

PACEM IN TERRIS PEACE AND FREEDOM AWARD

TO MISS DOROTHY DAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1971

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It is a great honor and privilege for me to present, on behalf of the Davenport Catholic Interracial Council, the 1971 Pacem in Terris Peace and Freedom Award to Miss Dorothy Day.

Dorothy Day has been for many of us a teacher, an example, and a true witness for Christ in her life-long dedication to the poor, to racial justice, to womens' rights, peace, and non-violence.

Miss Day, with Peter Maurin, founded The Catholic Worker newspaper in 1933, and out of this grew the Catholic Worker Movement. By the late 1960s, the movement had established 32 hospitality houses and 12 farms in the United States, and similar publications and movements were started in Australia, Canada, and England.

A pioneer in the cause of women's rights, Miss Day was jailed in 1918 for picketing the White House with the suffragettes. She was one of the earliest Catholic leaders to oppose war, and was jailed again in the early 1950s when she refused to participate in nuclear-attack air raid practices in New York.

As a writer, lecturer, and activist, she pioneered in civil rights efforts and the labor union movement. She was once shot at while she stood guard at an interracial camp in the Deep South.

She is credited with awakening the consciences of thousands of young Catholic men to conscientious objection to war when it was still very uncommon for Catholics. She traveled to Rome during the Second Vatican Council to encourage the statement by the bishops in defense of conscientious objection.

Miss Day was in recent years appointed a lay consultant to the New York Archdiocese.

The Executive Board of the Davenport Catholic Interracial Council, therefore, believing that her life embodies, in a most remarkable way, the spirit of Pope John's letter, Pacem in Terris, does hereby confer on Miss Dorothy Day, the 1971 Pacem in Terris Award.