



# Catholic Diocese of Victoria

Office of the Bishop

1-4044 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria, BC V8X 2A1 - Tel: 250-479-1331 - Fax: 250-479-5423 - Web: [rdvictoria.org](http://rdvictoria.org)

## MEMO

**DATE: February 9, 2018**  
**TO: Pastors, Principals, and Support Staff**  
**FROM: Bishop Gary Gordon**  
**RE: Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace on Friday, 23 February 2018**

---

At the Angelus address on Sunday, February 4, 2018, Pope Francis invited all the Church to observe Friday, February 23, as a *Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace*, mindful of the many areas of conflict in the world, particularly the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and South Sudan. The Apostolic Nuncio to Canada, Archbishop Luigi Bonazzi, affirms "... the deep desire of Pope Francis that all the Church be united with him in this day of prayer."

In this season of Lent, as we offer sacrifices, prayer, and fasting, I encourage you to consider organizing this *Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace* for your parishioners and for your students in communion with the Holy Father on Friday, February 23, 2018 in an appropriate and meaningful manner. Please do share and extend this invitation to prayer from Pope Francis with Christians and members of other faiths whom you know, to participate in this initiative in whatever way they deem appropriate as well.

+ + +

The Holy Father's February 4<sup>th</sup> Angelus message can be found on the Holy See's website at <http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2018.html#angelus>.

The news story by Vatican News is available:

- in English, <http://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2018-02/pope-angelus-appeal-prayer-fasting-peace-drc-south-sudan.html>

Information on the situation in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo:

- in English, <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/pope-announces-day-of-prayer-fasting-for-congo-and-south-sudan-56068>

<http://www.catholicnews.com/services/englishnews/2018/pope-supports-prolife-movement-sets-day-of-prayer-for-peace-in-africa.cfm>