



CAMALDOLESE MONKS
IMMACULATE HEART HERMITAGE

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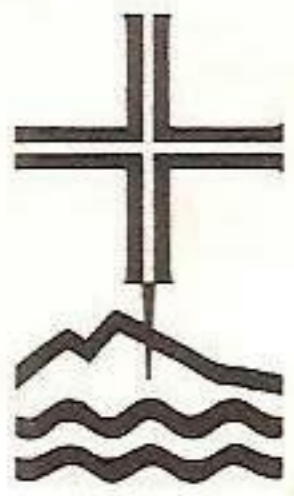
Dear Friends at Embrace Foundation,

Thank you for inviting me to
the Internat. Press Conference for Rel. Peace at the U.N., October 4th.
Since i'm already committed in Europe at that time, i won't be able
to join you in person. But i'd like to congratulate you on organizing
this important event and am enclosing a statement for the occasion.

Also enclosed, you'll find three
Xerox copies of my statement plus a brief identification. ~~If you~~ In case
you prefer to make that biographical information available to the press
in a different form, i'm enclosing below the blank from a recent inter-
view.

Sincere good wishes for a successful
press conference and wide coverage.

Peace
your brother David
(F.K. Steindl-Rust, O.S.B.)



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STATEMENT FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL PRESS CONFERENCE FOR RELIGIOUS PEACE
UNITED NATIONS CHAPEL
October 4, 1985

It is high time that representatives of all religions speak out with one voice for peace. Profound thanks to all who made this event happen!

Too often "religious" slogans and labels have been used to undermine human solidarity. Yet, the most basic insight of every religion is that we all belong together. And the ultimate goal of all religions is the unfolding of unity in the diversity of love.

Look at all the so called "religious" wars of past and present. Who are the peacemakers? The most religious people on both sides of the conflict! Those whom the opposing parties by their own standards call saints do not approve of those conflicts. They weep and suffer and give their life for peace.

For the first time in history, we have an opportunity to declare unanimously before the whole world: the common goal of all religions is cooperation and peace. May men and women everywhere open their hearts to this testimony and rise to the occasion.

Only religious energy is powerful enough to move the human heart to that creative effort which peace-making demands. Self-annihilation or worldwide solidarity, these are the options before us. In the name of the Religion of the Heart which is the heart of all religions, let us work together to make peace happen.

David F. K. Steindl-Rast

David Steindl-Rast, O.S.B.

August 29, 1985