

# PEACE

WEEK 2  
10 DECEMBER 2023

Based on Sections 3 and 4 of  
the Spiritual Itinerary

*LISTEN TO THE WORD...*

*GET IN TOUCH WITH THE CENTER OF MY HEART WHERE PEACE DWELLS ...  
LISTEN TO JESUS' CALLING FOR PEACE FROM THE DEPTH OF HIS HEART.*



The World: Our Starting Point. There seemed no other possible starting-point for our reflection than this world in which we, Religious of the Sacred Heart, are immersed, which daily startles and fascinates and infuriates us, whose systems stun us by their complexity and reach. The world, for all its brokenness, is God's great self-revelation, and because we are called every day to share in its re-shaping into a place where justice is done, where the cry of the poor does not go unheard, where "swords are beaten into ploughshares, spears into sickles, where nation does not lift sword against nation, where there is no more training for war." (cf. Mic. 4:3)

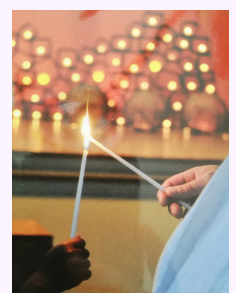
### *Short Silence*

Listen to Sophie and Philippine,  
Welcome other voices calling for peace,  
Voices that bring us to such awareness of our personal, communal, congregational, institutional complicity in unjust systems, humbles us, calls us to listen and be reconciled, to confront our own sins of racism, classism and sexism, and from this profound awareness of our weakness and complicity, to take action with others to advocate for structural and systemic change. [*Being Artisans of Hope*].

*Short instrumental Music: [Dona la pace-Taizé](#)*

*The experience of being forgiven helps us to live more humbly.  
To live more humanly: In the radical style of Jesus of Nazareth, we wish to be in closer relationship  
as sisters with one another and with others;*

After a short silence, we light the candle of peace while calling out the parts of the world that need peace most. Take some time and continue gazing at the candle while remaining connected to these places that are thirsting for peace. Send the light of Jesus' peace to them.  
*After a short silence, say the concluding prayer together...*



### Concluding prayer:

May the One Who Comforts hold all those grieving and traumatized and frightened for however long it takes.

May the One Who Releases the Captives release all those caught and bound.

May the One Who Makes Peace illuminate paths of peace for those seeing only paths of violence and vengeance.

May the One Who Loves Justice fortify us to reinforce our solidarities with all those who share our vision of justice and dignity for all people and creation.

May the One Who Knows Hope instill in us the confidence to imagine wholeness, safety, and freedom for all people.

May the One Who We Need be there for us as we waver and struggle, as we are confused and uncertain until we find solid ground once again.

May the One Who Remembers allow us to hold in our hands a future of peace, justice and freedom.

May the One Who is Slow to Anger soften our hearts and our fists helping us to put down the sword even at the height of the arc of our rage.



May the One of Possibility remind us that a future of peace with justice is possible.

May the One Who Awakens Us to Life hold us in our pain and vindictiveness until we set those down for the sake of life.

May the One Who Endures allow us to act for the sake of the coming generations.

May the One Who is Without Limit expand our senses of what is possible as we reach for justice, freedom and peace for us all.

May the One Who Knows Life is Precious help us to affirm life is precious.

May the One Who Grants Peace, Goodness, Blessing, Grace, Loving kindness, and Mercy grant them now no matter how undeserving we are.

*Adopted from the prayer by Rabbi Alissa Wise*

JPIC International Team



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