

# Monastery of St. Clare

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Dear Friends,

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. (Jn. 14:27)*

It seems like we are surrounded by news of war these days... and weeks and months. I find it disheartening, to say the least, to hear about and watch so many of our brothers and sisters in various parts of the world — Ukraine, Israel, Iran, Lebanon, to name a few — suffer the violence of war. I wonder why we can't find other ways to resolve our differences. Diplomacy, negotiation, and compromise no longer bear fruit or bring hope.

Jesus spoke of peace many times. He acknowledged that His peace differs from the world's peace. Like us, He lived in a time of great turmoil. He wanted all of us to live in peace (and still wants this!) but realized that peace was not the reality of the day.

Jesus's "Shalom" is a gift of salvation, connoting the bounty of messianic blessing. Knowing this gives me consolation. As weary as I am of the talk of war, I know I can lean on Jesus's promise that it won't always be this way. I also know that we can each contribute to the world's peace by living peacefully with each other. We know that you join us in this effort.

Know that you and your loved ones are in our prayers every day. May your days and deeds be filled with God's peace!

Shalom,

*Sr. Nancy*

Sr. Nancy and all your Poor Clare Sisters

May almighty God bless you. May God look upon you with mercy and give you peace.

— Blessing of St. Clare