

PACEM in TERRIS

P E A C E O N E A R T H

A Journey of Love



Look around you. See the sun and the sky, the flowers and the trees, the hills and the valleys—and remember that “God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good” (Genesis 1:31). God still views his creation this way; it brings him great joy. And nothing pleases him more than the crown of that creation—man and woman. Of all the glories in this world, human beings stand apart because we have been created in God’s image and likeness.

God made an environment of beauty and abundance to please and sustain us—it’s an expression of his love. From our mother’s womb he loved us and gave us the gift of free will. Despite the risks involved, God entrusted us with the freedom to choose how to live and how to love. Life is a school of learning how to “love God with our whole heart, soul, and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves” (Luke 10:27?). We try and fail and try again—and hopefully get better at it—but graduation is when we leave this world. No

packing necessary; we just take what we’ve learned of love on Earth and enter the eternal life of love!

We are all on a personal journey of love, and we need lots of help along the path. Time alone with God is an essential part of that journey. God tends generously to our needs, if we but ask—and listen for his answers. We need quiet times and places in order to hear his still, small voice and to fully receive his love. While we’re silent and solitary, reading God’s Word and enjoying his creation, our creator speaks to us in powerful and individual ways. But time alone, without distractions, can be difficult to find.

Almost 25 years ago, God said to “Create an environment where my people can come and be alone with me.” Pacem in Terris is a work of God, a reflection of his love for each one of us. *Continued page 4*

“God
so loved
the world . . .”

John 3:16

Just a note . . .

With the Lord's help, may this prayer sweep over our nation and wholeheartedly become our desire so that we once again can be called 'One nation under God!'

Billy Graham's Prayer for our Nation

'Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask your forgiveness and to seek your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, 'Woe to those who call evil good,' but that is exactly what we have done.

We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values. We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery. We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. We have killed our unborn and called it choice. We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable... We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building self esteem. We have abused power and called it politics. We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it ambition. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment.

Search us, Oh God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from sin and Set us free. Amen!'

Saint John the Beloved



Among the first twelve apostles called by Jesus, and known as the “beloved disciple,” John knew Jesus well and loved him deeply. He heard him teach and saw him perform miracles. At the Last Supper, John had the privilege of sitting next to

Jesus and leaning against his breast (John 13:23). He was the only disciple who remained with the Lord as he was dying on the cross, where Jesus entrusted the care of his mother to him (John 19:25-27).

Although banished to the island of Patmos for a time, John was an active evangelist, founding many churches and proclaiming Jesus’ immense love for us through his writings—including his gospel, three letters, and the book of Revelation.

Jesus invites us to experience the same love and intimacy John knew.

December 27 has been set aside to celebrate the holy life of Saint John the Beloved.

Bring-a-Friend Days!

Pacem in Terris invites YOU to invite a friend—or 2-or more!—to “Come and See” Pacem! Introduce them to this holy place that made a difference in your life.

We have set aside two different days this fall so you can choose what works best :

Thursday September 20 or Saturday September 22

10:00am—2:00pm

We'll begin with coffee and muffins; a presentation on the Mission of Pacem in Terris, some testimonies from our guests, a tour of the hermitages and a light lunch at Our Lady of Pacem House.

Please call and reserve your day by Monday September 17. 763-444-6408

Due to the nature of the ministry, we ask that your guests must be 18 years or older.



One of God's 'wise' creatures keeps watch over Pacem.

Jesus' Invitation, Our Response

Let's get away. Just the two of us."
"Great! Where are we going?"

"We are going to get away from it all. No TV. No computer. No electricity. It will just be the two of us."

"I can hardly wait to spend the time together; but where are we going?"

"It's very remote. No internet. No cell phone."

"It sounds wonderful; but where are we going?"

"We are going to the desert."

"Are you crazy?"

There is no hidden agenda; it is simply an offer of love, love without strings, without expectations, without demands. It is an opportunity to be embraced by grace 24/7.



His Invitation

This is not a vacation; nor is it a permanent change of location. It is not a command nor is it a solitary journey. It's not a honeymoon, though it could end up that way. It is an opportunity to meet the One who has loved us before we were in our mother's womb, the One who has stood with us and never abandoned us, the One who has always wanted what is best for us, extends us an invitation to meet with him and spend time alone together in a hermitage

Ultimately it doesn't matter whether I am ready or not because the invitation won't go away. It will appear in the words to songs that I am listening to, it will jump off the page of something I am reading, it will enter my conversations. The invitation will persist until I say, "Yes".

Accepting His Invitation

Having been embraced by grace, I can never forget the feeling. Imbedded in my memory will be those long walks we took in the evening and the mornings when we read his love letters full of good news and the afternoons

Hermit Notes

♥ "I cannot thank you all enough for the gift of two nights here. This was a very graced time with the Lord. Thank you above all for your prayerful presence and attitude of service which echo's the Gospel of Christ so well!

I am now less than 72 hours from laying face down on the marble of Our Lady of the Rosary in Duluth so that God, through the hands and prayer of his Bishop may consecrate me forever in his service as his priest.

Please know that I am personally very grateful for each of you who make Pacem in Terris one of my favorite spots to pray.

I hope to see you soon. God Bless you for your generosity of heart!"

♥ "I am so blessed to have had an opportunity to come and be here this weekend.

God is so-o-o good! To be in His Presence is where I want to be. He was here!"

when we journaled and rested in such peace..

Now I know that once you have been loved unconditionally, you can't forget that all of creation is full of the wonder of God.

"Care to spend a day or two together in a hermitage, just the two of us?" ♦

A Journey of Love continued from page 1

The hermitages at Pacem offer a place where solitude and silence allow God to embrace and minister to each person who comes. In our journey of life, we have many choices—whom to be with, what to do, what path to take. Each day our choices point us in one direction or another. As we choose to be alone with God and experience his love and guidance, he will transform us into the person he created us to be. ♦



“God is so good . . .”

Our loving God continues to call people of all ages to the Hermitage. We welcome them with open arms as they seek time alone with God. The blessings they report and the amazing experiences of God meeting them right where they're at confirm over and over the fulfillment of God's plan for Pacem in Terris.

We believe God is also touching your hearts as the silent part of our team to help fill in the gap between ever growing expenses and the often limited financial ability of hermit's to give. Pacem depends on the heartfelt generosity of supporters like you who have experienced how good God has been and understand the need to provide a place of quiet to help foster spiritual health and healing.

Please prayerfully consider supporting a hermit and or a hermitage. Any amount is welcome, needed and greatly appreciated. Contributions can be made using the envelope provided or through the “Donate Now” button on our web site at www.paceminterris.org under Charitable Contributions. Thank you and may God who is so good bless you a hundredfold for your generosity. ♦

Dear friends,

A journey of love—my father was a Swedish immigrant, Ludvig Anderson, who like many other immigrants came to the “new country” to get rich. He promised his family he would return to Sweden in five years and support his widowed mother. At nineteen, he was healthy, strong and a hard worker with no English skills. Arriving in the U.S., he was advised to connect with a Swedish community in Minneapolis MN. His fellow “Swedes” led him to a creosote plant in St. Louis Park where he was employed. A boarding house within walking distance became his first home. Two years later a girl named Anna became his wife. They raised four children and it was my privilege to be one of them.

Simple people, they were experts in sacrificial love. Mother's homemade remedies, given with love, seemed to cure all ailments. Dad protected us, we always felt safe; he solved problems, kept the furnace running, thawed out frozen pipes and seemingly controlled the weather. Later it was easy for me to believe in God's tender and protective love—because of my parents love.

What for them? Neither one ever complained, they simply counted blessings. Dad had waited for the day he could take us to Sweden. Years passed, coming home one afternoon, I saw my Dad just staring out the kitchen window, a letter from Sweden in his hand and tears rolling down his cheek. A brother telling him their mother had died. The long awaited return trip had never happened.

He died at 57; speculation at the time was exposure to creosote. Our parents lived a journey of sacrificial love—Hero's to their children. God bless us, everyone!

Shirley Wanchena

*“How can I
repay the Lord
for all the good
he has done for me?”*

Psalm 116:12 NAB