



MARYKNOLL OFFICE FOR GLOBAL CONCERNS
Peace, Social Justice and Integrity of Creation
www.maryknollogc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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January 06, 2021

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Maryknoll Statement on Violence at the U.S. Capitol

WASHINGTON, DC - As representatives of Maryknoll missionaries and as citizens of the United States, we are appalled that a violent mob has stormed the U.S. Capitol Building in an attempt to disrupt the ceremonial counting of the electoral votes that confirms President-elect Joe Biden's win. We condemn all acts of violence and attempts to subvert the exercise of democracy through a free and fair election.

We call on President Trump and elected officials to condemn the disgraceful behavior witnessed today at the Capitol and to leave behind the hateful rhetoric, false claims, and failures in leadership that have led to it. We call on elected officials to practice civility, promote respect and unity, and pursue the kind of "political charity" named by Pope Francis in *Fratelli Tutti*.

Maryknoll missionaries live and work with vulnerable communities in nations where democratic norms often are fragile or non-existent. We know the depth with which people in other nations count on the United States to honor its founding principles of democracy, constitutional order, and the rule of law. After the shameful and shocking events of today, we call on elected officials and all people of the United States to live up to these expectations, uphold democratic norms, and support a peaceful transfer of power.

We pray for the safety of all people at the U.S. Capitol Building and for the future of our country.

The Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns (MOGC) represents Maryknoll missionaries, who are Catholic men and women serving in impoverished communities around the world. The MOGC provides analysis and advocacy on issues of justice, peace and the integrity of creation that affect the countries and communities where Maryknoll missionaries serve.

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