

Press Release

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For Immediate Release
Starting: September 13, 2006

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Catholic Sisters and Friends Mark International Day of Peace

For the fourth year in a row, the Congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph will recognize the annual September 21 date chosen by the United Nations as the International Day of Peace, with a vigil and witness outdoors, on the front of their convent property along Rocky River Drive, in the West Park neighborhood of Cleveland. The public is invited to join for any part of this observance.

The event (Thursday, September 21) will be marked by Burma Shave-style signs with Biblical references to justice and peace, periodic periods holding peace signs during high traffic periods, a wall of candles, an area reserved for quiet prayer, **a indoor program with speakers on Haiti at 7 PM**, and shared food, games, literature, and conversation again outdoors from 9:30 PM to Midnight.

Catholic Sisters for Justice and Peace, a coalition of justice-focused workers from several women's religious orders in Northeast Ohio, supports this specific event and has worked to encourage other ceremonies in schools, churches, and community groups. In 2004, 25 other local organizations communicated reports of their own separate activities in honor of the UN International Day of Peace.

Vigils and other events noting the UN International Day of Peace have been growing around the world as community groups in many nations seek to spread awareness of the observations by internet and people-to-people organizing. Some organizers have expressed the expectation that as many as one billion people globally will participate in some form of prayer or recognition of peace on this day. To aid in that goal, individuals and groups are urged to register their own event on-line. Web addresses for information and to register participation for the world to know are: www.internationaldayofpeace.org and www.idpvigil.com Locally, groups organizing events for the International Day of Peace are encouraged to call the Congregation of St. Joseph (216) 688-3462 to share plans. In addition, each group is advised to alert their own media contacts.

For Shorter, Calendar-type listings or announcements:

For the **UN International Day of Peace, the Congregation of St. Joseph will hold a Peace Witness** on the front of its property along 3430 Rocky River Drive in Cleveland. Individuals and groups are invited to share in a small part or a long part of the witness: 7-8:30AM, Noon-1PM, 3-5PM, 9:30-Midnight **Thursday, September 21, 2006**. Contact Brian Fry, (216) 688-3462 or justice@csjcleveland.org for details. Speakers on Haiti indoors at 7 PM.

International Day of Peace



**Join the Congregation of St. Joseph in the front
of St. Joseph Center property for part of its:**

**For information:
phone 216.688.3462 or
justice@csjcleland.org**

Peace Witness

**3430 Rocky River
Drive, West Park area
of Cleveland**

**Express your intentions for peace: pray, light candles,
witness...while sharing food, fun and community**

Thursday Sept. 21

**7-8:30 AM, Noon-1PM, 3:30-5PM, 9:30 PM- Midnight
(Program indoors on Haiti at 7 PM)**

(see reverse)

(come for 15 minutes, an hour, several hours, or for the Haiti program)

"To encourage worldwide, 24-hour spiritual observations for peace and nonviolence on the United Nations' International Day of Peace, 21 September 2005 in every house of worship and place of spiritual practice, by all religious and spiritually based groups and individuals and by all men, women and children who seek peace in the world."

For the United Nations International Day of Peace
Thursday, September 21 7-9 PM

River's Edge at St. Joseph Center, 3430 Rocky River Drive, Cleveland
Information: 216.688.3462 or justice@csjcleveland.org

Brian Concannon & **Junior St. Vil**
Director, Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti (www.ijdh.org)
Director, Pax Christi In Haiti

Peace Through Justice: Promoting Economic Human Rights in Haiti

These two speakers will share the importance of urgent debt relief and enlightened economic development for the human rights future for Haitians.

Haiti program co-sponsored by Assumption Church Haiti Outreach and Human Care, Congregation of St. Joseph Justice Committee, HM Haiti Committee, Haiti Commission of Annunciation Church, Haiti Reborn/ Quixote Center, Pax Christi of Cleveland, Partners in Progress and others.

This program is part of an annual observance of the United Nations International Day of Peace on Rocky River Drive promoted by Catholic Sisters for Justice and Peace.