



Care for Creation

GREEN TEAM

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT MATTHEW THE APOSTLE

## Blessed are the Peacemakers - Pope Francis' "State of the World" address on January 9, 2024



Holy Father, Pope Francis, Annual State of the World address

*You are cordially invited to join us!*

**January 18, 2024, 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.**

ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8618157457>

Meeting ID: 861 8157 4570

Dial in: 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Please join us on ZOOM on January 18, 2024, 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. for our monthly meeting focusing on **Pope Francis' State of the World address**, conversation, and prayer.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, highlighted in his annual ["State of the World" address on January 9, 2024](#), the responsibility of individuals and nations to foster peace:

Peace is primarily a gift of God, for it is he who has left us *his* peace (cf. *Jn* 14:27). Yet it is also a responsibility incumbent upon all of us: "Blessed are the peacemakers" (*Mt* 5:9). To strive for peace. A word so simple, yet so demanding and rich in meaning. Today I would like to concentrate our reflections on peace, at a moment in history when it is increasingly threatened, weakened and in part lost. For that matter, it is the responsibility of the Holy See within the international community to be a prophetic voice and to appeal to consciences.

And he concluded his address by reminding those present that the Church is preparing for the Jubilee, the Holy Year that will begin next Christmas: "Today, perhaps more than ever," he said, "we need a Holy Year," a season of grace that enables us to experience God's mercy and the gift of His peace.

We will study and ponder and reflect upon Pope Francis' words, and ask ourselves how we can possibly best live our responsibility to foster peace as Christians and Catholics.