



February 2009

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Catholic Bishops of Philippines Workshop on Peacebuilding

In the latest in a series of peacebuilding seminars for Catholic bishops, in January, some 70 Catholic Bishops in the Philippines attended a two-day session on peacebuilding in Manila. John Paul Lederach of the Kroc Institute at the University of Notre Dame, and Fr. Robert Schreiter, C.P.P.S., of the Bernardin Center at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, served as facilitators. Catholic Relief Services, Philippines, and the Catholic Peacebuilding Network worked with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines through Archbishop Antonio Ledesma on this event. This is the latest of several peacebuilding seminars for bishops held in Asia, Africa and Latin America in recent years.

Catholic Social Ministry Gathering, Washington, D.C., February 22-24, 2009

The Annual Catholic Social Ministry gathering, "Christ Our Hope: Healing a Broken World," will bring together more than 500 Catholic social justice leaders from around the United States. This gathering will cover a wide range of domestic and international issues. Archbishop John Baptist Odama of Gulu, in northern Uganda, is one of the keynote speakers. The gathering takes place February 22-25, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C. For information: <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/projects/csmgindex.shtml>.

Kroc Institute Student Peace Conference, University of Notre Dame, April 3-4, 2009

The University of Notre Dame's annual **Student Peace Conference** will take place on April 3-4, 2009, at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies. The theme this year is "Perspectives on Peace." Among the issues covered is religion and peacebuilding. For information go to: <http://kroc.nd.edu/newsevents/events/2009/04/03/483>.

"Migration, Religion, and National Identity," Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, San Diego, CA, April 15-16, 2009

The Trans-Border Institute at the University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies will sponsor a major international conference to consider the connections between migration, religious experience, and national identification. For registration information: <http://www.sandiego.edu/tbi/events/mrni.php>.

The Duke Divinity School Summer Institute, May 31-June 5, 2009

The Duke Divinity School summer institute cultivates a community of Christian worship, reflection and action, reflecting the vibrant spiritual, artistic and entrepreneurial offerings of Duke University. The goal is to stimulate participants' imagination, wrestle with practical problems, identify frameworks, and equip them to continue a journey of integrity. For information: <http://www.divinity.duke.edu/learningforlife/programs/summerinstitute>.

Africa Synod of Bishops, October 4-25, 2009

The Second Special Assembly for Africa of the Synod of Bishops will be held Oct. 4-25 in the Vatican on the theme "The Church in Africa, at the Service of Reconciliation, Justice and Peace." Pope John Paul II convoked the first synod for Africa in 1994, which was the basis for Ecclesia in Africa. According to a Vatican communiqué, the upcoming synod is intended "to give effective answers to an African continent thirsty for reconciliation and in search of justice and peace."

Peace and Justice Studies Association Conference, Marquette University, October 8-10, 2009

The Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA) annual conference will be hosted by Marquette University; the theme is nonviolence. For more information: <http://www.peacejusticestudies.org/conference/>.

"Who is My Enemy?" Villanova University Theology Institute, October 27-28, 2009

A call for papers for the conference, "Who is My Enemy? Religious Hope in a Time of Fear." Possible topics: the religious construction and deconstruction of enemies; scriptural perspectives on enemies; the import of primary religious sources for religious identity as well as the concurrent perception of "others"; scriptural reasoning and other practices shared among Jews, Muslims and Christian and other topics relevant to the theme. Send proposals to Darlene Weaver, Darlene.weaver@villanova.edu by March 15, 2009.

Executive Vice President, U.S. Operations, Catholic Relief Services, Baltimore, MD

The Executive Vice President for U.S. Operations will lead CRS's strategy of more fully engaging Catholics in the United States to understand and act in solidarity with the poor and suffering people around the world. This position will ensure that this strategy is integrated with other important aspects of CRS' operations both internationally and domestically. For details go to: <https://sh.webhire.com/servlet/av/jd?ai=495&ji=2320117&sn=I>.

Program Coordinator, Religions for Peace, New York, NY

Religions for Peace has a vacancy for Program Coordinator for Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding. Working with regional and national affiliated bodies, Religions for Peace engages in inter-religious peacebuilding in conflicts around the world. For information: <http://www.wcrp.org/opportunities/employment>.

Congolese and Sudanese Bishops Statements

The November 2008 statements by the Congolese (DRC) and Sudanese Catholic Bishops provide a helpful overview of their perspectives on their respective conflicts. For the Congolese statement: <http://www.zenit.org/article-24291?l=english>; for the Sudanese statement: <http://www.maryknollogc.org/regional/sudan%20bishops%20nov%202008.pdf>

Pope's Annual "State of the World Report"

In his traditional New Year's greeting to the diplomatic corps accredited to the Holy See, the Pope delivered the Vatican's annual "State of the World" address. Click on the link to view: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2009/january/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20090108_diplomatic-corps_en.html

***Peacebuilding at a Crossroads?* Schmelzle & Fischer, eds**

Peacebuilding at a Crossroads? Dilemmas and Paths for Another Generation is the 7th Handbook Dialogue of the Berghof Research Center in Berlin. In this dialogue, practitioners and researchers reflect on the conditions of success or failure in peacebuilding and conflict transformation.

Available at: http://www.berghof-handbook.net/std_page.php?LANG=e&id=253&parent=5

***Peace Education: A Pathway to a Culture of Peace*, Navarro-Castro & Nario-Galace**

According to the authors, one of the necessary steps to build a culture of peace is to mobilize education which is at the heart of personal and social development of a people. A chapter that might be of particular interest to CPN members is the one on "Spiritual and Faith Traditions as Resources of Peace". To download a copy of the book go to: <http://www.gppac.net/page.php?id=1741>.

Catholic Relief Services-Kroc Institute Visiting Fellows

Jean Baptiste Talla, CRS Cameroon and peacebuilding specialist for Central Africa, and Ameth Diouf, CRS Senegal and peacebuilding specialist for West Africa, will be at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame from March through mid-May. Those interested in their work may reach them at 574-631-6970.

Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice Newsletter

The Peace & Justice Compass newsletter is published by the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice at the University of San Diego. http://www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/ipj/reports/IPJ_Compass/IPJCompass.html.

If you have information on Catholic peacebuilding initiatives, announcements, opportunities, or calls for papers for our next newsletter please send to cpn@ND.EDU for consideration. CPN is dedicated to members informing members about Catholic peacebuilding efforts and initiatives.

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.

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