

A Message to Loyola Institute for Ministry Students on the Death of Pope Francis

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As we continue to explore in our class the integration of spirituality, morality, and ethics, I invite you to reflect on the powerful witness of Pope Francis in his life and his death. In his last Urbi et Orbi (to the city and the world) message, delivered on Easter Sunday, his words reflect a deeply lived spirituality grounded in compassion, a moral commitment to the dignity of every person, and an ethical call to action for justice and peace. He urged world leaders not to yield to fear or isolation but to use their resources to serve the poor, combat hunger, and promote human development.

“These are the ‘weapons’ of peace: weapons that build the future, instead of sowing seeds of death.”

Pope Francis modeled what it means to lead with integrity, where faith informs action and love becomes a force for transformation. May his life inspire us to reflect on how we, too, are called to live with purpose, compassion, and courage.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,

and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May the soul of Pope Francis and the souls

of all the faithful departed,

through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.