

# LECTURE 5: EMBRACING NONVIOLENCE: TRANSFORMING THE CHURCH

Featuring Judy Coode and Fr. John Heagle

## Brief Summary:

This lecture focuses on pastoral implications and opportunities to advance the practice of nonviolence as a way of life within the Church and beyond. For summaries of each speaker's presentation, go to <https://cniseries.info>

## **Judy Coode's Presentation**

(Run Time: 18 min)

### **REFLECT/DISCUSS**

1. *In what ways have your life experiences (in family, education, church, and U.S. culture) challenged or changed the way you think about nonviolence, conflict resolution, and war?*
2. *Judy argues that "The mission, vision, and practice of active nonviolence is at the heart of the Church." What can be done to integrate the practice of nonviolence at every level of the Church?*
3. *What practical steps must be taken to better engage young people and empower them to embrace nonviolence as a lifestyle and strategy for social change?*

## **John Heagle's Presentation**

(Run Time: 28 min)

### **REFLECT/DISCUSS**

1. *What impact do you believe a commitment to nonviolence and just peace would have on the Church and the broader human community?*
2. *From your current life experience, what do you believe are the most important practical steps that the Catholic community- both leaders and members - need to take to 'embrace nonviolence and transform the Church'?*
3. *If a new Eucharistic Prayer centered on the nonviolence of Jesus was used consistently at Mass, do you think this would have the potential to change people's attitudes over time?*

### **RECAP**

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