



MARYKNOLL OFFICE FOR GLOBAL CONCERNS
Peace, Social Justice and Integrity of Creation
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Maryknoll Leadership Expresses Heartfelt Gratitude for Pope Francis' Encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*

WASHINGTON, DC – The leadership of the Maryknoll Sisters, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Maryknoll Lay Missioners and Maryknoll Affiliates released a [statement](#) today expressing heartfelt gratitude for Pope Francis' encyclical on peace and dialogue, "*Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship*," which offers a vision for healing the world from deep social and economic divisions in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sister Antoinette Gutzler, President of the Maryknoll Sisters, said: "This call of Pope Francis echoes deeply in our hearts as we, Maryknoll Sisters, live our mission vision of One Earth Community, especially with marginalized women, forgotten children and indigenous. Especially in this year of Jubilee for the Earth we renew and continue our effort to engage in life-giving dialogue with all our sisters and brothers, members of our common home."

Fr. Raymond Finch, Superior General of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, said: "*Fratelli Tutti* is a call to live the true power of the Gospel, to live a life of selfless loving, to open ourselves to a true encounter with our brothers and sisters and in that process encounter God. It is a call to conversion, transformation and the fullness of life!"

Ted Miles, Executive Director of the Maryknoll Lay Missioners, said: "Pope Francis invites us to broaden our perspective of humanity, calling us to embrace an inherent and deep interrelatedness, and proposes a framework to strive for solidarity, peace and unity. His analysis of world concerns and guideposts for our response are especially needed as we consider what God's mission requires of us amidst a pandemic and in a post-COVID reality to come."

Robert Short, Executive Director of the Maryknoll Affiliates, said: "We are especially grateful for Pope Francis's beautifully pastoral message, challenging systems that oppress the disenfranchised and focusing on helping all the people of God traverse the harsh complexities of our time. *Fratelli Tutti* is replete with a deeply felt sense of hope and love throughout."

Susan Gunn, Director of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, said: "We welcome Pope Francis' vision for a better world offered in *Fratelli Tutti*, and his call to encounter, dialogue, solidarity, peace and justice. We stand ready to do our part to bring about the necessary systemic change in our political, social and economic institutions for a more just and sustainable world for all our brothers and sisters."

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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