



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WHITEHORSE

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Public Memo

Date: October 3rd, 2024

To: All Priests, Lay Pastoral Associates, and Parishioners

From: Chancery

Re: Monday, October 7, 2024: Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace in the World

Bishop Héctor Vila encourages the faithful of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Whitehorse to respond to the invitation of the Holy Father Pope Francis who has called for “everyone to take part” in a day of prayer and fasting for peace in the world on Monday, October 7, 2024, the one-year anniversary of the outbreak of the Israel-Hamas war.

“In this dramatic hour of our history,” [Pope Francis said after Mass in St Peter’s Square for the opening of the second session of the General Assembly of the Synod](#), “while the winds of war and the fires of violence continue to devastate entire peoples and nations,” the Christian community is reminded of its call to “put itself at the service of humanity.”

He invited all the synod members to accompany him on a visit to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major on October 6, the day before the anniversary, where, he said, he would “address a heartfelt petition to the Virgin” for peace.

“Let us walk together,” Pope Francis urged. “Let us listen to the Lord. And let us be led by the breeze of the Spirit.”

In addition, Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, has emphasized the importance of “prayer, fasting and penance” for peace and reconciliation in the Holy Land. The cardinal published [a prayer for peace](#) and has requested all Catholics to pray it along with the rosary during the Marian month of October.