November 13, 2021

Saint Gabriel’s Catholic Church

13734 Twin Peaks Road

Poway CA

San Diego CA 92117

We represent the Golden Rule peace boat, a project of Veterans For Peace. We are interested in speaking at Saint Gabriel’s about radiation, nuclear issues, and what we all can do to stop the possibility of nuclear war. This is a grass roots educational program, anchored by the voyages of this historic peace boat.

The Pope and the world council of churches have announced their support for the UN Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We would like to discuss with your members the treaty and what civil society groups in nuclear armed nations are doing to change the culture surrounding nuclear weapons.

From 1946 to 1958 the U S detonated 67 nuclear weapons in the Marshall Islands, destroying much of the territories, ability to grow their own food and eat their fish, the tests threw radioactive strontium-90 high into the planet’s atmosphere, which subsequently was taken up by the babies’ teeth and bones.

When the people failed to stop the tests by other means, four Quaker activists sailed the Golden Rule towards the Marshall Islands to interfere with nuclear weapons testing at Eniwetok and Bikini atolls. Although the US government stopped the Golden Rule in Hawaii, another took the baton and completed the voyage. These dramatic acts of resistance to nuclear weapons helped bring about the Limited Test Ban treaty of 1963 and inspired the founding of Greenpeace. The Golden Rule has been restored and her mission is to sail for a nuclear-free world and a peaceful, and sustainable future.

Since the relaunch in 2015 we have sailed the west coast multiple times, to Hawaii and all around the Hawaiian Islands. The boat is in her home port of Humboldt Bay right now, but we plan to be in San Diego from January 14th to February 11th. Can we schedule a speaking engagement at your church during those dates? Please help us tell your church members about this important project and give them a chance to go on a sail on the Golden Rule.

 I look forward to speaking with you further.

In peace and friendship.

Helen Jaccard

Veterans For Peace

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