

Father Alexander Varickamackal

My name is Alexander from the Nagatsuka Monastery for Jesuits. I came to Japan with a dream that people of different religion, culture, languages and nationalities can live in peace and harmony transcending all their differences.

We offer at the Nagatsuka Retreat House and Spirituality Center courses on meditation and other ways of prayers. We welcome people to pray together transcending their religious differences. It is a place where one can find peace in their heart. If each of our hearts are in peace, that can lead to the creation of world peace.

I feel there is great significance in working in this City which suffered the atomic bomb.

Let's spread the civilization of love and the culture of peace from Hiroshima. Let us also spread from Hiroshima, the light of hope, the radiance of life and the power of faith and prayer.

We are brothers and sisters belonging to one global family. We are part of one whole existence just like our eyes, legs and arms belong to our bodies.

“Peace within, peace with others, peace with nature and God.”

Nature and people, we are all connected through our inner divinity. We are connected to peace by living with mindfulness and rightful living and we need to treasure this connection between us.

With these beliefs we unite our hearts with those who offer prayers at the Spirituality Center.

The Flag Ceremony which offers prayers equally for the peace of every country along with the colorful flags of every nation is one and the same as my own personal vision. On July 30th, we performed the first official Flag Ceremony at the Nagatsuka Retreat House and Spirituality Center. Each time we raised the flag of a nation, our consciousness for peace and respect of each nation heightened. Even those who participated for the first time prayed together with united hearts which melted the walls around our hearts. Through the spirit of oneness, even the first timers have said

how wonderful and moving the experience was for them.

It's important for people the world over to go beyond our differences and connect with each other under the mutual vision of world peace.

I wish from my heart that we learn to live as one global family and embrace our diversity and live in peace and harmony.

May peace prevail on earth.