



WEEKLY LETTER FROM MONSIGNOR KEN

This weekend, with sadness, solemnity and reverence, we remember the tragedy of September 11, 2001. Many of us can still feel the sting of that day. For those who knew someone who died, or for those personally involved, I can't even begin to grasp your pain. This anniversary is not about political affiliation or opinion, but about being human and being an American. It is a time to mourn death, honor sacrifice, and pray. We pray that all hatred and evil in the heart of man may be banished. We pray for the rejection of a belief that if I disagree with you or what you believe or what you say that I have the right to take your life whenever I wish. When people and nations disagree, they must learn to put down the sword and take up the pen, Discussion not weapons.

September 11 is a painful reminder that evil is very much alive and around us. Some evil is impervious to dialogue. However, as Martin Luther King, Jr. taught: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." That is perhaps the greatest challenge we face and the issue for a divided world.

What philosophers and theologians may debate, was lived out that day. Light shone in the darkness; love overcame hate; courage confronted fear. How many that day, without hesitation, ran into darkness; how many put aside any thought of self to serve; how many have faced death, hoping to give life? Evil will never stop trying, but good cannot, and will never be erased from the heart of man. September 11, will always stand as a testimony and witness to that truth. For that reason, while it is a day of mourning, it is also a day of hope. For that reason, it gives homage to the unconquerable human spirit and is a perpetual tribute to the truth that it is a greater power to save a life than to take it. Never forget.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5)