



Where Justice and Truth Meet

January 2026 - Special Edition

*Rooted in our prayer for the life of the world, and in our care for our common home, we are strengthened by our Associates and partners-in-mission to walk together into a future of authentic intercultural living.
– 2024 General Chapter Statement*

Solidarity with the People of Venezuela

We Dominican Sisters of Springfield join with the [Leadership Conference of Women Religious \(LCWR\)](#) in “standing with all people whose lives are threatened by violence, war, and hatred. Rooted in our faith, we profess our unwavering belief in the dignity, value, and rights of every human person and our commitment to the sacredness of human life.... The people of Venezuela deserve the freedom to determine their own future without coercion, violence, or external domination.”

LCWR affirms “the power of dialogue, negotiation, and diplomacy over military action.”

In this, they echo the message of Pope Leo for the World Day of Peace, January 1, 2026 – [Peace be with you all: Towards an "unarmed and disarming" peace](#) “The peace of the risen Christ – a peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering – comes from God who loves us all unconditionally.”

Pope Leo’s direct response to the recent developments in Venezuela called for “the good of the Venezuelan people to prevail, for the rule of law to be upheld, and for the human and civil rights of all to be respected,” at the [Angelus Prayer on January 4](#) .



Keeping Hope Alive

Pope Leo reminds us again in his World Day of Peace message: “In today’s world, justice and human dignity are at an alarming risk amid global power imbalances. How can we live in this time of destabilization and conflict, and free ourselves from evil? We need to encourage and support every spiritual, cultural and political initiative that keeps hope alive.”

What can we do?

- Pope Leo invited everyone to **pray** for the Venezuelan people, assuring them of his own prayers and entrusting all Venezuelans to the intercession of [Our Lady of Coromoto](#), Patroness of Venezuela, [St. José Gregorio Hernández](#) , and [St. Carmen Rendiles](#)
- Listen to voices on the ground: a webinar [Venezuela: Beyond the Headlines](#) by Maryknoll lay missionaries who have lived and served in Venezuela.
- Learn more and join in advocacy efforts: <https://maryknollogc.org/action/take-action-to-stop-a-war-on-venezuela/>

