

LECTURE 2: RETURNING TO & EXPLORING THE POWER OF NONVIOLENCE

Featuring Marie Dennis and Rose Marie Berger

Brief Summary:

This lecture places emphasis on the centrality of Gospel nonviolence in the context of today's world and highlights contemporary examples of Catholic nonviolent responses to violence, including the pilgrimage of interreligious leaders to Kyiv, following an appeal by its Mayor. For summaries of each speaker's presentation, go to <https://cniseries.info>

Marie Dennis's Presentation

(Run Time: 18 min)

REFLECT/DISCUSS

1. Pope Francis invites us to "active nonviolence." Have you ever heard of Pope Francis' call to nonviolence"?
2. *Has the "call to active nonviolence " been discussed in your community, church, or on campus?*
3. *What could be done to empower more people to fully embrace "active nonviolence" in response to Pope Francis' call?*

Rose Berger's Presentation

(Run Time: 22 min)

REFLECT/DISCUSS

1. *Scripture and the church teach that we must work to convert injustice to justice and we must take a courageous stand against evil, as we see in the aggression of the Russian government against Ukrainians. How does active gospel nonviolence do this effectively? Where might it fail?*
2. *What does this "failure" mean in light of the gospel?*
3. *Rose Marie shares that she went to Ukraine to "see Jesus speak in the language of the Ukrainian people, to see their suffering and their creative determination, to touch their wounds and see how the word of life is surviving there." How does the spirituality of nonviolence contribute to creating a culture of peace rooted in solidarity and the protection of human dignity?*

RECAP

- ★ *In summary, what new information did you learn about nonviolence in this lecture? What questions remain?*