



CALIFORNIA

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR

hearts wide as the world: together making a difference

Dear Friend,

This week, Sr. Margaret Hoffman's message post-solar eclipse and post-Charlottesville reflection was so compelling that we are sharing it with you. If you're not already a subscriber to Sr. Margaret's Justice & Peace updates, I encourage you to sign up to receive them [here!](#)

You may also be interested in the statement the leadership of the Sisters of Notre Dame's East-West Unit, of which the California Sisters are a part.

Monica

Monica May
Development Director

Fighting Hate

Fresh from our powerful experience of the solar eclipse, this seems a special time to reflect on the future of this amazing universe that we are so blessed to inhabit and share.

Unfortunately, our universe is in peril. Terrorism and hate are flourishing. Currently there are 917 known hate groups operating in the U.S. ([You may be surprised to learn how many of these are close to where you live.](#))

This past week the Southern Poverty Law Center based in Alabama sent an ad to major newspapers across the nation with the headline **TEN WAYS TO FIGHT HATE**. The ways include calls to:

- Act
- Join Forces
- Support Victims
- Speak Up
- Educate Yourself
- Create Alternatives
- Pressure Leaders
- Stay Engaged
- Teach Acceptance
- Dig Deeper

"DIG Deeper" is an invitation to understand the **power of non-violence and love**. Non-violence is long term and demanding, but so worth the effort.



Sr. Margaret Hoffman
Justice & Peace Coordinator

"Thus says the Lord of hosts: Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another; do not oppress the widow, the orphan, the alien, or the poor; and do not devise evil in your hearts against one another."

- Zechariah 7:9-10

To receive Sr. Margaret's regular Justice & Peace emails, you can sign up for them [here.](#)

As we fight hate in the world (and in our hearts) and learn how to love, the world will change. It will become a more peaceful place for all of us.

ACTION: How will you fight hate this week?



US EAST-WEST PROVINCE

We, as Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur of the United States East-West Province, are called by our faith and by our tradition to uphold the dignity of every human being. We therefore call for the cessation of violence for any reason and for the use of our right to free speech as a way to build up the common good.

The ongoing violence in our country that emerges from racism, Anti-Semitism and hate speech is both frightening and deeply discouraging. We call on religious and political leaders to inspire our people to deep respect for everyone.

We welcome diversity among us. We honor the many ways our citizens worship and the diverse expressions of belief. We stand against violence and for respectful and just treatment of every person in every community especially in the African-American community and in communities who are experiencing high levels of poverty.

Our commitment is to the common good of all and it is our hope that we as citizens of the United States will commit to action that arises from these values.

Our education institutions have a tradition of emphasizing justice and forming leaders to influence action for justice and peace. We are strongly committed to teaching immigrants their rights and preparing them for citizenship. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing examples of how societal injustices are being addressed in our schools, colleges and universities.

Contact Us

By phone at (650) 593-2045

[Visit our Website](#)

