# 3-3-2020 Report for “How to achieve Interfaith World Peace in 21 years email and Facebook campaign.”

# This contest gave me a renewed gratitude for, and faith in, humanity around the world. Thank you so much for the opportunity to grow spiritually and be inspired by humanity.

My interfaith activist friends on Facebook has grown. My interfaith acquaintances on a local level has grown too. I now feel a part of and included in a global community seeking interfaith peace. This sense of inclusion gave me strength and determination to extend the reach of my campaign from one being sent to interfaith groups to one being sent to additional agents I felt who could make change on a legislative level.

The expanded outreach version of my campaign included the original “How to achieve Interfaith World Peace in 21 years email and Facebook campaign” plus a description of a new Protecting God’s Children from abuse legal issue, one that touches all religions, rampant bullying hate, the repression of scientific understanding and shadow governing. And a new Protect God’s Children type program using Montessori as a remedy.

To illustrate this complex religious-scientific-political issue in a CliffsNotes fashion I attached three notes to their email.

In **Note 1** Montessori is proposed as abuse prevention for all religions with a wild optimism of societal good.

**Note 2** is a copy of my 2020 United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week contest event entry, “How to achieve Interfaith World Peace in 21 years email and Facebook campaign.”

I explained how the campaign focused on Montessori as a common denominator for all religions. How Montessori is a safe scientific practice for everyone. How Montessori could be viewed along the lines of mandatory seatbelts and hand sanitation and along the lines of the Rotary Club handing out polio vaccines.

**Note 3** is a 2019-2020 Facebook 12 Days of Christmas fun thing I did to illustrate how religions – Catholic, Jewish, Islamic, and Protestant—in their own words have incorporated, fostered, and promoted Montessori, especially Catholic nuns and Popes (day 3), as the missing link, the cure, the peace and joy all religions want, but were having trouble achieving through prayers.

I said religions can’t pray away polio, childbed fever, or the force of gravity. That Montessori was a scientific answer for when good intended prayers fail to understand the science behind what is needed for a safe civil society. One free from bullying, hate, division and dictatorship. One that maintains a society that fosters the Constitutional values of independence and self-rule [in the United States of America].

My expanded outreach concluded with praise from Christians, Jewish, and Islamic websites about Montessori.

**Christian and Montessori based**: “The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd was born from the joy of the children in their encounter with God and lives in being nourished by this joy.”  <https://www.cgsusa.org/discover/cgs-approach/>

**Jewish and Montessori based:** “The Jewish Montessori Society nurtures and grows the network of Jewish Montessori schools worldwide.” “Dr. Maria Montessori viewed education as not just a means of transmitting knowledge but as a way to support the full development of children as individuals and as members of a community. <https://jewishmontessorisociety.org/jewish-montessori/>

**Islamic and Montessori based**: “The Montessori School of Excellence aims to provide a new level of Islamic Montessori education to the children of North Dallas. The approach of fusing [authentic Montessori methodology and Islamic morals and ethics](http://devmse.excellencemontessori.com/about/islamic-montessori/) is unique among Islamic schools in Dallas as well as throughout the country.”  (<https://montessoriexcellence.com/?fbclid=IwAR1nz7MoIx7Jr5h5HEhh_-ueXKjktfUh1Qy5q2IRtMfOOcWE2-LRSnul2xM>)

“[American Islamic Montessori Association] AIMA® is a movement to champion sustainable peace in the world through Islamic Montessori education” <https://theaima.org>

I closed by restating that I saw Montessori as remedy, as a Protecting God’s Children program to protect children from bullying and hate within all religions and within society as a whole. That I saw a civil rights equal access issue. That I hoped they could help get this story told and the civil injustices resolved.

The three notes included in the expanded outreach are below:

**Note 1  Protecting God’s Children:**

The Catholic Church was required to use a Protecting God’s Children program after the sexual abuse.

Today a Montessori-based Protecting God’s Children approach is needed to address the abuse of bullying, hate, and division in the United States and in the world.  Montessori has proven itself workable. It accepted by all religions and the secular community.

There is a Jewish Montessori Society, an American Islamic Montessori Association, Catholic Montessori teacher training centers, and a Protestant Montessori teacher training center.

In addition to training centers there are Shiki, Hindu, Buddhist, and Secular Montessori classrooms somewhere in the world. Montessori creates peace and joy and independence and self-rule.

At the 1915 Panama-Pacific Int’l Expo in San Francisco a glass classroom was used by Dr. Montessori for public observation.  Select cities could have a glass classroom. That way the weary, divided, hate-filled world of 2020 could observe interfaith peace growing from the ground up with their own eyes and be filled with hope and encouragement. And maybe an eagerness to spread the word.

**Note 2   World Interfaith Harmony Week Event:**

My event was listed as a “How to achieve Interfaith World Peace in 21 years email and Facebook campaign.”  The email stated something like this:

 People in all religions love god and want to live in peace. Montessori is a way to unite those religions and grow peace from the ground up from birth through adolescence without changing their religious practice.

Catholic Charities in Brooklyn and Queens pays for Montessori teacher training. And there are a ton more Catholic Montessori teacher trainer centers. There is a Jewish Montessori Society. There is an Islamic Montessori School in Dallas, TX. There is a public Montessori initiative on the American Montessori Society website. And there are Protestant Montessori teacher training centers like Bethany Global University.

 I see Montessori as a spiritual seat belt, a spiritual hand-washing, a vaccine against the madness in mankind in each and every religion and against religious division. I see Montessori as a Rotary Club humanitarian project like eliminating polio.

 If all religions adopt Montessori, as their common denominator, in 21 years interfaith world peace would exist. And there is $1 billion in funding from Jeff Bezos to help get this concept off the ground. With your voice, your participation, in 21 years I believe world interfaith peace can be a reality.

**Note 3    Facebook 12 Days of Christmas interfaith (Jewish, Islamic, Catholic, Protestant, Secular) Montessori posts with links to articles that led to world interfaith harmony event.**

Popes: Day 3

Jewish: Day 6

Islamic: Day 11

Secular: Day 8

 Day 1 of 12   Thursday 12/26/19      **Montessori and Religion**

**Facebook Post**

Oh my gosh, this is one of the many reasons I fell in love with Montessori 40 years ago. Today it seems the entire world needs this.

**Facebook Comments**

Mark

**Link:**  <https://www.montessorimom.com/montessori-and-religion/?fbclid=IwAR2l7xF5hvKAiHrGTpGO3OAudntNyaiPfT8gmXO66o5ZSoBtlIZB1Z-25rU>

Day 2 of 12   Post 1 of 2   Friday 12/27**The Catechesis of The Good Shepherd**

**Facebook Post**

The Good Shepherd Catholic Montessori brings a specifically Catholic dimension to Montessori education through the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS).

[Note: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori based method used by Catholics, Episcopalians, and other Christians across the United States and around the world -- https://www.cgsusa.org]

**Link:**  <https://www.gscmontessori.org/academics/curriculum/catechesis/>

Day 2 of 12  Post 2 of 2   Friday 12/27**What is Godly Play?**

**Facebook Post**

Here’s another take. Godly Play is a “Montessori method of telling Bible stories, developed by Jerome Berryman, using parables, sacred stories and liturgical lessons about religious traditions using simple materials.”

**Comments   Mark**

**Link:**  <https://teachingsacredtextsresource.weebly.com/godly-play.html>

Day 3 of 12   Post 1 of 2   Saturday 12/28 **Popes and why I advocate for Montessori**

**Facebook Post**

My advocacy for Montessori is in the arena of political governance and Montessori’s adoption as a constitutional guard. — It took me forever to get to that conclusion and then to get that into an argument I could defend. — It’s a little secular sounding, but it fulfills the popes’ and Montessori’s visions of peace. It’s been the most rewarding operating platform to work on. The article in the link states

1. “Benedict XV said that all Catholic schools should be Montessori. He asked Maria Montessori to draw up a universal syllabus for Catholic schools. But he fell ill and died before he could implement it.

2. Pope John Paul II visited a Montessori school in Rome . . .  “He watched the children for 30 minutes,” Radzik said. “The Holy Father’s comment was, ‘That is the most beautiful homily I have ever witnessed.”   (I’m not Catholic, but I felt the same feeling as the Pope.)

3. “Dr. Montessori wanted a community of nuns, to be called the Order of the Servants of the Children of Light, who would be Montessori teachers. We Catholics [in the Montessori movement] think that’s the missing piece.”

**Link:**  <https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2009/03/08/of-montessori-interest/?fbclid=IwAR1XbTWdpYh2E5FSlmOFC2Pmqqv2mxTZoSAwCPayYzoqODLg26lsaUgUsRw>

Day 3 of 12 – Post 2 of 2  Saturday 12/28   **more pope stuff**

**Facebook Post**

This post is from Franciscan University. My son and his wife met at Franciscan in Steubenville, Ohio.

**Facebook Comments**

**CN**

**Link:**[https://review.catechetics.com/catholic-education—-road-map-teaching-methods-maria-montessori](https://review.catechetics.com/catholic-education%E2%80%94-road-map-teaching-methods-maria-montessori)?

Day 4 of 12Sunday 12/29 **Sister Anne Marie McCarrick**

**Facebook Post**

My life would not be the same without the path this nun paved. She enabled Montessori’s vision to be an experience. It changed my life. I went from PTSD suicidal to having a mission from God.“Come, my dear daughters, we must have courage in the century we live in. Great souls are needed, souls having the interests of the greater glory of God at heart.” (Letter 35, Saint Julie Billiart)

My two oldest children, Missy (b. 1977) and Logan (b 1979), were direct beneficiaries of Sister Anne’s work. “In 1973, Anne continued her own studies in Montessori methods in Bergamo, Italy. She returned to St. Joseph Academy and continued to serve as the Director of the Pre-primary and Elementary department through 1979 while completing the development of a solid pre-K through 12 year-old Montessori program.” (Missy started second grade there in 1984 and Logan kindergarten.)

**Link:** <https://www.sndohio.org/sisters-notre-dame/blog/1613992/sister-anne-marie-mccarrick?fbclid=IwAR1S7DU_jSrVBNgne5fsI9EsDiBpnC4jW7BGAfNjIznpODEGRSn35EaWsSA>

 Day 5 of 12Monday 12/30 **The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur – Montessori Matters**

**Facebook Post**

Cincinnati Montessori education actually had its earliest start in a program introduced here by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1925. The Sisters later published Montessori Matters which became a standard for teaching across the country. “[Sister Anne Marie McCarrick] . . . served as editor of the 1st edition of Montessori Matters.” (From Anne’s obituary posted yesterday.)I❤️ Catholicism’s leadership – it has been a guiding light in my life.

**Facebook Comment**

**CN** Roger, hope you are enjoying these.

**Link:**<https://www.summitcds.org/montessori/history?fbclid=IwAR24VxH0EvOKkj8YBOlYVcg6V8iQoHNjlJen4om6E-m0_Htir5NoRFytS6k>

Day 6 of 12 Post 1 of 2Tuesday 12/31 **The Jewish Montessori Society**

**Facebook Post**

Years ago, it was a daunting task to imagine different religions all in agreement with Montessori and that the secular community would be on the same page. Today humanity is there and growing.   I❤️ Jewish Montessori Leadership.

FYI, I look at Montessori like seatbelts and hand sanitation — a safety precaution where everyone benefits and one doesn’t give much thought to doing — almost a second nature.

**Link:**[https://jewishmontessorisociety.org](https://jewishmontessorisociety.org/)

Day 6 of 12   Post 2 of 2   Tuesday 12/31   **Jewish Montessori Leadership** ❤️

**Facebook Post**

Torah Academy A Montessori school with traditional Jewish values

Link:<https://montessoritorah.org/?fbclid=IwAR2aNwF5LzWl54_rNsC8iRSF1hZtBSUEuE51IVCzY5eYky45SlyBX7edBaM>

Day 7 of 12      Wednesday 1/1/20 **(Protestant) Christian Montessori Training Center (CMTC)**

**Facebook Post**

Bethany Global University’s CMTC is the only Montessori training center with a distinctly Christian emphasis.   Hand In Hand Christian Montessori (HIHCM) is the largest Christian Montessori school in the United States and partners with Bethany Global University to provide a live Children’s House classroom for BGU students to observe and work with children in a live Montessori environment (I❤️ Protestant Montessori Leadership)

Link 1:  <https://hihcm.org/>

Link 2: <https://christianmontessoritraining.org/?fbclid=IwAR3BjqNc3DYWxz-ALBCef6cVckFVTlgv0EtwM-_EXEcCweFxnJpZUA63Bbc>

Day 8 of 12 Post 1 of 2Thursday  1/2 **Montessori in the Public Sector**

**Facebook Post**

 Implementing the core principles religions fell in love with—regardless of faith.     Advancing Montessori in the public sector was in its infancy when I attended Ohio Montessori Alliance advocacy meetings in 2012. Around this time at American Montessori Society conferences they began break-out sessions updating us on the status of Montessori in the public sector.

Montessori Public Policy Initiative (MPPI) and the National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector are two national advocacy groups. The Montessori Census database on the National Center website is super easy to use. Well worth a look.

**Link:**  [https://www.public-montessori.org/public-montessori-network/?fbclid=IwAR3B2-otmptj6qs0Hh7JkgnGMr9GfsR\_kTKuFt1QlrUjjeU8DskLKeKRlw8](https://www.public-montessori.org/public-montessori-network/?fbclid=IwAR3B2-otmptj6qs0Hh7JkgnGMr9GfsR_kTKuFt1QLrUjjeU8DSkLKeKRlw8)

 Day 8 of 12 Post 2 of 2Thursday  1/2 **Montessori in the Public Sector**

**Facebook Post**

Grateful to have had Mark as a resource in Montessori advocacy. I never would have thought of advocating Montessori as a social contract, as a Constitutional guard, without his encouragement and guidance.

**Link:** <https://amshq.org/About-AMS/Public-Policy?fbclid=IwAR2d4xc0a38pXrHMptVJvsK_SB-vAbNbGC2XFwNfBkeODJeBG9bhdvVRxhA>

Day 9 of 12 Post 1 of 3Friday  1/3 **Nuns who love Montessori**

**Facebook Post**

Our Lady of Grace Montessori School was established in 1968 by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

**Link:**<https://www.olgmanhasset.com/history?fbclid=IwAR17AhrRMqFbh1HGTwGAO92Dv1hoFNUUl2za2ASAIhx0Xw5CPc26pSLcop4>

 Day 9 of 12 Post 2 of 3Friday  1/3 **Nuns who love Montessori**

**Facebook Post**

1971 - Sister Anthonita Porta, OP, a Dominican Sister who spent 18 years in education before becoming a Montessorian in 1969, establishes the Montessori Children’s House at St. Joseph Academy in Adrian, Michigan with Sister Leonor J. Esnard.

 1991 - The Adrian Dominican Montessori Teacher Education Institute (ADMTEI) is founded

1993- Sister Anthonita . . . to assist in setting up Montessori schools throughout the country and the world.

2002 - Sister Anthonita is named a Living Legacy by the American Montessori Society

**Link:**<https://admtei.org/history/?fbclid=IwAR3Ff1GH8VHdO6NcIW0DqeAWbbFwjwrGVkzp1CCEZp9lKDbeMOSVqMSbmv8>

Day 9 of 12 Post 3 of 3Friday  1/3 **Nuns who love Montessori provide free teacher training**

**Facebook Post**

Sr. Lorna Colin began Montessori at Caritas 20 years ago. Below is an excerpt from a news clip saved from the 2002 Pubic School Montessorian spring edition

 “(Caritas) graduates its first 34 Montessori teachers in 1999 and another in 2001. . . Colin said three sites have staffs that have completed the teacher preparation program. In some places as many as four classrooms are now Montessori-based. ‘By 2004 we hope to have all staff—more than 400 people—exposed to Montessori,’ she said.”

**Free Montessori Teacher Training offered by Catholic Charities**

The Caritas Training Center is a two-year Montessori Teacher Training Program for Early Childhood staff employed by Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens. Costs are assumed by Catholic Charities with the expectation that staff will remain with the Agency for a minimum of two years upon completion of the course. (www.ccbq DOT org/get-help/nurturing-children-empowering-youth-strengthening-families/)       I❤️Catholic Montessori Leadership

**Facebook Comment**

**CN**

**Link:**<https://www.ccbq.org/congratulations-to-the-2019-graduates-of-the-caritas-training-center-for-montessori-teacher-education/?fbclid=IwAR2Gn5xNrkbW-RqNVeV8DaIsgYUPrwUTq-NRZDZ7moS60KJjQzzmvpYLwqM>

 Day 10 of 12Saturday 1/4 **Archdiocese of Baltimore, Maryland**

**Facebook Post**

St. Pius X in final stages of becoming ‘fully-integrated’ Montessori school

**Link:**<https://www.archbalt.org/st-pius-x-in-final-stages-of-becoming-fully-integrated-montessori-school/?fbclid=IwAR3XbK582JedGb7TQGR0sHLuPDkiiMEF4zgCZ9vJ2F194sJ8YNWkP71J2xY>

Day 11 of 12Sunday 1/5 **Islamic Montessori**

**Facebook Post**

To me, Montessori is like seat belts, hand washing, and vaccines. It’s scientific. It’s universal. It works no matter what one’s faith. The website states, The Montessori School of Excellence aims to provide a new level of Islamic Montessori education to the children of North Dallas.

**Link:**  <https://montessoriexcellence.com/?fbclid=IwAR1nz7MoIx7Jr5h5HEhh_-ueXKjktfUh1Qy5q2IRtMfOOcWE2-LRSnul2xM>

Day 12 of 12    Monday 1/6                         **The Feast of the Epiphany**

**Facebook Post**

You know I can easily see Montessori as a Rotary Club humanitarian projectsomething like eliminating polio. All scientific. What Dr. Maria Montessori, a medical doctor, saw was a universal Catholic vision. It continued her whole life. It changed the course of mine. The forward to *The Secret of Childhood* by Dr. Montessori describes her vision’s beginning:

 On January 6, 1907, in a section of Rome noted and reported on for the crime, ignorance, illiteracy and poverty of its inhabitants, was begun a work that was to spread around the world. On this day in the midst of about fifty miserable children and a crowd of the notables of Rome, a doctor of medicine, a woman, the first in Italy, read from the Epistle for the Mass of the day, the Feast of the Epiphany—“Arise, shine; for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.” As a conclusion, she added, “Perhaps it may be that this Children’s Home may become a new Jerusalem, which, as it is multiplied among abandoned people, will bring light into education.” ❤️

**Facebook Comment**

**CN**

**Link:**  <https://amshq.org/About-Montessori/History-of-Montessori>