly Father, thank you for this time to be in your presence and enter more deeply into the mystery of love. Thank you for making each of us in your image and taking care of us as our Father. Thank you for showing us what it means to truly love by your sacrifice on Calvary. We want to love like you and see other people as you see them. Please empower us with your love and grace to see the sacred dignity in all the people you created and shaped for a purpose. Help us to tear down the barriers which we sometimes place between others out of fear, selfishness, and anger. Please purify our minds and hearts so that we may be more free to love and live in the joy and peace which you desire for us.

- In the Name of the Father, and of Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Music Resources

**Note:** Other sheet music that might be used throughout this time of prayer:

- Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race
- If You Believe and I Believe
- In Christ There Is No East or West
  [https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/462/in-christ-there-is-no-east-or-west](https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/462/in-christ-there-is-no-east-or-west)
- We are Called
  [https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/we-are-called-print-g3292](https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/we-are-called-print-g3292)
- All are Welcome
  [https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/all-are-welcome-print-g4166](https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/all-are-welcome-print-g4166)
- God of Day, God of Darkness
- The Servant Song
- Help Us Accept Each Other
  [https://hymnary.org/text/help_us_accept_each_other#authority_media_flexscores](https://hymnary.org/text/help_us_accept_each_other#authority_media_flexscores)
- See also: [https://giamusic.com/store/music-for-troubled-times](https://giamusic.com/store/music-for-troubled-times)

**Guitar Songs:**

- God of Nations by Peter Furler and Steven Taylor
- We Could Change the World by Matt Redman
- Love Overcomes by Jesus Culture
- Alive in Us by Hillsong Worship

**Music Videos:**

- Do Something by Matthew West
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_RjndG0lX8&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_RjndG0lX8&feature=youtu.be)
- Give Me Your Eyes by Brandon Heath
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5AkNqLuVgY&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5AkNqLuVgY&feature=youtu.be)
- We Are by Kari Jobe
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B07iK9uh9qY&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B07iK9uh9qY&feature=youtu.be)
- If We Are the Body by Casting Crowns
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vR_Q_1aJAdE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vR_Q_1aJAdE)
- Beautiful Stranger by Rebecca St. James
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flkg5vyFfw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flkg5vyFfw)
CONVERSATIONS OF UNDERSTANDING

Things to Consider Beforehand

- Acknowledge that some of these conversations may be difficult and uncomfortable.
- Define respectful dialogue to frame parameters for discussion.
- Create some ground rules for discussions and encourage participants to agree to them before they begin.
- Create a safe space for questions.
- Emphasize that each person’s story is unique and personal. It is not to be generalized into a particular group’s way of thinking.
- Offer support for after the conversation – guidance counselors or other trusted adults that may be able to stay and process difficult items that came up.
- Respect privacy – particularly in digital formats.
- Consider making a plan to follow-up.

Potential Formats

- 1:1 Conversations in a supervised setting – Create an open area in which students can have conversations with reasonable privacy, but still able to be monitored by staff.
- Facilitated Conversations – Providing a guide and structure for young people to have conversations with each other in a safe space either with peers or parents.
- Town Hall Meeting – Organizing a large event where someone from the community will address questions from the group.
- Panel Discussion with people from different backgrounds addressing questions via a facilitator.
- Listening Sessions where youth can voice needs/concerns for how their community can better support them in regard to fighting bias and hatred.
- Reflections on primary source material in small groups.

Resources and Processes for Conducting Conversations:

- Listening Circles (http://www.co-intelligence.org/P-listeningcircles.html)
- World Café Method (http://www.theworldcafe.com/key-concepts-resources/world-cafe-method/)
- The Civil Conversations Project (http://www.civilconversationsproject.org/)
- How Not to Have Difficult Conversations (http://aprilfiet.com/my-thoughts/difficult-conversations)
Conversation Resources

Potential Resources to Assist Conversations:

- **Hate and Prejudice**
  - (http://www.partnersagainsthate.org/about_hate_crimes/faq-html.html)
  - (http://crlt.umich.edu/publinks/respondingtobias)
  - (https://hateinamericा.news21.com/)
  - (https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/eight_ways_to_stand_up_to_hate)
  - (https://www.ted.com/talks/sally_kohn_what_we_can_do_about_the_culture_of_hate)
  - (https://www.wired.com/2017/02/politics-have-turned-facebook-into-a-steaming-cauldron-of-hate/)
  - (https://www.operation250.org/conference/)

- **Hate Speech**

- **Racism**
  - (https://oregonhumanities.org/programs/conversation-project/catalog/the-hate-we-live-in/)

- **USCCB Special Task Force to Promote Peace in Our Communities:**

- **The Forgiveness Project**
  - (https://www.theforgivenessproject.com/)

- **Resources for Leading Amid Tragedy and Crisis**

- **Resolving Feelings of Hate**
  - (https://personaltao.com/healing/resolving-feelings-of-hate/)
Organizations with Additional Resources:

- Faith in Public Life (https://www.faithinpubliclife.org/)
- Sojourners (https://sojo.net/)
- Just Faith Ministries (https://justfaith.org/)
- Pax Christi USA (https://paxchristiusa.org)
- Education for Justice: A Project of Center for Concern (https://educationforjustice.org)
FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS

• What role has hate or bias had in your life? How has it affected you personally?

• When you encounter something hateful (whether it is at home, school, social media, etc.), what is your response? In the past, how have you or people in your life responded?

• Do you feel welcome and comfortable in a faith community? Why or why not?

• What role does faith have in how you see and treat others?

• How does your faith influence how you might respond to hate speech or bigotry?

• What are the greatest opportunity communities of faith can provide to help combat hatred?

• Are there times you have experienced feelings of anger, bitterness, hatred?
  o Why do you think those feelings surface in you?
  o What helps you let go of those feelings?

• If someone asked you to name the opposite of hate, what would you say?

• Is there a Scripture passage – or teaching of the church – that helps you/reminds you to choose love, acceptance and respect over hatred?

• As you think of the Communion of Saints – living and deceased – is there someone who is a model for you of choosing love and respect over hatred?

• Is there a Catholic social teaching principle which would undergird our response to working for a culture that is peaceful rather than hateful?
  o How do you respond to Catholic social teaching?
  o Does Catholic social teaching “speak” to the average Catholic? The average American citizen?

• Within your group (faculty, staff, catechists…), do feelings of anger, bitterness and hatred ever surface? What might bring them about?

• How do people view you (as faculty, staff, catechists) – as people who unconditionally love and respect or as people who have biases, and – at times, might act out of those biases?

• What are the ways that hate is lived today: words, actions,….? 
  o What does Scripture say about each of these?
  o In today’s world, how do we address each of the ways?

• As a follower of Jesus, how are we called to respond to those who are trapped in their hate?
• If you were a church with no borders, a community with no borders, a world with no borders, what would that mean?

• As you become aware of the hatred that seems to be escalating, what might be some possible responses (from you individually, from the group gathered here, from your parish/school, from the church)?

• What can our country do today to overcome the culture of hate? As a citizen (and Christian) what small (or large) part can you do?

• It has been said that among the most important thing that adults can do to reduce the spread of hate-motivated behavior is to help young people (and ourselves) learn to respect and celebrate diversity. How do you respect and celebrate diversity? How do you as a group respect and celebrate diversity?

• The Bureau of Justice statistics states that 61 percent of hate crimes are racially motivated, 14 percent target religion, 13 percent focus on sexual orientation and 11 percent attack ethnicity (https://www.sanluisobispo.com/living/family/linda-lewis-griffith/article124184039.html). Are there times that you view people who are different as “the other?” How does Scripture and our Catholic tradition nudge and challenge us to see oneness?

• When have you (individually and communally) been the face of God to someone who is/has suffered hatred and discrimination?
  - In what new, practical way can you (individually and communally) be the face of God in the midst of hatred in today’s world?

• In Romans 12: 17-18, Paul says: “Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”
  - Why do you think he includes “If it is possible?”

• Have there been movies in the last few years which have addressed the culture of hate? Have any of these movies personified the teaching and actions of the Gospel about triumph over hate?

• Seth Godin (https://seths.blog/2014/06/treating-people-with-kindness/) says: “One theory says that if you treat people well, you’re more likely to encourage them to do what you want, making all the effort pay off. Do this, get that. Another one, which I prefer, is that you might consider treating people with kindness merely because you can. Regardless of what they choose to do in response, this is what you choose to do. Because you can.”
  - We are kind, not because others deserve it, but because it’s who we are as people of faith.
  - What do you do when you find it difficult to be kind, accepting, respectful?

• Was this conversation helpful? If so, how? What impact did/will it have on you?
ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: Read and Discuss

- Dive into a book as a class, a youth group, a book club, or simply an individual in an effort to grow in understanding of compassion and love. In a way that best suits your particular group, come together to discuss and share about what was learned through reading and reflecting upon the material.
- Some potential reading materials for various age groups may be found below in the Literature Resources section of this toolkit.

Activity 2: Listening Journal (Middle/High School)

- For this activity, students are to keep tabs on the things they hear about others in a listening journal for one week, listening to the people as well as the media messages they encounter.
- Have students pay particular attention to the comments that others make about people who differ from them in some way. Additionally, have student note whether those comments are good, bad, or somewhere in between.
- At the end of the week, have students engage in group discussions to share about what they noticed. Encourage students to share how their observations impact both how they treat others. Does this have an effect the overall culture of the school?
- Instruct students to respond to the negative messages they heard with those which convey inclusion instead of isolation and understanding instead of prejudice. With these messages of love, students may share their comments by posting them on the wall.
- Encourage students to—for the following week—to make an effort to affirm other people they encounter with positive messages of love and compassion.

Activity 3: Same and Different (Elementary School)

- Break students into pairs and have them identify five things that are similar and five things that are different about each other.
- Regroup and ask the students to share about their similarities and differences. Explain the importance of respecting others and their differences.
- Have students draw a picture of themselves that shows what makes them unique, making use of the same and different discussion they had with their partner.
- Their pictures may be used to create a collage for the classroom or for an entire hall.¹

¹ The Oneday Toolkit for Schools and Youth Groups was used as a basis for these activities.
LITERATURE RESOURCES

Books for Students

- From the Oneday Toolkit:
  - *Each Kindness* by Jacqueline Woodson (Elementary School)
  - *Posted* by John David Anderson (Elementary/Middle School)
  - *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas (High School)
- *Nathan and the Really Big Bully* by Gerry Renert (Pre-School and Kindergarten)
- *The Can Man* by Laura Williams (Elementary School)
- *Confessions of a Former Bully* by Beth Adams (Elementary/Middle School)
- *Echo* by Pam Muñoz Ryan (Elementary/Middle School)
- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz (Elementary/Middle School)
- *Seven Riddles to Nowhere* by A.J. Cattapan (Middle School)
- *Return to Sender* by Julia Alvarez (Middle School)
- *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang (Middle/High School)
- *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Hunt (Middle/High School)
- *The Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen (High School)

Recommended Books for Students of Varying Ages

- [http://www.ajcattapan.com/books-for-teens-tweens/](http://www.ajcattapan.com/books-for-teens-tweens/)
- [https://www.stpatricksguild.com/catalogsearch/result/?cat=0&q=Neuberger](https://www.stpatricksguild.com/catalogsearch/result/?cat=0&q=Neuberger)

Materials for Adults/Staff/Parents

- *Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)* by Pope Francis
- *Living the Beatitudes* by J. Brian Bransfield
- *Neighbors: Short Reflections on Loving the People Around Us* by Chiara Lubich
- *A Civilization of Love: What Every Catholic Can Do to Transform the World* by Carl Anderson
- *Peace 2 U: Three Phase Bullying Solution* by Frank DiLallo
- “You Shall Love Your Neighbor as Yourself” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part Three, Section Two, Chapter Two)
Additional Resources

- Catholic Social Teaching: Lessons and Activities
  - [https://www.wearesaltandlight.org/learn-together/learning-activities-catholic-social-teaching/](https://www.wearesaltandlight.org/learn-together/learning-activities-catholic-social-teaching/)
  - [https://www.thereligionteacher.com/social-justice-activities/](https://www.thereligionteacher.com/social-justice-activities/)
  - [https://docat-app.com/](https://docat-app.com/)

- USCCB Resources on Racism

- Immigration and Refugees
  - [http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/](http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/)
  - [https://justiceforimmigrants.org/](https://justiceforimmigrants.org/)
  - [https://www.sharejourney.org/](https://www.sharejourney.org/)

Organizations with Additional Resources:

- Faith in Public Life ([https://www.faithinpubliclife.org/](https://www.faithinpubliclife.org/))
- Sojourners ([https://sojo.net/](https://sojo.net/))
- Just Faith Ministries ([https://justfaith.org/](https://justfaith.org/))
- Pax Christi USA ([https://paxchristiusa.org](https://paxchristiusa.org))
- Education for Justice: A Project of Center for Concern ([https://educationforjustice.org](https://educationforjustice.org))
Secular Resources for Educators:

- **Hate Speech**
  - [https://www.facinghistory.org/educator-resources](https://www.facinghistory.org/educator-resources)

- **Bias and Tolerance**
  - [https://www.adl.org/who-we-are/our-organization/signature-programs/no-place-for-hate](https://www.adl.org/who-we-are/our-organization/signature-programs/no-place-for-hate)
  - [https://www.splcenter.org](https://www.splcenter.org)

- **Bullying**
  - [https://www.stopbullying.gov/](https://www.stopbullying.gov/)
  - [https://www.mbfpreventioneducation.org/resources/](https://www.mbfpreventioneducation.org/resources/)
  - [http://www.jodeeblanco.com](http://www.jodeeblanco.com)

- **Cyberbullying and Digital Citizenship**
  - [https://www.commonsense.org/education/cyberbullying-toolkit](https://www.commonsense.org/education/cyberbullying-toolkit)
  - [https://www.commonsense.org/education/scope-and-sequence](https://www.commonsense.org/education/scope-and-sequence)

- **Religious Freedom**
  - [http://www.religiousfreedomcenter.org/resources/textbooks-lessons/](http://www.religiousfreedomcenter.org/resources/textbooks-lessons/)
  - [https://www.faithinpubliclife.org](https://www.faithinpubliclife.org)

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2 Resources provided by secular organizations. Content may need adaptation for use in your Catholic community.