



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON

THE CATHOLIC CENTER

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

8 July 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Once again in sadness we cry out to our merciful Lord to show us the way to peace and how to live in harmony with each other. Once again we witness incredible pain and the senseless loss of life to violence in our nation and in our world.

Our hearts are moved and our prayers are raised for the families and loved ones of law enforcement officers in Dallas, brutally killed while exercising their duty to protect those who were demonstrating against another form of injustice and brutality. Our hearts are also moved and our prayers raised to heaven for the families of the Black individuals killed by police in Louisiana and Minnesota.

Now is the time to turn to the God of perfect justice and infinite mercy and to follow the non-violent ways of His Son Jesus. We should join with all brothers and sisters of faith who long for a more peaceful society and work to bring opportunities for non-violent resolutions of our differences. As Christians we must be people of hope promoting reconciliation in a very violent world. How much more killing must we witness before sensibly and rationally addressing the prevalence of guns, the inequalities in access to justice, and the violence found in human hearts?

May God grant us true peace rooted in justice.

Peace and all good,

+ Jh. Stowe

Most Reverend John Stowe, OFM Conv.
Bishop of Lexington