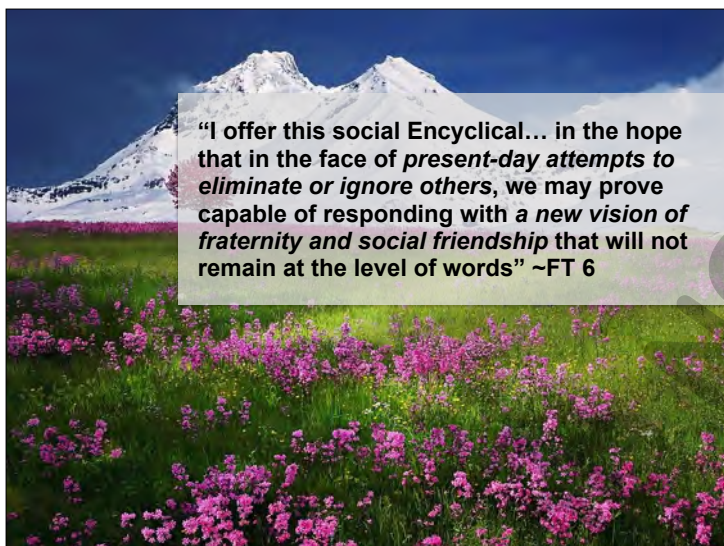




*"Francis went to meet the Sultan... not to engage in arguments or disputes, but to be subject to every human creature for God's sake... Saint Francis urged that all forms of hostility be avoided and that a humble and fraternal 'subjection' be shown to those who did not share his faith." FT 3*



*"Which of these persons do you identify with?"*  
FT 64



*"I offer this social Encyclical... in the hope that in the face of present-day attempts to eliminate or ignore others, we may prove capable of responding with a new vision of fraternity and social friendship that will not remain at the level of words" ~FT 6*



**Dark Clouds Over a Closed World:**  
Obstacles to Fraternity



### Extremist Nationalism

*"instances of a myopic, extremist, resentful and aggressive nationalism are on the rise" ~FT 6*

- insecurity that leads to temptation to build walls [27, 146]
- a global build-up of arms [29]
- xenophobia [192]



### Economic Inequality

*"Some parts of our human family, it appears, can be readily sacrificed for the sake of others considered worthy of a carefree existence." ~FT 18*

- obsession with reducing labor costs [20]
- terrorism and persecution judged differently depending on convenience to economic interests [25]
- neoliberal faith in market freedom to solve all problems [168]



# ***Fratelli Tutti (On Fraternity and Social Friendship)***

## ***Event Outline***

Thank you for your willingness to learn more about Pope Francis' encyclical and to share his vision with others. Whether you choose to use our video or give our presentation yourself, here are some guidelines for how to organize a parish event (large or small).

This presentation can be used in a variety of settings, such as a staff, committee, RCIA, or parents gathering. If you are promoting your event to a larger group, use our *Fratelli Tutti* logo to promote your event on flyers or posters.

### **Start with the Ending**

As you are planning your event, be sure to carefully consider **what you hope will come out of it**. You will be introducing people to *Fratelli Tutti*, which challenges us all to take action. This is not a document that is meant to just sit on a shelf!

We have provided some ideas for next steps at the end of the presentation, but the specifics will vary for your own community. Form one or more teams to explore how this document could be implemented in different aspects of parish life. For example, you might:

- Propose starting a **small group process** to study *Fratelli Tutti* at a deeper level, section by section (see <https://pastoral.center/on-fraternity-and-social-friendship-group-reading-guide>).
- As leaders and teams, consider how best to dialog on these issues, **even when everyone in the parish will not agree**. The booklet *Facing Difficult Social Issues in the Parish* can help with the community dynamic. *7 Steps to Better Conversations: A Catholic Guide to Civility for Today's Divided World* is broader and can help even divided families (see <https://pastoral.center/racism-violence>).
- Begin a **social justice ministry** such as prison visitation/advocacy, immigrant support/advocacy, addressing poverty/homelessness.
- Collaborate with **other local faith communities** (Christian or not) to address the challenges in this document together.

- Use the *Peace Lab Vacation Bible School* to teach children about the principles of the encyclical in a dynamic way, through song, movement, stories, crafts, games, and more (see [GrowingUpCatholicVBS.com](http://GrowingUpCatholicVBS.com)).
- Prompt your parishioners with *Weekly Justice Challenges*, based on the liturgical year, developed by the Center for Ministry Development. Use them in your **bulletin, social media page, parish emails**, or in individual ministries (see <https://pastoral.center/weekly-justice-challenges-2021>).
- Host a fun **whole family event** using *Seeing Jesus: Social Justice Activities for Today Based on Matthew 25* or *LearningCycles: Enough for Everyone: Creative Activities for Addressing Worldwide Poverty* (see <https://pastoral.center/social-justice-kids>).
- Use the “Fight Right” and “God Is a Warrior?” themes from our *In Real Life* series to teach **youth** about a Christian approach to conflict resolution and nonviolence (see <https://pastoral.center/in-real-life>).
- Help individual and families take practical, concrete steps through the **step-by-step resource** *The Joy of Just Living: Living simply, sustainably, and in solidarity with the poor*. Send it home or facilitate a small group process around it (<https://pastoral.center/the-joy-of-just-living>).
- Focus on **Scripture** with *Threshold Bible Study: Peacemaking and Nonviolence* or *Upside-Down Living: Violence* to facilitate a Bible study and faith-sharing (see <https://pastoral.center/nonviolence>).
- Learn more about **Catholic Social Teaching** with a learning session and/or handout from *The Catholic Way* (see <https://pastoral.center/the-catholic-way-social-teaching>).
- Provide opportunities to **reflect on and resist consumerism**, such as Advent Conspiracy (<https://adventconspiracy.org>), projects of New Dream (<https://newdream.org>), etc.

Be sure to be ready to invite people into whatever next steps you have planned, while they are focused on the document. Have sign-up forms available or ask for interest.

## Schedule

Use our learning presentation at one or more initial gatherings to introduce the document to your people. Here are suggestions for how to structure and use your time at the event.

### Preparation

If you expect a group of more than 6-8 people, you will need to organize the room so that people can easily break into smaller groups for discussion. Here are some additional ideas for how to prepare your space:

- Set up a central table with a cross and a Bible on it that you can gather around for prayer.
- Have a sign-in sheet if you'd like to capture the contact information for everyone who attended.
- Set up a resource table with additional resources. See our suggestions later in this document.

### Gathering

Play soft music as everyone gathers to set the atmosphere. Provide name tags if those who are participating may not know each other. Be especially hospitable and welcoming to those who attend.

### Opening Prayer (2-5 minutes)

We recommend using “A Prayer for Community” (page 1 of the Prayers document), but feel free to replace it with another option and/or incorporate music at this time.

### Introductions / Icebreaker (2-5 minutes)

Give your participants an opportunity to introduce themselves and/or share something about their families growing up. If you have a larger group, gather them into smaller groups. Ask them to share their name and one other thing (e.g. something interesting about themselves).

### Presentation and Sharing (45-90 minutes)

The main portion of the event will alternate between the presentation and sharing on reflection questions. We have provided a document with the questions, which you may want to distribute at this time.

The presentation is structured into five main sections, each ending with a set of reflection questions. Depending on the time you have available, you may choose to focus on only one question per section.

If you are using the pre-recorded video, be prepared to pause it at the end of each section for the questions. The video is 60 minutes long, not including any discussion time. If you hold two separate events, covering half of the presentation in each, then this portion of the event would likely be 45-60 minutes.

We discourage handing out the summary or talking point documents at the beginning of the event, as that would tempt your people to read instead of listening to the presentation itself. You can instead distribute them at the conclusion.

### Next Steps (5-15 minutes)

Offer options for next steps and/or lead a discussion about how the parish could respond (see “Start With the Ending” above). Direct people to your resource table and let them know what is available there.

### Resources to Send Home (2 minutes)

Send one or more of the following home with your people:

- **Presentation summary** (2 pages) and/or detailed **talking points** (13 pages). You may not want to make copies of the detailed talking points for all participants, but make them available at the resource table for interested parties.
- **Prayers**. Send home the prayer pages, and encourage your participants to use them.

### Closing Prayer (2-5 minutes)

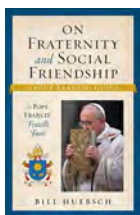
We recommend using the “Sending Forth Prayer for Encounter” prayer (page 2 of the Prayers document), but feel free to replace it with another option and/or incorporate music at this time.

## Resource Table

Make some of the following available to your participants at a resource table. You may wish to put out a basket for payments or donations. The print resources we mention are all available from us at <https://pastoral.center/fratelli-tutti>, many with bulk pricing.

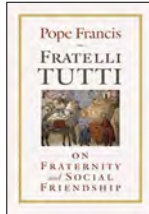
- **Any of the free resources from this kit** that you have not already given out, such as the detailed **talking points**.

- **Full document.** You can print out the document from the Vatican website or buy this in print form from us (in English or Spanish).



- **Group reading guide.**

This booklet provides a detailed summary of the document in plain English with discussion questions, and is structured for six small-group sessions.



- **Day-by-day booklets.** *Walking Together in Friendship* and *What Pope Francis Says about Peace* are simple, affordable options.



- **Booklets on addressing difficult issues.** *Facing Difficult Social Issues in the Parish* will help leaders and teams explore how to move forward, even when everyone in the parish does not agree. *7 Steps to Better Conversations: A Catholic Guide to Civility for Today's Divided World* is broader.



## Explore More from Pope Francis

If you haven't already, hold similar events based on Pope Francis' other major documents. We have similar presentation kits, group reading guides, and other supporting documents for:

- **On Care for Our Common Home (Laudato Si')** covers many similar themes as *Fratelli Tutti*. Explore resources and learn more at <https://pastoral.center/on-care>.
- **The Joy of Love (Amoris Laetitia)** focuses on the joys and challenges of family life. Explore resources and learn more at <https://pastoral.center/joy-of-love>.



# ***Fratelli Tutti Presentation Talking Points***

## ***On Fraternity and Social Friendship***

by Fumiaki Tosu

Thank you for your willingness to learn more about Pope Francis' encyclical and to share his vision with others. These talking points are provided as a companion to our Powerpoint presentation, although they can also be used separately.

### **Our Approach**

It is challenging to summarize a 43,000 word document, and it requires prioritization. It isn't possible to include every point Pope Francis makes in the document. We have done our best to represent the main concepts he offers, prioritizing what is most relevant to a general parish audience.

### **Structure of the Presentation**

We have chosen not to strictly follow the structure of the document. We have organized the presentation and talking points into an overview and five main sections, with discussion questions at the end of each section. You can present this in a single session or break it up into multiple sessions.

### **Preparation**

We strongly encourage you read the document for yourself before presenting on it. While it will take some time, Pope Francis' writings are much easier to read than other Church documents of which you may be familiar. We have referenced related paragraphs of the document in parentheses after each point.

### **Make It Your Own**

This resource has been created with the intention of being flexible. You are encouraged to modify the presentation and these notes to best suit your needs.

### **Presentation Recommendations**

Following the approach used by many strong presenters, we have designed the slides to support you, rather than compete with you. They include a minimal number of words so that your audience will listen to you, rather than read.

You are welcome to make copies of these talking point pages to give to your audience as a reference, but we strongly recommend distributing them at the *end* of your talk. Otherwise, their noses will be in the handout while you are talking.

### **Next Steps**

Consider what your hopes are for what happens after your presentation. How can you help your people take next steps? Could they gather in small groups? Could they work through existing ministries or create new ones? Put some thought into this before you present.

### **Additional Resources**

The Pastoral Center has many additional resources to help parishes implement *Fratelli Tutti*, so please visit <https://pastoral.center/fratelli-tutti>.

We carry the full text of the document in book form (in English & Spanish), a group reading guide booklet, resources for children and youth, and more.

## A. Overview

1. Fratelli Tutti – On Fraternity & Social Friendship
2. Presentation Overview

Here's how we'll break down the presentation:

- First, I will provide a bit of context for the encyclical, including how this encyclical fits into other Church documents.
- The majority of our time will be spent going over the main themes of this wide-ranging social teaching. I am not going to take us through the document chapter-by-chapter, but instead look at the major themes that Pope Francis covers.
- We'll begin with the **two stories** Pope Francis tells in the encyclical - the first about Saint Francis' visit to the sultan, and the second, Jesus' story about the Good Samaritan.
- In **Dark Clouds Over a Closed World**, we will look at Francis' analysis of the challenges our world faces today.
- Then we move to **A Heart Open to the Whole World** in which we explore Pope Francis' vision for a new way of being.
- In **Peace-making and Nonviolence** we look at what Pope Francis calls two "false answers," war and capital punishment, and his vision for an alternative way.
- Finally, in **Religions at the Service of Fraternity**, we look at the last chapter of the encyclical in which Pope Francis discusses the important role the various world religions play in anchoring our work for justice.

3. Major Papal Statements by Pope Francis'

Now, to put this document in context, this is the seventh major document and third encyclical letter from Pope Francis.

- The first is **The Light of Faith** (*Lumen Fidei*): an encyclical based on a draft by Pope Benedict XVI.
- **The Joy of the Gospel** (*Evangelii Gaudium*): is an apostolic exhortation outlining Pope Francis' vision for his papacy.
- **The Face of Mercy** (*Misericordiae Vultus*): gave instructions for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.
- **Praise Be to You or On Care for Our Common Home** (*Laudato Si'*): is an encyclical focused on how we need to care for creation and people everywhere.
- **The Joy of Love** (*Amoris Laetitia*): is an apostolic exhortation about family life
- **Rejoice and Be Glad** (*Gaudete et Exsultate*): is an apostolic exhortation about the call to holiness in today's world.
- Which brings us to **On Fraternity and Social Friendship** (*Fratelli Tutti*) dealing with major social and political concerns of today.

#### 4. Modern Social Encyclicals

- This encyclical is considered a social encyclical, meaning the topic has to do with the social, political, and economic issues of the day. It is an addition to the documents that make up modern Catholic Social Teaching that first began with Pope Leo XIII's encyclical, Rights and Duties of Capital and Labor, or *Rerum Novarum*, promulgated in 1891. Other major social encyclicals include:
  - **Peace on Earth** (*Pacem in Terris*) by St. John XXIII, 1963
  - **The Social Concern of the Church** (*Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*) by St. John Paul II, 1987
  - **On Care for Our Common Home** (*Laudato Si'*) by Pope Francis, 2015
- The intended audience is all of us - not just Catholics, but all "people of good will."

#### 5. Document Structure

- On Fraternity and Social Friendship is **about 43,000 words long**, about the same as all 150 Psalms put together. (The word cloud diagram shows words found in the document, with font size based on frequency.)
- It has **287 numbered paragraphs**, and references to the document will usually use the paragraph numbers.
- The document is divided into an **Introduction and eight chapters**.
- and there are 288 footnoted citations. Many of the citations are from the Pope's own homilies, though he also quotes past popes, Bishops' conferences from around the world, and the writings of the saints.



## B. Two Stories

### 6. Two Stories

- Let's dive into the encyclical itself!
- Pope Francis retells two stories as illustrations of the kind of world he envisions. The stories are like reminders of the best instincts within us - what we can all be, if we let go of fear and allow our full humanity to shine.

### 7. The Story of Saint Francis

- During the time of the Crusades, when Christians sought to reconquer by force lands that had converted to Islam, Francis set out on foot to visit Sultan Malik-el-Kamil in Egypt.
- As Pope Francis notes, the saint went to meet the Sultan “not to engage in arguments or disputes, but to be subject to every human creature for God’s sake... Saint Francis urged that all forms of hostility be avoided and that a humble and fraternal ‘subjection’ be shown to those who did not share his faith.” [3]
- It is this attitude of humility, dialogue, and total openness to others that the Pope who bears the name of this Saint of Assisi calls on us to emulate.

### 8. The Good Samaritan

- The second story the Pope retells is Jesus’ famous parable of the Good Samaritan.
- In re-telling the story of a man beaten on the road and left to die, the two religious men who pass him by, and the despised Samaritan who offers help, the Pope asks an uncomfortable question, “Which of these persons do you identify with?” [64]
- Pushing us still more, Francis notes that “‘Robbers’ usually find secret allies in those who ‘pass by and look the other way,’” and that, “There is a certain interplay between those who manipulate and cheat society, and those who, while claiming to be detached and impartial critics, live off that system and its benefits.” [75]
- Do we look the other way? Do we reap the benefits of an oppressive system, while claiming to be detached and impartial critics?
- It is personal questions like these with immense social implications, that the encyclical asks of us.

### 9. Reason for the Encyclical

- At the beginning of his encyclical, Pope Francis gives his reason for writing it.
  - [Read Quote:] “I offer this social Encyclical... in the hope that in the face of present-day attempts to eliminate or ignore others, we may prove capable of responding with a new vision of fraternity and social friendship that will not remain at the level of words” [6]
- In this presentation, we will use this lens that Francis provides, by organizing his analysis into two categories:
  - his assessment of “present-day attempts to eliminate or ignore others”
  - and his “new vision of fraternity and social friendship that will not remain at the level of words.”
- Put another way, we will look at the way the world is, and the way it could be.