



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

UNITED STATES | CANADA APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

January 2022

-For true human fraternity-

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Fr Joe SJ video, 1min [here](#)

Pope video, 1min thepopevideo.org

Reflection by Chenele Shaw

Chenele is a former youth minister and theology teacher and a current young adult trying to live her life for Christ, frequent her therapist, abolish the sin of racism, and host a super cool podcast! She's currently working for the Diocese of Orlando. She desires to be her authentic self and help others to as well. You can find her Co-directing "The Before Gethsemane Initiative," talking to podcast guests, and updating her Spotify playlists. Instagram: @chenele_k

Fraternity is a marriage of love and faith. It calls us to be compassionate and drives us forward to recognize our brothers and sisters to the fullest capacity regardless of religious, socioeconomic or other status. A call not only to recognize God given dignity but to honor it. In Galatians 5:13 Christ compels us to use our freedom to serve one another through love. A love that is made manifest in fraternal love and mutual respect.

In an introduction to [A Document on Human Fraternity](#) signed by Pope Francis in 2019, "Faith leads a believer to see in the other a brother or sister to be supported and loved. Through faith in God, who has created the universe, creatures and all human beings (equal on account of his mercy), believers are called to express this human fraternity by safeguarding creation and the entire universe and supporting all persons, especially the poorest and those most in need."

Practicing compassionate and true fraternity calls us to suffer with those who face persecution, poverty, and isolation. A call to be present to the body of Christ in a world rife with indifference. Let us pray that God enlivens our hearts and unites us in our common humanity.

[Leader] Daily offering prayer: O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
I offer You my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day
in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world.

I offer them for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart:

the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians.

I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer,
and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month—

*JANUARY: For true human fraternity. We pray for all those suffering from religious
discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which
originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.*

Grace: We pray for the grace to be dedicated to true human fraternity. May the Holy Spirit work
through us to actively support our brothers and sisters facing discrimination and persecution.

[Reader 1] Scripture: “Whoever says he is in the light, yet hates his brother, is still in the
darkness. Whoever loves his brother remains in the light, and there is nothing in him to cause a
fall. Whoever hates his brother is in darkness; he walks in darkness and does not know where
he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.” (1 John 2:9-11)

[Reader 2] Quote: “It is my desire that, in this our time, by acknowledging the dignity of each
human person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity. Fraternity
between all men and women. ‘Here we have a splendid secret that shows us how to dream and
to turn our life into a wonderful adventure. No one can face life in isolation... We need a
community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking
ahead. How important it is to dream together... By ourselves, we risk seeing mirages, things
that are not there. Dreams, on the other hand, are built together.’ Let us dream, then, as a single
human family, as fellow travelers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is
our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each
of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all..” (Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* #8)

[Leader] Reflection questions:

We are all called to stand with our brothers and sisters. How are you called to stand with others
especially in the face of discrimination and persecution? How can you work to see each person
as a brother and sister, especially when it is not easy? *[All: take 1 min in quiet reflection; 2 min
to journal; and then share a with the group]*