

Dorothy Stang Novena: Day 7 – Monday, February 10



Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called children of God. Matthew 5:8

"We are a global people—one family. A deep Christian value is sharing. I am an instrument to help them come together. I am a person free to do that." — Sister Dorothy Stang

Peacemaking

Walking around the campus of Notre Dame de Namur University I sing in my heart to see the different nationalities and cultures represented in the present student body. Our campus, and the state of California, exhibits the dramatic changes that have taken place since World War II. This generation is truly blest and the opportunity to build a world community has never been stronger or more important.

In 1992, Dorothy experienced a sense of this world community when she was invited to be a delegate to the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio. There she met other "green" advocates from around the world. "She returned to Anapu bursting with passion and full of fresh ideas. The world was finally concerned about the destruction of the rainforests around the globe—or so she thought. She spoke enthusiastically in the villages and communities." (Excerpt from: "A Journey of Courage: The Amazing Story of Sister Dorothy Stang" by Michele Murdock)

Prayer: Who will speak for the poor and the broken and for the peoples oppressed? Who will speak so these voices are heard? Who will speak if we don't? Who will care for the forests and the creatures? Who will protect the precious land, the great rivers, the birds and the plants? Who will speak if we don't? I can be an instrument of justice and peace. I am a person free to do that.

Action: Each one of us is called to be an instrument of God's peace. We are all called to be peacemakers in our world, starting with here at Notre Dame in Worcester. Let us continue to pray for peace in our world and in our hearts and also to celebrate the diversity of our staff working here. It is only by respecting and celebrating the diversity of others that we can truly work for and establish true and lasting peace.