

Paix et Joie Frieden und alles Gute Damai dan Sejahtera Paze Bem Paze e Bene
Pax et Bonum Pokój i Dobro Paz y Bien Mir in Dobro Peace and All Good



Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
October 4, 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

May the Lord give you peace!

Francis sent his brothers out to preach and to be the Gospel of Jesus Christ, first to Italy, and then to all the world. He told them what God wanted: The Lord revealed a greeting to me that we should say:

"May the Lord give you peace." Testament 23

Francis' faithful witness teaches us that this is not just a greeting, but a way of thinking, reflecting, conversing, doing... What Francis gave was a testimony that envisioned peacemaking with all, not limited to inner peace or societal peace, but peace that embraces all creation. St. Francis "shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society and interior peace." *Laudato Si'*, 10 In our Third Order Rule, we are challenged to this peace as a way of life: as we announce peace with our lips let us be careful to have it more within our own hearts. cf. TOR Rule 30

On this day especially, let us pray with Pope Francis and the whole world:

Fill us with peace,
that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
Encourage us in our struggle for justice, love and peace.
Seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life
for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.

Laudato Si', 246

Today we celebrate our Brother Francis who plumbed the depths of the Spirit and showed us such clarity of vision and understanding of the intertwining of self, others and creation into the one reality of the heart of God. Let us bless each other, asking God's blessing of peace to all creation:

**May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May He show his face to you and have mercy.
May he turn his countenance to you
and give you peace.
The Lord bless you. AMEN!**

May the Lord give you peace,
Sr. Deborah LOCKWOOD, President IFC-TOR
Sr. M. Magdalena SCHMITZ, Vice-President
Sr. Dolores CANEO, Councilor
Sr. Joanne BRAZINSKI, Councilor
Bro. Franco KANNAMPUZHA, Councilor
Sr. Benigna AOKO, Councilor