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 in the world

Peace In the World

Peace is more than wishing that wars would end. An Artisan is someone who works carefully and intentionally to create something.

We are called to help build peace through our choices, our relationships, our commitment to justice, and our respect for the dignity of every human person.

Prayer – Peace In the World

God of Peace and Hope,

You created our world to be a place where every person could live with
where differences could be met with understanding, and where all peo
know the gift of belonging.

Yet, when we look at our world, we see so much that needs healing and we wo
what difference we can possibly make.

Remind us, Lord, that You do not call us to simply wish for peace, You call us to be artisans of peace: people who patiently, courageously and lovingly help build the world You desire for us.

Teach us to build bridges where there are divisions, listen where there is misunderstanding, to speak truth where there is injustice, and to offer hope where there is despair.

Shape our hearts and our hands, Lord, so that we may become Your artisans of peace: working together to build a world where justice flourishes, hope is restored and every person is treated with dignity.

Amen.

Reflection – Living the Beatitudes

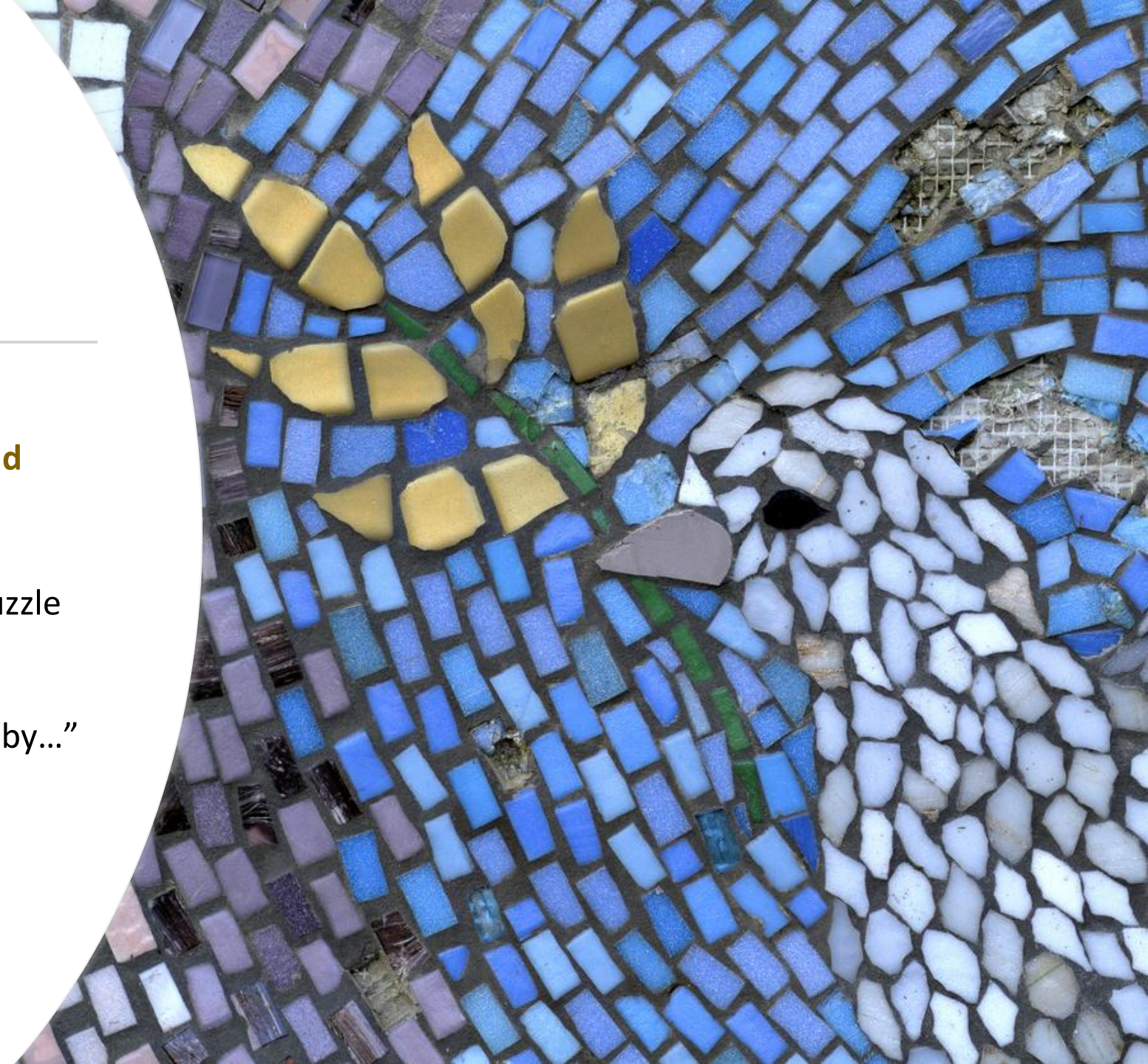
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." – Matthew 5:9

- What is it in our world that needs healing? Nations divided by wars, families forced to flee their homes, people denied justice, communities wounded by hatred, prejudice and fear.
- Living the Beatitudes Journal – reflect daily on the above Beatitude and write/draw how they tried to live it.
- What is the difference between wanting peace and working for peace?
- Why does peace require courage, not just kindness?
- Can peace exist without justice?
- What does our Catholic faith ask of us when another person's dignity is threatened?

Activity – Peace Mosaic

Peace is built through many people making intentional choices, challenging injustice and working together.

- Give each student a paper square or a puzzle piece.
- Ask them to complete the prompt “I can become an artisan of peace in the world by…”
- Have students decorate their pieces and assemble them into a large mosaic in the shape of a dove, cross, or globe.



Activity – Peace Mosaic

Encourage the students to give specific comments, such as:

- Learning from reliable sources before sharing information about a conflict.
- Challenging the use of dehumanizing language and stereotypes.
- Supporting organizations that assist refugees or people affected by ward.
- Advocating for dignity, justice and the protection of vulnerable people.
- Listening respectfully to people whose experiences differ from your own.
- Taking part in a meaningful community service or peace-building initiatives.