

Chapter 24

Bring Peace

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

John 14:27

For the Parents:

In chapter 24 your child learned to:

- Cite ways he or she can work for justice
- Explain how words and works of justice lead to peace
- Choose individual and corporate ways to work for justice and peace

Pope John Paul II summed it up best when he said, “If you want peace, work for justice.” When Christians face situations of violence in neighborhoods, cities, and towns, they must look to the causes. Often the injustices of poverty, hunger, racism, sexism, and consumerism, which make up the social structures of our world, are at the root of these situations. These injustices play a vital role in the buildup of discrimination, miscommunication, and hate. It is the Christian’s social responsibility to address these issues in order to bring peace into the world. As Christians we are called to be peacemakers and to do what is right. This call may include the willingness to challenge the status quo and to speak up when to do so may not be acceptable. Peace is one of the results of justice, and being just is the work of individuals and communities.

With Your Child:

1. Keep an eye out for people who are being treated unjustly – people you read about in the news, or people you know in your parish or school. As a family, pray for those people. Whenever you can, speak up or act for justice.
2. Work together to create a poster that announces Jesus’ call for all to live in peace and justice. Color it brightly and hang it in your home.
3. Read about Saint Vincent Pallotti on the Review and Explore page.