



Franciscan Action Network

Transforming the World in the Spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare

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Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Franciscan Family,

May the Lord bring you peace!

On behalf of the U.S.-based Franciscan Action Network (FAN), we want to express our heartfelt sorrow in the wake of violence, massive displacement, loss of human life, destruction of property and the profound damage that has been done to the fabric of Kenyan society following the reported outcome of the December 27, 2007 presidential elections. Many Franciscans and other people of good will in the United States have expressed deep concern and are praying with and for you at this moment of suffering and pain.

In the midst of agitation, violence, human suffering and massive displacements of people, we join with you as you seek ways to witness to the Franciscan charisms of peace and reconciliation. Now more than ever, the words of the peace prayer, “where there is hatred, love, where there is darkness, light, where there is despair, hope,” invite all of us to turn our hearts to the search for justice, truth, love and peace. In this spirit, we wish to offer a word of encouragement to you, that you allow the words attributed to St. Francis in the peace prayer to guide your thoughts and actions so that others might experience hope and healing through your collective witness. We pledge not only our prayers, but also to accompany you on the way of active nonviolence and peace by putting these into practice in our lives. We pray also for those who have lost their lives, for victims of violence, and for those who have perpetrated violence against others.

May our prayers, and those of many other Franciscans and people of faith in the United States, encourage and support you at this critical hour. And may the gift of peace, which comes from the Spirit of God, strengthen you so that you might embrace without fear or reservation our Franciscan vocation to be instruments of peace.

In the Hope of Peace,

Steering Committee and Commission of the Franciscan Action Network

Kenneth Beattie, SFO – Commissioner
Thomas Bello, SFO – Steering Committee Member and Commissioner
Lawrence Dunphy, OFM – Commissioner
Edward Falsey, OFM Conv. – Steering Committee Member and Commissioner
Sharon Goodremote, FSSJ – Commissioner
Pio Jackson, OFM – Commissioner
Emmett Jarrett, TSSF – Steering Committee Member and Commissioner
Margaret Mary Kimmins, OSF – Steering Committee Member
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Barbara Kraemer, OSF – Commissioner
Elias Mallon, SA – Commissioner
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Patrick Mendés, SFO – Steering Committee Member
Dorothy Moczygemba, CSSF – Commissioner
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Joseph Nangle, OFM—Steering Committee Member
Jan Parker, SFO – Commissioner
Michael Perry, OFM – Steering Committee Member
Connie Probst, OSF – Commissioner
Stephanie Sormane, SFO – Commissioner
James Zelinski, OFM Cap. – Steering Committee Member and Commissioner,
Russell Testa – Interim Staff Coordination
Frances Eskin-Royer – Interim Staff Coordination