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“Mercy is the pillar and the foundation of peace, because the mercy place to the other in the center”

In his most recent article, Mons. Orlando Brandes, archbishop of Londrina, Parana state, Brazil, stated that the peace of the conscience is the best pillow and protects against wear emotional. For him, the inner peace, peace of heart, coincides with our positive self-esteem and with the forgiveness given seventy times seven, that is, always and in every heart.

Peace in the family is supported with real dialogue and with gestures of kindness. Mons. Orlando believes that peace with others and with the world, starts within ourselves and, therefore, to live with the differences, requires a spirit of tolerance and reconciliation.

According to the archbishop, Jesus struck the wall of enmity and opened the doors of the reconciliation. He points out that the law of the strongest is the law of the jungle and the war is always a defeat for all mankind, but the spirit of common belonging, the belief in human dignity and equality, good sense exceed the logic of force and give space to the strength of the law and of the wisdom of the peoples.

Peace has great price, however it manifests itself in small gestures: the tightening of hands, in the smile, in the embrace, in the eyes, in the way of answering the phone. Thus, we find people of peace, gestures of peace, peace communities for a culture of peace: ‘Or we live as brothers, or we die like crazy’ (M. L. King). Your spears and swords become sickles and ploughs the Scriptures tell us. We need to be witnesses of the peace, instruments of peace and educators of the peace," he says.

In addition to that, Mons. Orlando remarks that peace is made of small gestures and big decisions. For him, the small gestures can be: to avoid the rush, hear with patience, knowing how to comfort, to do with love something difficult, to be gentle, to adapt to situations, and to refrain from judging, rejoicing in the success of others, to approach someone, praise and encourage people. "Peace has four ‘c’: concord, care, compassion, consciousness", complete.

In relation to the major decisions in favor of peace, the prelate affirmed that they can be: to respect the holiness of life, to accept diversity and difference, join freedom and responsibility, to believe in the dialog, revering the dignity of the person, to the right reason, to save the environment, be open to the God of peace. "It is for the conquest of the peace-called golden law: do unto others what you want them to do to you.



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Finally, the Archbishop emphasized that the essential condition for peace is called capacity to forgive. He assesses that the feelings of hatred, vengeance, disappointment, resentment are destructive and explosives, and that Jesus recommended forgiveness seventy times seven, therefore, pardon immediate, complete, tireless, unconditional and cordial. For Mons. Orlando, the new name for peace is called forgiveness. **"The peace of the world begins in me, says a dictation popular".**

Shared by: Guillermo and Maria Elena Novelo
Secretariat of Formation ICCFM

*"Dejemos que el Espíritu Santo guíe la misión de proclamar El Evangelio del matrimonio,
la familia y la Vida en el mundo"*