



PAX CHRISTI METRO DC-BALTIMORE

A Catholic voice for peace, life, and justice

June 8, 2020

Pax Christi Metro DC-Baltimore is a region of Pax Christi USA, the national Catholic peace movement.

Rooted in the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching, we witness to Jesus' message and example of nonviolence, rejecting war and affirming the sacredness of human life and the interdependence of all creation.

Board officers/members:

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PCMDCB priority areas:

- Spirituality and Practice of Nonviolent Peacemaking
- Disarmament, Demilitarization, and Reconciliation with Justice
- Economic and Interracial Justice in the United States
- Human Rights and Care for Creation

The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington
200 N Glebe Rd #914
Arlington, VA 22203

Your Excellency:

We are writing to thank you for your leadership on the life issues of equal justice and peace and to encourage you to keep challenging Catholics and others to live out our vocation as peacemakers in the church and in the world. We especially admire the work of your Peace and Justice Commission, the statement of concern you released on May 30 about George Floyd's killing, and your plans to hold a special Mass and rosary for peace and justice on June 8.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in his 1967 "Beyond Vietnam" speech, decried "the giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism, and militarism." We hope you will likewise draw connections for the faithful between the immoral diversion of public resources from human needs to endless wars and militarized police; racial disparities in income, health, employment, housing, education, and law enforcement; and the widening gap between those committed to privilege and conspicuous consumption and those with few if any resources to fall back on.

Pax Christi Metro DC-Baltimore (PCMDCB) is a regional chapter of Pax Christi USA, a national chapter of Pax Christi International, the global Catholic peace movement. PCMDCB promotes the Peace of Christ by exploring, living, and articulating the Christian vocation of nonviolent peacemaking. Through prayer, study, and action, PCMDCB serves as a Catholic peace witness in the Metro DC and Baltimore area, emphasizing Catholic Social Teaching.

We strive to educate ourselves, the Catholic faithful, and the wider civic community in the message of peace, the sacredness of human life, the dignity of the human person, and care for our common home. And we assist Pax Christi USA in influencing the national policy discourse, working in collaboration with many other faith-based and secular groups.

Please call on us if we can ever be helpful to you. You can reach Robert Cooke at 301-661-0449.

In the peace of Christ,

Bro. Brian McLauchlin, SVD
Co-Chair

Robert Cooke
Co-Chair