

Peace Day



Scripture

Luke 6: 35

Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.



Prayer

Prayer to St Julie Billiard

Saint Julie, through your great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, you were miraculously cured and favoured by many graces.

By your powerful intercession, obtain for us above all, a great trust in God in all the difficulties of life, the strength to accomplish in all things the adorable will of God, and the special grace we now ardently ask of you.

"We must have courage in the times we live in. Great souls are needed, souls having the interest of God at heart"

St Julie Billiard

Jeremy Gilley is an actor turned filmmaker, who in the late 1990s started to think about questions about the nature of humanity and the issue of peace. He decided to explore these through film, and specifically, to create a documentary following his campaign to establish an annual day of ceasefire and non-violence.

In 1999, Jeremy founded **Peace One Day**, a non-profit organisation, and in 2001 Peace One Day's efforts were rewarded when the member states of the United Nations unanimously adopted the first ever annual day of global ceasefire and non-violence on 21 September - Peace Day.

Peace One Day's main aim is to make the 21st September an annual day of global unity, a day of intercultural cooperation on a scale that humanity has never known.

In 2008 there was an actual reduction of violence in Afghanistan on Peace One Day because of the global launch of the day.

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God".

Do you try to be a peacemaker amongst your family and friends or do you cause the argument?

This week reflect on how you can bring more peace into your life and the lives of others?

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Peace in action this week:

- Make friends with someone you have fallen out with or who you have had a disagreement with
- Respect another person's point of view even if you don't agree with it
- Help someone who is struggling even if you don't like them or know them
- Think of doing a positive action instead of a negative
- Pray for peace in your form class.

Focus on one each day

The Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to
be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.



Corrymeela Northern Ireland

Ray Davey was the founder and first community leader of Corrymeela. During World War II he joined the YMCA to provide spiritual and physical support for troops. Ray was captured by the Germans and was a prisoner of war in Italy and then close to Dresden, Germany when it was bombed by the Allies. The bombing of Dresden affected Ray deeply, underscoring the futility and destructiveness of all conflict. While a prisoner, Ray thought about building community amidst conflict. After the war, he was appointed the first Presbyterian Dean of Residence at Queen's University. Ray felt called to establish a centre in Ballycastle, his vision was to create an open village, where people of all faiths and backgrounds could come together and learn to live in community.

The Ballycastle property was purchased by Ray and the students for £7,000 in early 1965. The money was raised within 10 days. The current site was officially opened on Oct. 30 1965. 'Corrymeela' was already the name of the area when the community purchased the property.



God of peace, encourage those who seek to establish a fair and just peace in the Middle East. Bless their efforts as they work to end conflict. Lead those who engage in violence to put down their weapons and to live in peace with one another.

