Catholic Social Teaching on peace

Immaculate Conception parish 24 January 2023

Aims:

- Biblical understanding of peace
- Emergence of just war theory
- Change and development 20th century onwards….

Biblical understanding: Shalom

Not just the absence of war

A rich multidimensional reality

An abundance of life within community.

Being in covenant with God





Just war theory

Developed over centuries

- Just case
- Legitimate authority
- Right intention
- Reasonable prospect of success
- Non combatant immunity
- Proportionality

Change and development

Modern warfare, the experience of three popes and the Second Vatican Council





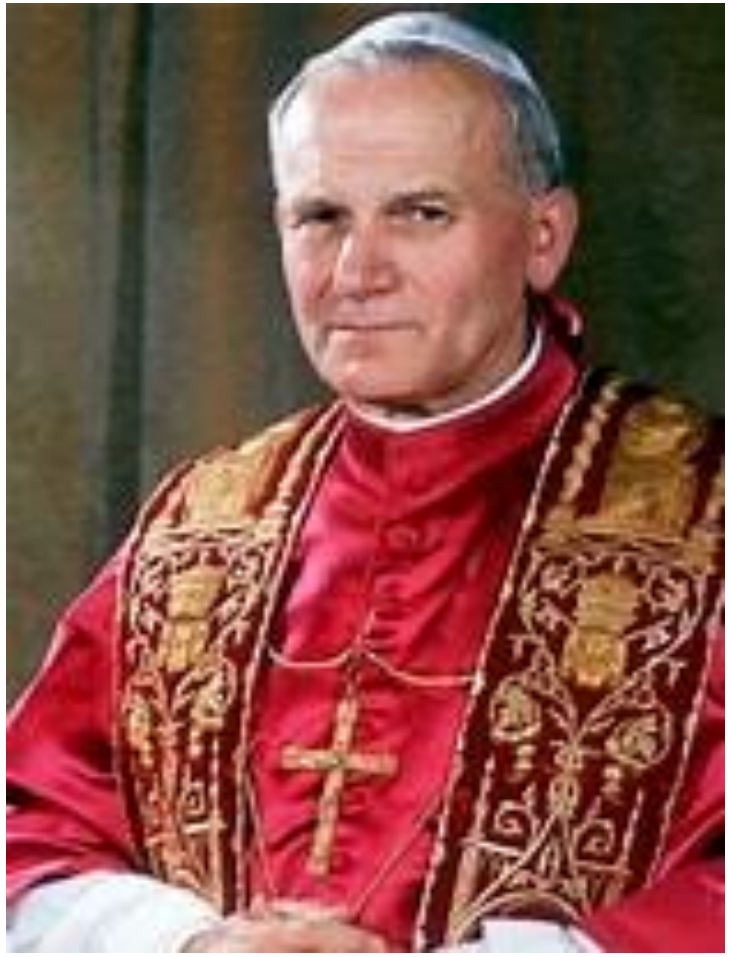




Vatican II: justice, peace and development

- Link peace and justice
- Denunciation of the arms race
- New commission for justice and peace
- If you want peace, work for justice
- Development the new name for peace

A growing presumption against war





- John Paul II World Day of Peace Message 1999: summarised evolving papal outlook
- Pope Francis Fratelli Tutti 2020:‘Every war leaves our world worse than it was before. War is a failure of humanity…

A developing tradition

Just war no longer central

Pacifist emphasis

Grassroots influence

National and local focus

Scottish bishops 1982

Challenges today





