

WHY WE ARE HERE TODAY

Yesterday, Pax Christi USA was honored to be the inaugural recipient of the Dorothy Day Guild's Dorothy Day Peacemaker Award.

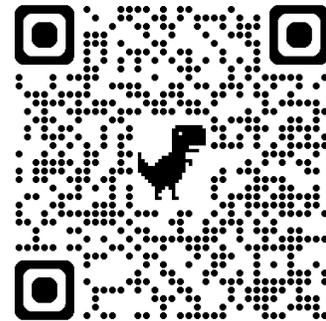
Almost 60 years ago, Dorothy stood with 19 other women outside the meetings of the Second Vatican Council in Rome, appealing to the leaders of the Church to break "the awful silence" on issues of peace and justice.

Today we stand as Dorothy did almost 60 years ago witnessing by our prayer and our presence in asking our bishops to raise their voices on behalf of the peace that does justice.



In February, 20 U.S. bishops boldly asserted a commitment to the Church's social vision, calling the U.S. government to redirect military spending to overcoming poverty, mitigating the climate crisis, healing the sick, dismantling racial injustice, and protecting the dignity of all.

We stand here today in thanksgiving for the 20 bishops that signed the Bread Not Stones statement and we invite their brother bishops to join them in this prophetic call. (Use the QR code at the right to learn more about the Bread Not Stones campaign or visit <https://paxchristiusa.org/bread-not-stones-2022/>.)



Nowhere has our Church's commitment to the justice that leads to peace been more evident than in the efforts of the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)**, offering the necessary support to raise up and develop leaders from impoverished and marginalized communities to exercise their rights on the issues that impact their lives, their families, and their communities.

Pax Christi USA joined with a number of community organizers, lay faithful, supporters, friends, partnering communities and organizations who have been deeply impacted by the work of CCHD in issuing a letter of unwavering support for their work and asking the U.S. bishops to continue to fund this "beacon of hope for impoverished and vulnerable communities across the United States." (Use this QR code to read the entire letter.)

We stand here today because we know that "if you want peace, work for justice." Our work for peace is dependent on the work of fostering justice that is at the heart of the mission of CCHD. We stand to say: **We support justice. We support CCHD.**

