



Commitment Day
Friday, February 9, 2001

**We urge all Catholic
school communities to
pledge to work for
peace among all people.**

Introduction:

Today C.O.R. , which stands for Catholic Schools Opposing Racism, invites us to raise our voices against racism and in support of harmony in our families, our churches, our communities and our schools. C.O.R. which means "heart" in Latin, believes there is no better time to open our hearts than now.

It is in the hope of changing hearts that we, members of the schools in the Chicago Archdiocese, join together on this C.O.R. Commitment Day to pledge ourselves to work for harmony.

And so, let us join together in this student-created prayer and pledge:

Commitment Day: Prayer

ALL:

God, our Creator, you made every person in this school.

You created every person in the high schools and grade schools throughout the Archdiocese and in the world to be an individual and to possess a special uniqueness shared by no one else.

The differences that separate us can also bring us closer together.

We ask that you give each one of us the courage to confront and challenge racism, prejudice, discrimination and can appreciate the diversity in one another, in our school, and in our world.

And so we say... Amen.

~ Written by students at Queen of Peace High School

Commitment Day: Pledge

ALL:

Starting today, I commit to educating myself and others about the many differences and cultures in our country and our world.

I vow to speak out openly against those who stereotype or discriminate against race or other differences. I will not ignore racist or discriminatory comments, and I will not tell or laugh at insensitive jokes.

I promise to assume the responsibility to identify and speak out about racist TV programs, advertising and news broadcasts that stereotype or discriminate against different races or groups.

Not only will I oppose acts of racism and intolerance in all their forms, but I will also examine my own attitudes and behaviors so that I can be an example of harmony to others. In my struggle to be a person of harmony, I know I will need to be a person of courage, a person of PEACE.

And so we say... Amen