



## International Day of Peace



The International Day of Peace ("Peace Day") is observed around the world each year on September 21st. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace.

This year is the 20th Anniversary of the UN Resolution on the Program of Action on a Culture of Peace. [www.internationaldayofpeace.org](http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org)

### Watch the UN video on the Day of Peace

Share in One Minute of Silence at Noon on September 21. No matter where you are, when Noon arrives on September 21, pause for one minute to pray and meditate on peace in our world.

**Lord Jesus Christ, who are called the Prince of Peace, who are yourself our peace and reconciliation, who so often said, "Peace to you," grant us peace. Make all men and women witnesses of truth, justice, and brotherly love. Banish from their hearts whatever might endanger peace. Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee and defend the great gift of peace. May all peoples of the earth become as brothers and sisters. May longed-for peace blossom forth and reign always over us all.**

**~Saint John XXIII**

2020

Peace Day Theme:  
Shaping Peace  
Together

Celebrate the International Day of Peace by spreading compassion, kindness and hope in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Stand together with the UN against attempts to use the virus to promote discrimination or hatred. We can shape peace together.

#### **JPIC National Office**

Co-Directors

Ann Clark

Katie Drager

Co-Chairs

Sr. Joyce Bates, SND

Sr. Kathleen Ryan, SND

# Spotlight On...

## **Sister Joyce Marie Bates, SND -- Census Worker**

I signed up to be a part-time census enumerator some time ago, but because of Covid-19 our training was postponed until the last part of July and I began this work on July 31st. As an enumerator I use a government phone to see the addresses assigned to me to do a door-to-door visit in order to complete the census questionnaire.

I am going to houses of people who don't know how to fill out the census form, have a language barrier, are too busy to get around to doing it, or do not intend to complete it. I found myself being a detective to determine if a house is vacant or doesn't even exist now.

The reason I chose to do this job, which I also see as a JPIC ministry, is because counting people in a county is very important for federal dollars to be returned to the area for funding of schools, better roads, hospitals, senior centers and public health. It also determines how many House of Representatives our state will have in Congress.

So far, I've met a great variety of people! I had the opportunity to offer prayers to a woman whose husband is dying of cancer, met an enthusiastic young man getting ready to go to Marine's boot camp. On the other extreme, I have been yelled at by a disgruntled landlord, and of course, experienced everything in between. In prayer one day, I read that when I feel rejected I should all the more try to offer compassion, so this has been my motto during this 8-week period of census work!



---

## Other Days to Observe

### **September 1 is World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**

The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation kicks off the Season of Creation, a time of sustained prayer and action from September 1st to October 4th. Look for special publications from the JPIC Office to celebrate this important time.

### **The last Sunday in September is World Day of Migrants and Refugees**

This year, the World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be celebrated on September 27th. Catholics worldwide are called upon to remember those displaced by conflict and persecution. For 2020, Pope Francis has chosen the theme "Forced like Jesus Christ to flee", with a focus on the need for the pastoral care of internally displaced persons.

[Vatican website on Migrants and Refugees](#)

[Watch Pope Francis' message](#)

[Read Pope Francis' message](#)



**Sisters of Notre Dame**  
*Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation National Office*

## **Education for Justice Website**

A project of Ignatian  
Solidarity Network

This subscription service website has excellent multi-media resources for school aged children through adult on Catholic Social Teaching and social justice issues for study, learning and reflection.

The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation National Office can help connect you to this valuable resource.



**To get started using  
this resource,  
email [jp-pic@ndec.org](mailto:jp-pic@ndec.org)  
to receive the login  
information.**