

## What is Peacebuilding and what is Catholic about it?

### *Discussion Questions*

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- According to John Paul Lederach, in war-torn areas like South Sudan, Uganda, Congo, the southern Philippines, and Colombia, the Catholic Church’s “ubiquitous presence” gives the Church a “unique if not unprecedented presence in the landscape of ... conflict.” How does that “presence” translate into a peacebuilding Church?
- In light of the Appleby chapter in *Peacebuilding* and the Lederach/ Appleby chapter in *Strategies of Peace*, and considering what you know about the Catholic community, what are the elements of a strategic approach to Catholic peacebuilding?
- In what ways is the Catholic community particularly well placed to be strategic in its approach to peacebuilding? In what ways is the Catholic community not well placed to be strategic?
- Does the Catholic Church need to abandon the just war tradition and embrace principled nonviolence if it wants to become more of a peacebuilding Church?