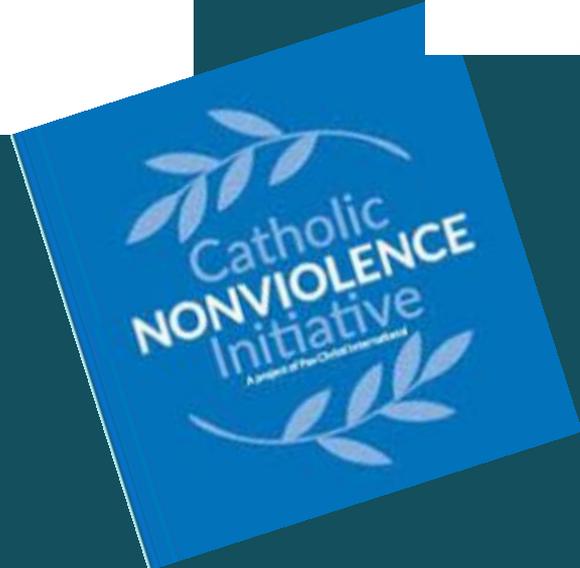




Rose Berger
Catholic poet, writer, peacemaker



A man with large, dark dreadlocks gathered into a bun on top of his head. He has his eyes closed and a calm expression, suggesting he is meditating. He is wearing a light-colored, short-sleeved t-shirt with a subtle pattern. The background is a lush green park with many trees and a grassy area.

Want Peace?
Prepare For It.

Si Vis Pacem,
Para Pacem.

Si Quieres La Paz,
Prepara La Paz.



Disarmament,
Demilitarization, and
Reconciliation with Justice

What is your personal experience where you live?

guns?
domestic
abuse?

*war
preparation?*

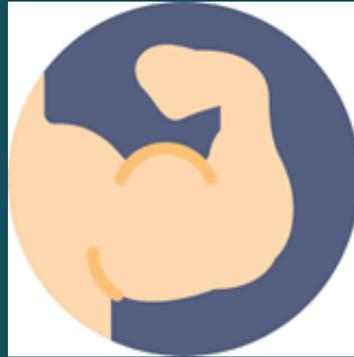
*make
drone
parts?*

over-policing?
nuclear
weapons?

*gangs
or drugs?*

Catholics can use **Just Peace**
to discern action

JUST PEACE is a Christian way for building peace at all stages of acute conflict and draws on three key approaches that form the “head, body, and heart” for just peace.



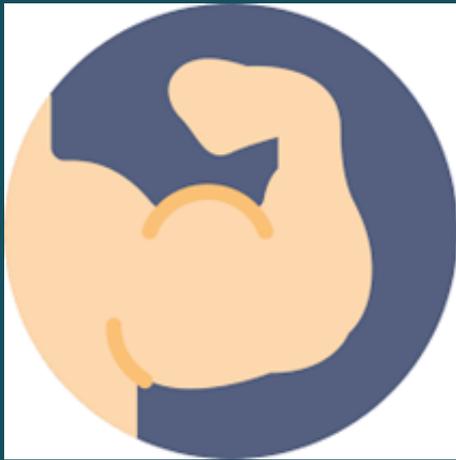
Just Peace vs Gun violence



And God heals hearts and people change laws.

sojo.net

What **JUST PEACE** practices, principles,
and virtues do we see in this video?



BODY

JUST PEACE practices

1. Support nonviolent direct action
2. Take independent initiatives to reduce threat
3. Use cooperative conflict resolution
4. Acknowledge responsibility, seek repentance
5. Advance democracy, human rights, and religious liberty
6. Foster just and sustainable economic development
7. Work with emerging cooperative forces
8. Strengthen legal and accountability systems
9. Reduce weapons and weapons trade
10. Encourage grassroots peacemaking groups and voluntary associations



HEAD

JUST PEACE principles

1. Human dignity of all people (just cause)
2. Positive peace/structural justice (right intention)
3. Participatory process/all stakeholders
4. Healthy relationships (right relationships)
5. Reconciliation (wholistic healing)
6. Restoration (repair of harm)
7. Sustainability (processes that can last over time)



JUST PEACE virtues

What kind of people are we becoming?

What habits are shaping us?

How do our means of action justify our end goal?

Catholic peacemakers develop virtues such as humility, solidarity, hospitality, mercy, patience, discernment, and courage through regular practices of prayer, eucharistic celebration, service, and creativity.

How are Catholics using
JUST PEACE
to reduce gun violence?



Peaceful protest shuts down northbound Dan Ryan

By **Joyce Duriga** | Editor

July 9, 2018



In CHICAGO, Cardinal Cupich has:

1. Created listening forums on guns with students and young adults
2. Launched a funded Violence Prevention/Nonviolence and Just Peace program
3. Opened a nonviolence center
4. Publicly advocated for “common sense” gun laws
5. Supported nonviolent civil disobedience in support of common sense gun laws
6. Supported the Parish Peace Project and Warriors of Peace programs



- Prayer and Worship
- Beliefs and Teachings
- Issues and Action
- Media
- Bible

PRINT | SHARE | CALENDAR | DIOCESAN LOCATOR |

- Get Involved
- Take Action Now
- Religious Liberty
- Faithful Citizenship
- Marriage and Family
- Cultural Diversity

- Human Life and Dignity**
 - Abortion
 - Partial Birth Abortion
 - Post-Abortion Healing
 - Project Rachel
 - RU-486
 - Abstinence and Chastity
 - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Rural Issues
 - Assisted Suicide
 - To Live Each Day
 - Videos
 - Asylum

USCCB > Issues And Action > Human Life And Dignity > Criminal Justice - Restorative Justice

BACKGROUNDER ON A MERCY AND PEACEBUILDING APPROACH TO GUN VIOLENCE

[Printable Version](#)

"[W]e know that this "piecemeal" violence, of different kinds and levels, causes great suffering: wars in different countries and continents; terrorism, organized crime and unforeseen acts of violence; the abuses suffered by migrants and victims of human trafficking; and the devastation of the environment. Where does this lead? Can violence achieve any goal of lasting value? . . . Violence is not the cure for our broken world. Countering violence with violence leads at best to forced migrations and enormous suffering, because vast amounts of resources are diverted to military ends and away from the everyday needs of young people, families experiencing hardship, the elderly, the infirm and the great majority of people in our world. At worst, it can lead to the death, physical and spiritual, of many people, if not of all." Pope Francis, Message for the World Day of Peace, January 1, 2017.

BACKGROUND

The news is filled with reports of violence, of news of mass shootings at home and raging wars abroad. Many studies conclude that mass shootings—when defined as four or more people shot in a single incident—have reached one or more per day in the United States. Overseas, the war in Syria has claimed hundreds of thousands dead, and displaced millions of refugees. Other conflicts take innocent lives around the world. More than ever, the Church and all people of good will must work together to confront the pervasive culture of violence.

The U.S. Catholic Bishops Conference has outlined what “common sense” gun laws might look like.



Danny Westneat / Columnist

Meet the Seattle nun who infiltrated a gun company

Originally published May 16, 2018 at 6:00 am | Updated May 16, 2018 at 9:08 pm



Sister Judy Byron and other nuns bought gunmaker stocks as a way to push for change. (Alan

Catholic sisters are organizing using “shareholder activism” to change policies of major gun manufacturers

Sr. Judy Byron introduced a proposal to Sturm Ruger to reveal risks associated with their business. In May, Ruger’s shareholders voted to comply.

Other Catholic sisters are introducing similar proposals to American Outdoor Brands (aka Smith & Wesson) and Dick’s Sporting Goods -- major gun manufacturers and retailers in the U.S.

Rose Berger (rosemarieberger.com)
Catholic poet, writer, peaceworker

