



As we remember our theme, ***Pathways to Peace***, on our day of fasting and prayer on Saturday, April 11, 2015, we remember Pope Francis proclaiming the Year of Consecrated Life as a grateful remembrance of the “recent past” while embracing “the future with hope.” “Consecrated Religious are the light of truth and justice and witnesses of solidarity and peace. In multiple frontiers there is no lack of religious who offer their concrete commitment in favor of justice, working with the marginalized, intervening at the roots of conflict, thus contributing to build a profound and lasting peace.” (St. Peter’s Basilica, February 2, 2015)

Consecrated Life – Witnesses of Peace and Justice

Sing:

Where Charity and love prevail – there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ’s love, by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear - God’s charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul - now love God in return.

Let us recall that in our midst - dwells God’s begotten son;
As members of his body joined, we are in Christ made one.

Prayer of Petition – (based on selections from Vita Consecrata)

Leader: “The consecrated life may experience changes in its historical forms, but there is no change in the substance of a choice which finds expression in a radical gift of self for love of Jesus and every member of the human family.” (VC#3)

All: We pray that through our lives and work for justice and peace, we may manifest a radical love for God and God’s people.

Leader: “The whole Church greatly depends on the witness of communities filled “with joy and with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 13:52). She wishes to hold up before the world the example of communities in which solitude is overcome through concern for one another, in which communication inspires in everyone a sense of shared responsibility, and in which wounds are healed through forgiveness, and each person’s commitment to communion is strengthened.” (VC#45)

All: We pray that our life together may be experienced by us and by all who encounter us as a vibrant community witnessing in favor of justice that builds a profound and lasting peace.

