

# Breaking the Silence: Peacemaking as Dominican Associates

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# Care of Creation

Setting the Context for  
Peacemaking

# Called to the Vocation of Peacemaking

- ✦ Reflection on readings from Fr. Thomas Merton, Dorothy Day, Fr. Henri Nouwen, and Sr. Helen Prejean (from Education for Justice, [www.educationforjustice.org](http://www.educationforjustice.org))
- ✦ How do these readings speak to you? Challenge you?

# The Four Pillars of the Dominican Charism

- ✦ Study
- ✦ Contemplative prayer
- ✦ Community
- ✦ Preaching
- ✦ The Dominican tradition includes both *hospitality* and engagement in *disputatio* which calls upon us to learn from others through discussion and debate.
- ✦ What unique gifts flow through us as Dominicans called to be peacemakers?

" With a vision for disarmament, a mandate to speak truth, and a mission to halt the sinfulness, illegality, and criminality being touted in my name, I march to the Drummer of my Soul who instills faith rather than fear, trust not hopelessness, and love instead of hatred."

Ardeth Platte, OP

Spoken on the day of her sentencing to 41 months in prison for her role in a PLOWSHARES action

July, 2003

“To live in peace is to accept what comes from God with gratitude....It is meeting God with hope that one day in my country and your country that the peace we live in our heart might shine to others and will be lived in our world. Jesus says to us, “Do not be afraid,” do not be afraid to face the future, do not be afraid to stand for what you believe and to be a peacemaker.”

Luma Khudher, OP

Congregation of St. Catherine of Siena in Mosul,  
Iraq

April, 2005

# Dominican Call to Action

- ✦ Created by the North American Dominican Promoters of Justice, Peace and Care of Creation
- ✦ Current DCTA spans 2003-2006
- ✦ All North American Dominican congregations, provinces and laity participate
- ✦ The international Dominican family and criteria for inclusion in the Dominican Call to Action
- ✦ PDF version of the DCTA is available at:  
[http://www.adriandominicans.org/mission\\_and\\_vision/dcta.cfm](http://www.adriandominicans.org/mission_and_vision/dcta.cfm)



*Care of creation is the context out of which flows  
All that we do as Dominican Justice Promoters.*

As Dominicans we:

- challenge the systems that dominate and oppress our world;
- preach truth that liberates all;
- study the interrelatedness of all;
- pray to sustain hope;
- encourage a life style that fosters equitable and mutually enhancing life for Earth community.

*We recognize and rejoice in the 2004-5  
Dominican Call to Action accomplishments.*

*We present the 2005-6 Call to Action  
For your implementation.*

## AFRICA

We reaffirm our solidarity with the Dominican family in Africa.

We will:



- + Collaborate with the Dominican Alliance Africa
- + Encourage participation and support of the Dominican Alliance Care Bear Project for an HIV/AIDS clinic in Africa by:
  - a) introducing this project to our congregations/provinces
  - b) ordering bears.



+ Read and promote *A Call to Solidarity with Africa*, USCCB, November 2001.



Promote the Millennium Challenge Account to relieve the African food crisis, debt and global health issues. Contact: Eileen Gannon, OP, [egannon@verizon.net](mailto:egannon@verizon.net).

Urge congregations/provinces to make alternative investments through an international intermediary such as Shared Interest.

Continue to encourage congregation/provinces to be involved in shareholder advocacy regarding HIV/AIDS and with pharmaceutical companies.

## COLOMBIA

We reaffirm our solidarity with the people of Columbia.

Contact: Marta Inés Toro, OP,  
401-728-8490 or [mitoro@netscape.net](mailto:mitoro@netscape.net)



We will:



- + Continue to raise awareness of human rights abuses in Colombia.
- + Connect Colombia with congregation/province responsibility work.
- + Continue to be involved in the SOA Watch annual demonstration and legislative reform.

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

We will establish and implement a Dominican Trafficking Network.

Co-Conveners: Reg McKillip, OP, 708-714-9124 or [opjustice@aol.com](mailto:opjustice@aol.com)  
Judith Hilbing, OP, 708-714-9050 or [jhilbing@aol.com](mailto:jhilbing@aol.com)

We will:

## Educate

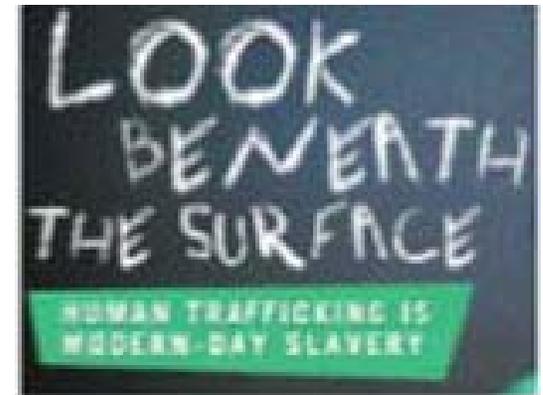
- + Gather resources for the Dominican family.
- + Develop and encourage educational workshops on trafficking on the local level.

## Advocate

- + Provide workshops and information wherever Dominicans reside for local police, health and legal agencies.
- + Work to create and pass state legislation on trafficking.

## Network

- + Create networks with Dominican Sisters International and International Justice, Peace and Care of Creation Commission
- + Connect with national and international organizations, e.g. Stop Trafficking, Anti-Slavery, Center Against Violence and Human Trafficking.



## IMMIGRATION

We will establish and implement a Dominican Immigration Committee.

Convener: Pat De Marco, OP, [dempa01@hotmail.com](mailto:dempa01@hotmail.com)

We will:

- + Support and promote McCain-Kennedy legislation, SB 1033 and HB 2330.
- + Create a fact sheet on McCain-Kennedy legislation by January 2006.
- + Create fact sheet on the “No Child Left Behind Act” on military presence in schools by March 2006.
- + Recommend that Dominican institutions, schools, motherhouses/provincials offer meeting space for immigrants.
- + Make immigrant referrals to Catholic Charities as needed.
- + Promote the Catholic Campaign Immigration Reform launched by USCCB in May 2005.



## MIDDLE EAST - IRAQ

The Dominican UN representative will:

- + Continue to work with key UN personnel in New York/Geneva and other international NGOs, member delegations and independent experts of the UN Sub-commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and UN Special Rapporteurs.
- + Continue to provide oral and written statements to the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

The Iraq Coordinating Committee will:

- + Create a communication plan to include justice promoters, communicators and preachers.
- + Submit a written report at the North American Dominican Justice Promoters Meeting.



## ISRAEL/PALESTINE

To join a working group: contact Eileen Gannon, OP, at [Egannon@verizon.net](mailto:Egannon@verizon.net).

We will:

- + Read *A Primer: Understanding the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict* by Phyllis Bennis. To order, e-mail [triprimer@yahoo.com](mailto:triprimer@yahoo.com).
- + Continue to support the Palestinian Solidarity Project

# Reflection

- ✦ What of the Call to Action am I already doing
- ✦ What new place is the Call to Action inviting me?
- ✦ **Suggested uses for Reflection on the Call to Action**
  - ✦ Personal reflection
  - ✦ Sharing in Mission Groups, prayer groups and ministry meetings
  - ✦ Sharing with other associates in an online forum????

# Preaching Peace

- ✦ To whom do we preach?
- ✦ With whom?
- ✦ Within which media do we share our message?
- ✦ How is our choice of language shaping our preaching?
- ✦ When are we conscious of ourselves as preachers of peace?
- ✦ How might we form intentional community as preachers of peace?

# Pathways to Peacemaking

God said to Catherine: "With regard to many of my gifts and graces and those things necessary for the body and human life, I have distributed them all in such a way that no one has all of them. Thus, have I given you reason-necessity, in fact-to practice mutual charity. For I could well have supplied each of you with all your needs, both spiritual and material. But I wanted to make you dependent on one another so that each of you would be my minister, dispensing the graces and gifts you have received from me."

(D7, Nofke's English Translation)

# Quest for Peace: Self-Assessment Tool

This resource, composed by Louise Diamond, is available from The Peace Company at:

[www.thepeacecompany.com](http://www.thepeacecompany.com)

# Peacemakers in Community

## Partners and Resources

Resources and partner information compiled by the Adrian  
Dominican Sisters  
Office of Global Mission, Justice and Peace  
[www.adriandominicans.org](http://www.adriandominicans.org)

## Africa

Africa Faith and Justice Network ([www.acad.cua.edu/afjn](http://www.acad.cua.edu/afjn))

Africa Policy ([www.africapolicy.org](http://www.africapolicy.org))

Foreign Policy ([www.foreignpolicy-infocus.org](http://www.foreignpolicy-infocus.org))

## Ecology

Alliance for Bio-Integrity ([www.bio-integrity.org](http://www.bio-integrity.org))

Columbia River ([www.columbiariver.org](http://www.columbiariver.org))

Council for Responsible Genetics ([www.gene-watch.org](http://www.gene-watch.org))

Cornell Bluebird Project ([www.birds.cornell.edu/CNBN](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/CNBN))

North American Bluebirds ([www.nabluebirdsociety.org](http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org))

Organic View ([www.organicconsumers.org](http://www.organicconsumers.org))

Union of Concerned Scientists ([www.uccsusa.org](http://www.uccsusa.org))

## Death Penalty

Amnesty International ([www.amnesty-usa.org/abolish](http://www.amnesty-usa.org/abolish))

Moratorium 2000 ([www.quixote.org](http://www.quixote.org))

Religious Organizing Against the Death Penalty ([www.deathpenaltyreligious.org](http://www.deathpenaltyreligious.org))

## Debt

50 Years Is Enough ([www.50years.org](http://www.50years.org))

Jubilee 2000 ([www.oneworld.org/jubilee2000](http://www.oneworld.org/jubilee2000))

Jubilee 2000 ([www.j2000usa.org](http://www.j2000usa.org))

## Human rights

Amnesty International ([www.amnesty-usa.org](http://www.amnesty-usa.org))

Dominican Human Rights ([www.fiop.org](http://www.fiop.org))

Free the Children ([www.freethechildren.org](http://www.freethechildren.org))

Mexico Solidarity ([www.mexicosolidarity.org](http://www.mexicosolidarity.org))

WHINSEC/School of the Americas ([www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org))

Sipaz ([www.nonviolence.org/sipaz](http://www.nonviolence.org/sipaz))

Voices in the Wilderness: Iraq ([www.nonviolence.org](http://www.nonviolence.org))

World Bank ([www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org))

World Trade Organization ([www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org))

## Hunger

Bread for the World ([www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org))

Oxfam America ([www.oxfamamerica.org](http://www.oxfamamerica.org))

Hunger ([www.hungersite.com](http://www.hungersite.com))

## Women

Center of Concern ([www.coc.org/coc/](http://www.coc.org/coc/))

Dominican Leadership Conference([www.op.org/DLC/justiceop/justiceframe.htm](http://www.op.org/DLC/justiceop/justiceframe.htm))

“Missing Peace: Women of Faith and the Failure of War” ([www.olddogdocumentaries.com](http://www.olddogdocumentaries.com))

Women 2000 ([www.un.org/esa](http://www.un.org/esa))

## Peace and Justice sites

8th Day Center for Justice ([www.8thdaycenter.org](http://www.8thdaycenter.org))

Catholic Worker Movement (<http://www.catholicworker.org>)

Conscientious Objection to War (<http://www.objector.org>)

Free the Slaves ([www.freetheslaves.net](http://www.freetheslaves.net))

Healing/Forgiveness ([www.healingamongnations.org](http://www.healingamongnations.org))

Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center ([www.ipjc.org](http://www.ipjc.org))

National Council of Catholic Bishops ([www.nccbuscc.org/adwp/](http://www.nccbuscc.org/adwp/))

NETWORK ([www.networklobby.org](http://www.networklobby.org))

Nonviolence ([www.nonviolence.org](http://www.nonviolence.org))

Pax Christi USA (<http://www.paxchristiusa.org>)

Peace Education Foundation ([www.peace-ed.org](http://www.peace-ed.org))

Veterans for Peace ([www.veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org))

Witness for Peace ([www.w4peace.org](http://www.w4peace.org))

World Peace ([www.worldpeace.org](http://www.worldpeace.org))

# The Dominican Family

- ✦ Dominican Life ([www.domlife.org](http://www.domlife.org))
- ✦ Dominican Presence at the United Nations (<http://www.op.org/dlc/UN/unframe.htm>)

# Lessons From the Wombat

Global Community Foundation  
[www.globalcommunity.org](http://www.globalcommunity.org)