

[www.peacequest.ca](http://www.peacequest.ca) [www.peaceoneday.org](http://www.peaceoneday.org)

**To Introduce the International Day of Peace for 2013 (elementary)**

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First Week of School:

* As a school: Initial assembly, welcome students back as friends of Jesus/children of God. Use a quote or prayer to introduce the theme of peace to students:

*Lord, make me a channel of thy peace;*

*that where there is hatred, I may bring love;*

*that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness;*

*that where there is discord, I may bring harmony;*

*that where there is error, I may bring truth;*

*that where there is doubt, I may bring faith;*

*that where there is despair, I may bring hope;*

*that where there are shadows, I may bring light;*

*that where there is sadness, I may bring joy.*

*Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted;*

*to understand, than to be understood;*

*to love, than to be loved.*

*For it is by self-forgetting that one finds.*

*It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.*

*It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life.*

*Amen.*

* In the classrooms: Create classroom goals using the language of peace (What is peace? How can we work together to achieve peace in the classroom? On the yard?)

I pledge today to do my best

In reading, math and all the rest.

I promise to obey the rules

in my class and in the school.

I am here to learn and pray

To encourage PEACE everyday.

I'll respect myself and others too

I'll expect the best in all I do.

* Morning messages: Use famous peace quotes or prayers to build up to the Day of Peace. Or choose a peace pledge or prayer to be recited over the announcements or in class. (Check off the quotes that you would like to use.)

**What Jesus Said About Peace**

**Matthew 5:9** *“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.*

**Matthew 11:28-30***Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

**John 14:27***Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*

**John 16:33***I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”*

**John 20:19***On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them,  “Peace be with you.”*

**Luke 6:27**“*But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,*

**Romans 12:17***Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.*

**Additional Scripture Passages about Peace**

**Romans 8:6** *For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,*

**Romans 14:17-19** *for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. For he who in this way serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. So then let us pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.*

**Psalms 34:14** Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

**Micah 4: 3-4**

He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;

they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sward against nation, neither shall they learn was any more,

but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,

and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken,

**Quotations:**

**David Borenstein:** One cannot subdue a man by holding back his hands. Lasting peace comes not from force.

**Dorothy Thompson:** Peace has to be created, in order to be maintained. It is the product of Faith, Strength, Energy, Will, Sympathy, Justice, Imagination, and the triumph of principle. It will never be achieved by passivity and quietism.

**Dorothy Thompson:** Peace is not the absence of conflict but the presence of creative alternatives for responding to conflict -- alternatives to passive or aggressive responses, alternatives to violence.

**Marian Wright Edelman:** We are not going to deal with the violence in our communities, our homes, and our nation, until we learn to deal with the basic ethic of how we resolve our disputes and to place an emphasis on peace in the way we relate to one another.

**Baruch Spinoza:** Peace is not the absence of war; it is a virtue; a state of mind; a disposition for benevolence; confidence; and justice.

**Ronald Reagan:** A people free to choose will always choose peace.

**Nelson Mandela:** If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson:** Peace cannot be achieved through violence, it can only be attained through understanding.

**Marianne Williamson:** Dear God, Please send to me the spirit of Your peace. Then send, dear Lord, the spirit of peace from me to all the world. Amen.



* As a staff and/or with students: Start planning an event or activity to mark the United Nations International Day of Peace for Friday, Sept. 20th. (Suggestions provided.)
* In the classroom: Show YouTube clips of Jeremy Gilley from [www.peaceoneday.org](http://www.peaceoneday.org/) Discuss with students.

For the whole school (K-8)--A simple explanation of Peace Day:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igFt6s5rlEM>

Primary--Shows an (Islamic) school and how they celebrated Peace Day:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgcagBTzFME>

Grade 4 and up--Excellent clips explaining how Peace Day came to be:

* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4khdQUlNgg4>
* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUnHoujtLVY>
* http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPiphUsv0mo
* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwUPa7rM5U8>
* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtBTOh5qhMI>
* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CT_GqcZ2tf4>

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| **SEPTEMBER 2013** | | | | | | |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| 5 | 2 **Labour Day** | 3 **First Day of School**  Assembly---being welcomed as friends of Jesus, children of God | 4  Classroom---rules, bullying discussion and pledge, start of circles, intro of a prayer corner dedicated to peace | 5  ------------------- | 6  --------continue | 7 |
| 8 | 9  Classroom viewing of Jeremy video, discuss “What is peace? What does it look like? How can we  celebrate peace?” (use answers to structure Sept. 20 activities) | 10  Art: What does peace look like to you?  Music: Peace Songs  Drama: Storyboards on how to solve a problem on the yard | 11  ------------------- | 12  -----continue | 13  Peace Prayer Service (St. Francis of Assisi), Introduce plan for celebration of peace for next week | 14 |
| 15 | 16  Second classroom viewing of a Peace One Day video including 2013 theme: Who will you make peace with? | 17  Watch youtube and facebook updates from Jeremy Gilley | 18  ------------------- | 19  ------continue | 20 Involve  whole school to celebrate peace. Do a school photo (and submit to Peace One Day) Other ideas in package. | 21  International Day of Peace-Ceasefires-  Celebrations |

**Peace Prayer Service**

Opening Song: (see below for list of suggestions)

Introduction:

Today we want to think about peace. Peace is freedom from disagreement or quarrels. Peace is one of the effects of love. We all want peace in our country, our parish, our school, our homes and in ourselves.

To have peace we need faith, good works, and to follow the example of Jesus. After His resurrection, when Jesus first greeted his friends again, He said, “Peace be with you.” Let us ask God to show us what we can do to help make our world be a peaceful place.

Let us begin with a sign of our faith.

**In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

Opening Prayer:

God our Father, you call us to spread peace and love in the world.

Help us to live in peace with you and with one another.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one god forever and ever. **Amen**

Scripture: (Either or both passages may be chosen)

*Ephesians 4:25-27, 29-32*

A reading from a letter of Paul to the Ephesians

So from now on there must be no more lies: You must speak the truth to one another, since we are all parts of one another. Even if you are angry you must not sin. Guard against bad talk; let your words be to help others, be good listeners. You should never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names. Be friends with one another, and be kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*(brief silence)*

*Romans 12:10, 13-18*

A reading from a letter of Paul to the Romans

Love each other as much as brothers and sisters should, and have profound respect for each other. Treat everyone with equal kindness; never be condescending but make real friends. Do all you can to live at peace with everyone.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*(brief silence)*

Reflection Song: (see list of suggestions below)

Petitions:

The Response is: Lord, help us to be peacemakers. **Lord, help us to be peacemakers.**

1. God our Father, we thank you today for giving us your peace. We pray for peace for our world, for our families and for ourselves. **R**

2. God our Father, bless us and make us peacemakers in our world today. **R**

3. God our Father be with us as we work to be good friends to each other. **R**

4. God our Father, help us to be peacemakers in our classroom and in our school. **R**

5. God our Father, help us to live in peace with everyone. **R**

God our Father, we offer you our prayers through Jesus Christ your Son. **Amen**

Sign of Peace:

Let us offer each other a sign of peace. (**Peace be with you**.)

Closing Prayer:

Forgive us, God, for the hurtful things we have said and done.

Help us to be kind to one another again.

Give us your Spirit so that we may live happily together in this beautiful world you have given us.

And please help people in every land love their enemies as well as their friends.

Help us to go in peace, to love You and one another,

and to be peacemakers in our school, on the playground, at home, and in our community.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. **Amen**

Closing Song: (see list below)

Follow Up Activity:

-distribute bead bracelets/friendship bracelets as a sign of peace. Give explanation of bead bracelets as a symbol of peace. Teachers can distribute bracelets to children in their class.

**Song suggestions:**

Let There Be Peace on Earth (Sy Miller and Jill Jackson) NALR

[Vince Gill and children - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPH4LRASWbo> ]

Grant Us Peace (Ken Canedo) Never Too Young #277

Prayer of St. Francis *[Make Me a Channel of Your Peace]* (Sebastian Temple) Never TooYoung #136/ Spirit and Song #199 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZI1Gst7pEqc>

A Little Peace Song (CCCB grade 2 program – first edition)

The Peace of God (Scripture Lullabies) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DK2PL82Kc10>

Let’s Share the Peace (Angelo Oddi) CCCB – grade 1 program We Belong to God

Other songs you can watch and learn:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FH6xKZh34jc> (Make Me a Channel of Your Peace-Sinead O’Conner)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmTdwBNFaZo> (Perfect Peace-John Waller)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI_v5WnkDGM> (God of Joy and Peace Be With Me)

Secular songs:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mny3h6_NAyk> (My Peace by folk singer Arlo Guthrie. Tune he teaches at the end of each concert. Simple and beautiful)

<http://www.arlo.net/forums/viewtopic.php?t=3284> (Words and guitar music for My Peace by Arlo Guthrie)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxiMrvDbq3s> (Original This Land is Your Land by Woody Guthrie)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bA60N0cXRZU> (Canadian This Land is your Land)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ACfl_IDKDfk> (Canadian This Land is your Land-same song different pictures)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANP2JzOjJvE> (Canadian Something to Sing About This Land of Ours)

**Song Lyrics:**

Let There be Peace on Earth

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| --- | --- |
| Let there be peace on earth,  and let it begin with me.  Let there be peace on Earth,  the peace that was meant to be. | Let peace begin with me,  let this be the moment now.  With every step I take,  let this be my solemn vow, |
| With God as our Father,  brothers all are we,  Let me walk with my brother,  in perfect harmony. | To take each moment and live each moment  in peace, eternally.  Let there be Peace on Earth,  and let it begin with me. |

Grant Us Peace

*refrain:* Grant us peace, grant us peace.  
 Only love can make us free.  
 Grant us peace.  
  
1. Ever-loving God, hear our prayer. 2. Leaders of the world, hear God now.  
We, your children, have a song for you. Beat the swords into a farmer’s plow.  
May the Spirit shine in all we do. Jesus said, “My peace I give to you.”  
May we always follow you. May compassion see you through.  
  
 3. People of the world, we are one.  
 May the nations train for war no more,  
 for the Lord proclaims a lasting peace.  
 May he rule from sea to sea.

A Little Peace Song

Here is my hand, Here is the other.

Here is a smile, Here is another.

You are my friend, My sister, my brother.

May happiness and peace be with you.

Let’s Share the Peace

Let’s share the peace within us

Let’s share it in our own special way

When we stretch a friendly smile

The peace will spread for miles

And we will help make a peaceful day.

Let’s share the peace within us

Let’s share it in our own special way

When we all join our hands

The peace will fill the land

And we will help make a peaceful day.