Christians for Fair Witness on the Middle East Prays for Effective Diplomatic Intervention for a Lasting and Just Peace in Israel and Palestine

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 (New York, NY August 4, 2014). As this latest and possibly bloodiest war between Israel and Hamas rages on, Christians for Fair Witness on the Middle East ("Fair Witness") asks people of faith and good will to search for meaningful and effective ways to act as peace makers in the region.

According to Msgr. Dennis L. Mikulanis, STD, pastor of San Rafael Parish in San Diego, California, Vicar for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs for the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego, and Fair Witness Executive Committee member, "it seems clear that a state of war, which is a sin before God, will not come to a lasting end until Palestinians no longer feel aggrieved and feel that they can live their lives freely in their own homeland, and until Israelis also feel that they have received justice and no longer have to fear rockets and missiles raining down on them or terrorists coming through tunnels at night to kill them and their children. The question is, given the mutual anger and distrust, how can this be achieved?"

Rev. James Loughran, S.A. Vicar General, of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement and Fair Witness Executive Committee member says: "When things seem hopeless, people of faith turn to God. So, may those of us who wish for life and plenty for both Palestinians and Israelis commit ourselves to prayer. May we pray especially that world leaders and diplomats with the vision, wisdom, care and perhaps most of all the courage, will find profound and creative ways to help lead Palestinians and Israelis to a final, just and lasting peace in the land so many call holy."

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