

May 31, 2013



RESOURCES

- **PEACEBUILDING 2013: *Pacem in Terris* at 50**
Conference Papers & Videos Available
- **Book: English Translation of Book on Sant'Egidio**
- **Book: *Stories from Bethany: On the Faces of the Church in Africa***
- **Job: Peacebuilding and Governance Program in Mindanao, Philippines**

A PEACEBUILDING CHURCH: AFRICA

- **Sudan Council of Churches Issues Pastoral Letter on Transitional Constitution**
- **Regional and National Episcopal Conferences Unite to Address Reconciliation & Peace**
- **SECAM Addresses Good Governance and the Common Good**
- **Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops' Conference Issues Pastoral Letter on Elections**

PEACE PROCESS AND THE CHURCH: COLOMBIA

- **Bishops' Statement on the Progress of Peace Talks**

A PEACEBUILDING CHURCH: AWARDS

- **UN Peace Award to Bishop Paride Taban**

RESOURCES

PEACEBUILDING 2013: *Pacem in Terris* at 50 Conference Materials

Over 300 people attended CPN's most recent conference, **PEACEBUILDING 2013: *Pacem in Terris* at 50** which took place April 9-10, 2013 at The Catholic University of America. Please see the [Past Events conference page](#) for texts, coverage, links and a playlist of conference videos. Also included is a link to the Vatican Ted talk previewed at the conference, TEDx:Religious Freedom by the Numbers.

Book: English Translation of Book on Sant'Egidio

Focolare publishing house released the English translation of Roberto Morozzo della Rocca's ***Making Peace: The Role Played by the Community of Sant'Egidio in the International Arena***. The Community of Sant'Egidio is a movement of lay people founded within the Catholic Church and dedicated to communicating and living out the gospel through prayer, solidarity with the poor, and service to peace. *Making Peace* describes how the Community worked to help resolve civil wars and international conflicts around the globe. For more info or to order, visit [New City Press](#).

Book: *Stories from Bethany: On the Faces of the Church in Africa*

Emmanuel Katongole has published a book of biblical reflections based on the Gospel story of Martha, Mary and Lazarus at Bethany, *Stories from Bethany: On the Faces of the Church in Africa* (Nairobi, Paulines Publications Africa, Jan 2013), available from [Paulines-Africa](#). It will help the reader to reflect on the concrete realities of the Church in Africa, to see the gifts and possibilities and the challenges that the Gospel offers.

Job: Peacebuilding and Governance Program in Mindanao, Philippines

Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) seeks a PhD student for a fellowship on “Design and Evaluation of a Catholic Relief Services Peacebuilding and Governance Program in Mindanao Philippines.” For more information, see the [Fellowship Application](#).

A PEACEBUILDING CHURCH: AFRICA

Sudan Council of Churches Issues Pastoral Letter on Transitional Constitution

In April 2013, the Sudan Council of Churches, of which the Catholic Church is a member, issued a call to all people of good will to do their part to ensure that the constitutional review process leads to good governance of the new nation of South Sudan. The document, [Pastoral Letter on the National Constitutional Review of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan: An opportunity to produce a just Constitution and a step in Building a new Nation](#) (Word file), identifies issues with the process, makes suggestions, and creates a “committee to provide the leadership for the Churches’ engagement in this process from the grassroots.”

Regional and National Episcopal Conferences Unite to Address Reconciliation & Peace

In October 2012, several national and regional groups of bishops in the Great Lakes region and Horn of Africa met for a session on the theme “Revitalizing the strategy of the Catholic Episcopal Conference of the Great Lakes region and Horn of Africa for Reconciliation, Justice and Peace.” The [Final Declaration](#) (PDF in English), which created a working group and strategy of the Church for Reconciliation, Justice, and Peace, was approved by the National Catholic Episcopal Conferences of Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, DRC, Rwanda and Tanzania, as well as the regional conferences ACEAC and AMECEA. The [Declaration Finale](#) (PDF en francais) is also available in French.

SECAM Addresses Good Governance and the Common Good

The Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar issued a comprehensive pastoral letter, “Governance, the Common Good and Democratic Transitions in Africa,” in February 2013. Recognizing the responsibility of all to contribute to the common good, the letter explores the church’s role, “using access points that include liberation, reconciliation and reconstruction, vis-à-vis democratic values of the quest for human dignity and participation of all people in decisions that affect the quality and direction of their lives.” The [SECAM Pastoral Letter](#) (link) is available for download in English, French and Portuguese.

Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops’ Conference Issues Pastoral Letter on Elections

[Zimbabwe Elections 2013 - And The God Of Second Chances](#) is a pastoral letter by the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops Conference that addresses the national processes in the Year of Faith 2013. "We invite all Christians and people of good will to commit themselves to promoting peace in Zimbabwe and overcome the culture of intolerance, intimidation and political violence. As Church we will endeavor to facilitate forgiveness, national healing and reconciliation in the years to come."

PEACE PROCESS AND THE CHURCH: COLOMBIA

Bishops' Statement on the Progress of Peace Talks

Cardinal Ruben Salazar Gomez, President of the Episcopal Conference of Columbia (CEC), issued a [statement May 27](#) (in Spanish) supporting the recent agreement on land issues that emerged from the peace talks between the government and the FARC. While members of the ecclesiastical hierarchy of the Catholic Church are not directly involved in the peace talks, the Church remains engaged to support peace efforts and encourage all delegates to seek the common good through transparent dialogue.

A PEACEBUILDING CHURCH: AWARDS

UN Peace Award to Bishop Paride Taban

The United Nations awarded the [2013 Sergio Vieira de Mello Prize](#) to South Sudanese Bishop Emeritus Paride Taban for his work promoting peace in the world's newest nation. Bishop Taban was recognized for his work with the Holy Trinity Peace Village, which he founded in 1999, in Kuron. The president of the prize foundation noted "the fact that this village is now seen as an example of reconciliation and peace will encourage other communities to follow a similar approach in other areas of conflict in South Sudan and beyond."

Please send information on Catholic peacebuilding to cpn@nd.edu. To un-subscribe to this listserv, respond to this email with "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject heading. If you have received this email as a forward, you may subscribe to the listserv by emailing cpn@nd.edu.

The Catholic Peacebuilding Network (CPN) is a voluntary network of practitioners, academics, clergy and laity from around the world which seeks to enhance the study and practice of Catholic peacebuilding, especially at the local level. The CPN aims to deepen bonds of solidarity among Catholic peacebuilders, share and analyze "best practices," expand the peacebuilding capacity of the Church in areas of conflict, and encourage the further development of a theology of a just peace. While it is a Catholic network, the CPN believes that authentic and effective Catholic peacebuilding involves dialogue and collaboration with those of other religious traditions and all those committed to building a more just and peaceful world.

Gerard Powers, Coordinator
Emily Sipos-Butler, Research Associate
Cathy Laake, Program Assistant
Catholic Peacebuilding Network
Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies
100 Hesburgh Center
Notre Dame, IN 46556, USA
574.631.6970 (ph)
574.631.6973 (fax)