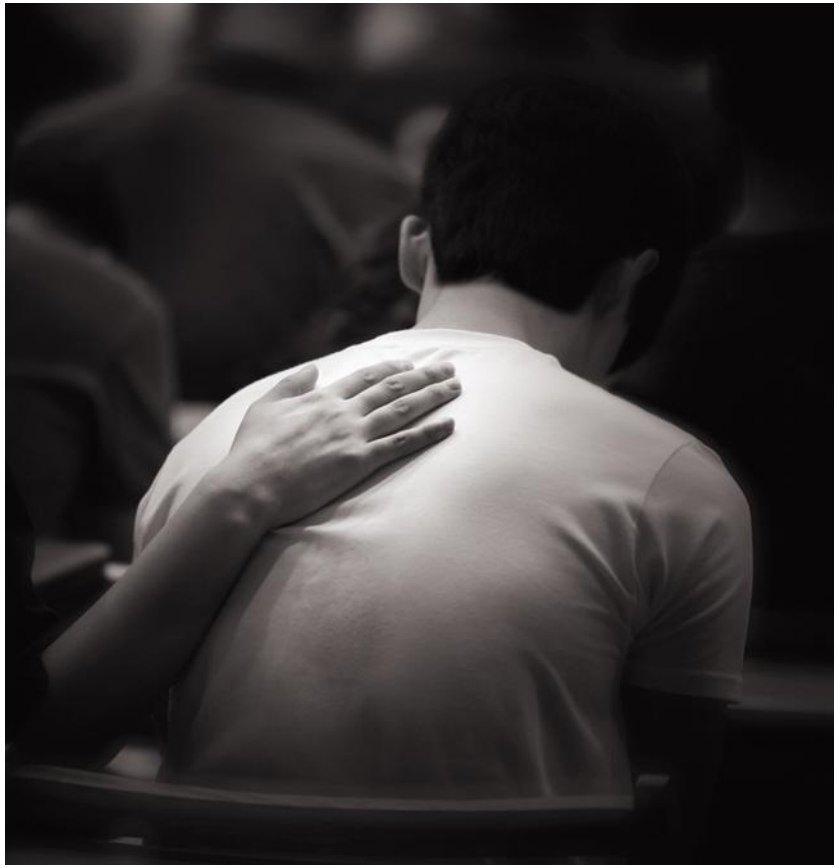
Catholic Education:

BECOMING ARTISANS *of* PEACE

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."
(Matthew 5:9)



Prayer and Activity

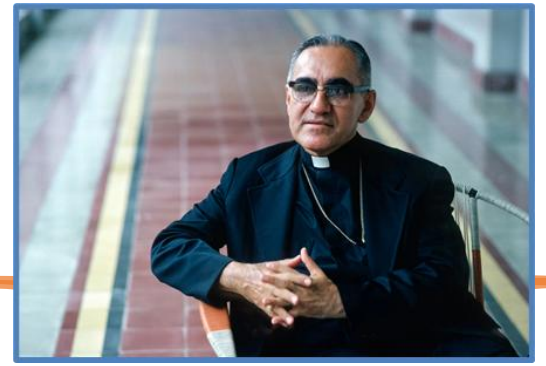
Peace with others

Becoming Artisans of Peace: Peace with Others

As followers of Christ, we are called to be artisans of peace, building understanding, kindness, and reconciliation in our relationships. Jesus reminds us, *“Blessed are the peacemakers”* (Matthew 5:9), inviting us to bring his peace into our homes, schools, workplaces, and communities.

Inspired by **St. Oscar Romero**, who taught that true peace is rooted in justice, love, and respect for human dignity, we are called to be instruments of God's peace. Through small acts of compassion, forgiveness, and understanding, we help build a world that reflects Christ's love and hope for all.

Archbishop Oscar Romer Prayer:
A Step Along the Way



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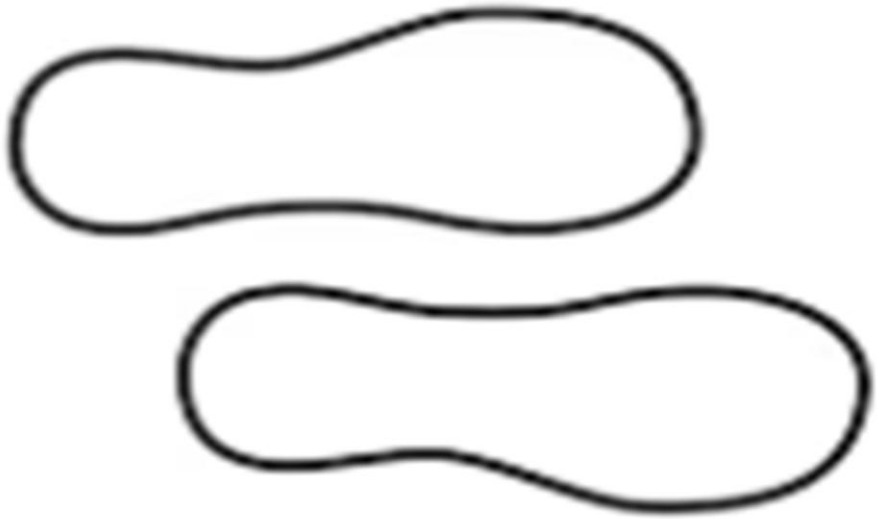
It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.
Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.
No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith.
No confession brings perfection.
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.
No program accomplishes the Church's mission.
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.
This is what we are about: We plant the seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest.
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.
Amen.

Reflection Questions

- What significance do you take from the line, ***"The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision"?***
- What does this mean for my work and contribution towards building a just world?
- What is the ***"something"*** that you feel called to do to build the ***"future not our own"*** referred to in the last stanza?

  (Have students write their reflection of the two questions boldfaced above in each of the feet below – follow up by having these taped on their lockers – follow up with a walkabout with students to see and read reflections)
- What kind of faith does this prayer encourage us to cultivate?