

Our History

Pax Christi USA is the national Catholic peace with justice movement reaching over a half-million Catholics. Our membership includes religious communities, parishes, bishops, over 250 Pax Christi local and campus groups, and 17 regions that coordinate activities in their geographic areas.

Pax Christi USA began in the United States in 1972 at the initiative of a small group of Catholics, mostly lay people. Our founding membership was active in the civil rights movement, protesting the Viet Nam war, and working for nuclear disarmament.

Pax Christi USA is a section of Pax Christi International which was founded in 1945 when a small group of people in France met to pray for peace. What kept them coming together was their experience of an agonizing fact: French and German Catholics, who professed the same faith and celebrated the same Eucharist, had killed one another by the millions in the 20th century. So they prayed for forgiveness, reconciliation and peace.

Our Priorities

Spirituality of Nonviolence and Peacemaking

Disarmament, Demilitarization
and Reconciliation with Justice

Economic and Interracial Justice
in the United States

Human Rights and Global Restoration



Vision Statement

Who We Are

Grounded in the Gospel and Catholic social teaching, Pax Christi USA (PCUSA) is a membership organization that rejects war, preparation for war, every form of violence and domination, and personal and systemic racism. As PCUSA, a section of Pax Christi International, we are a Catholic peace and justice movement that seeks to model the Peace of Christ in our witness to the mandate of the nonviolence of the Cross.

What We Do

- Guided by the spirituality of nonviolence, we advocate and provide leadership for disarmament, demilitarization and reconciliation with justice, inclusiveness, economic and interracial justice, human rights and care of creation.
- We strive through prayer, study and action to be attentive to the interrelatedness of the key issues stated above and, in our response, to be conscious of their impact on the world community.
- We work to align our organizational structures, policies, and practices with our intent to be an anti-racist, multicultural Catholic movement for peace with justice.

Our Vision

A more peaceful, just and sustainable world through the efforts of our members and in collaboration with other groups.

Pax Christi USA

The National Catholic Peace with Justice Movement

www.paxchristiusa.org | info@paxchristiusa.org
202-635-2741

Join us!

I believe in peace and want to join Pax Christi USA.

(Please print legibly. You can pay by check or credit card.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Annual membership dues are:

__ \$40 Individuals __ \$150 Other Institutions

__ \$150 Parish __ \$250 Religious Community

We rely on the generosity of our members. Please consider enclosing an additional contribution.

MC/Visa # _____

Exp. Date _____ CVN#/Security Code _____

Signature _____

____ **YES!** I would like more information about joining or starting a local chapter.

____ **YES!** I would like information on making a will or a bequest.

Sustainers' Circle for Peace with Justice

More than ever, Pax Christi USA needs people who believe in our work for peace with justice and are willing to help sustain our efforts. By joining our "sustainers' circle" you commit to providing us with essential support on which we can rely. A monthly donation helps us plan and build a base that reaches more emergent constituencies, making our mission more visionary and effective.

To become a sustainer, select a monthly amount below, in addition to filling out the credit card info above. You can cancel your monthly donation at any time.

__ \$15 __ \$25 __ \$50 __ \$100 \$____ other

Return this form to:

Pax Christi USA

**415 Michigan Ave. NE, Suite 240
Washington, D.C. 20017**

Pax Christi Anti-Racism Team

Pax Christi USA seeks to embrace an anti-racist identity and to do all its work from an anti-racism perspective, with the conviction that personal and systemic racism perpetuates violence in our communities and results in deep spiritual and social brokenness.

The Pax Christi Anti-Racism Team works towards this transformation through the creation of intentional relationships and full participation across multi-cultural communities, accomplished through:

- Organizational structures that foster mutual respect and dialogue and which create accountability to communities of color
- Policies which affirm the dignity and giftedness of every person
- Practices which hold multiple and at times conflicting perspectives in creative tension
- Decision-making processes which depend on and incorporate the multi-cultural identity that is the church



Prayer | Study | Action

Pax Christi USA uses a model of prayer, study and action to work for peace with justice and promotes the importance of understanding the root causes of injustice and violence.

Pax Christi USA members work in many ways:

- implementing conflict resolution programs in high schools, colleges and universities
- holding prayer vigils outside a prison where an execution is taking place
- preparing action alerts calling for the abolition of torture, the death penalty and illegal detention
- hosting parish programs on peacemaking
- contacting elected officials on human rights issues in the U.S. and abroad
- holding anti-racism workshops
- participating in events to lift up the call to Christian nonviolence
- working in partnerships with organizations on peace with justice initiatives

Peace Education Resources

Pax Christi USA offers many resources for prayer, study and action. Through resources like our newsletter, *The Peace Current*, our email network, and our website, members can find the tools they need to pray, study and act as individuals or as groups. Our online store offers prayer cards, Advent and Lent booklets, and more.

Local and Regional Groups

Pax Christi USA local groups offer opportunities to join with others in a community setting to deepen their understanding of the gospel call to peace with justice. The groups meet regularly in neighborhoods, parishes, religious communities, high schools, and on college campuses to pray, study and act for peace with justice on local, national and global issues. Contact our national office if you're interested in starting or joining a local chapter.



“It is the duty of all men and women to build peace following the example of Jesus Christ, through these two paths: promoting and exercising justice with truth and love.”

~Pope Francis

The National Catholic Peace with Justice Movement
www.paxchristiusa.org