



PAX CHRISTI

80 years for peace

**From 18 to 20 July 2025
in Lourdes (France)**

With the participation of
Pax Christi International



Press release

THREE DAYS IN LOURDES **An international pilgrimage**

What Commitment to Peace in the Face of the New World Order?

Pax Christi is celebrating its 80th anniversary in a destabilised global context. In the Congo, Gaza, Ukraine, India, Pakistan and Syria, conflicts are wreaking havoc among civilians. International law is being flouted. Natural resources such as rare metals attract greed and predation. Europe is allocating massive budgets for its 'rearmament'. Is peace just an illusion, or can we, as an organisation and as citizens, still take action? And if so, how?

Pax Christi France, together with Pax Christi International, invites you to take 3 days, from 18 to 20 July, to rediscover hope in Lourdes.

Partners and delegations from five African countries and four European countries have already announced their presence, with whom we will shape collective paths to peace through education, commitment to disarmament, reconciliation and nonviolence, for our world and our societies.

Lourdes is the place where Pax Christi was founded, so we will be able to remember and celebrate the peacemakers of yesterday and today, as we prepare for the future.



Walking in hope for justice and peace

To mark the anniversary of its foundation, Pax Christi and its partners invite all organisations and individuals of goodwill to Lourdes for three days of walking in hope for justice and peace.



REGISTRATIONS



Peace is a profound aspiration of every person and every people. Yet it is less natural than chaos, conflict, or war. Peace is a construct based on will, civic commitment, reflection, and dialogue. It also comes from God, and we need to come together to build it.

To request an interview or visuals:
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INTERNATIONAL PILGRIMAGE PROGRAMME

PAX CHRISTI
80 ans

**SATURDAY
19 JULY**

Mass at the Grotto
08h30 - 09h30

Conference
"Commitment to peace in
the face of the new
world order"
10h00 - 12h00

workshops
14h00 - 15h30

Commemorative
celebration, altar of the
"Reconciliation of
peoples"
15h30 - 16h00
Then walk "To the
sources of peace"

Time for sharing
between delegations
17h00 - 19h00



**FRIDAY
18 JULY**

Welcoming celebration
14h00 - 15h30

The history of Pax
Christi/update on the
delegations present
16h00 - 18h00

Marian procession
21h00 - 22h00

**SUNDAY
20 JULY**

International Mass
09h30 - 11h00

Send-Off Ceremony
11h30 - 12h30

Key moments

Conference : What Commitment to Peace in the Face of the New World Order?

Expert speakers will introduce us to contemporary issues. Their contributions will serve as a basis for various group work sessions aimed at exploring ways to peacefully resolve current conflicts and renew our commitments.

Celebration at the Altar of the Reconciliation of Peoples, followed by a march to the Sources of Peace.

Mgr Ballot, President of Pax Christi France, will replace the relics of St Bernard of Clairvaux and St Hildegard of Bingen, donated to the Lourdes sanctuary by Pax Christi in 1965, after the altar has been refurbished.

International Catholic Movement for Peace

PAX CHRISTI PAST AND PRESENT

Founded in France in 1945 on the initiative of French and German Christians, Pax Christi became the 'International Catholic Movement for Peace' in 1950, recognised by the Catholic Church. Today, it is present in more than fifty countries on five continents. Pax Christi is recognised as a consultative NGO by international institutions, the UN, and the European Union.

Peace is lived and built at all levels of society, from inner and personal peace to community, national, and international peace. The association aims to provide a spirituality of peace, rooted in the Gospel; training in peace-building; and analyses, methods, and objectives for action to develop a culture of peace.





Registration and information
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