



Peace Road 2017

Dublin, Ireland, September 17, 2017

By John Kennedy

The sun shone brightly on our peace road event, lifting our spirits in gratitude to our Heavenly Parent for such a lovely day.

The first part of the event was held at the Boyne Valley Visitor Center. Over 30 participants gathered at this site of a major historical battle in 1690. A guide from the center gave us an interesting talk explaining the wider context of the Battle of the Boyne. It was not only an Irish battle between Protestants & Catholics, but a battle to decide wider European alliances of the time. It was fitting that our group comprised many nationalities, reflecting the fact that many nationalities also engaged in that battle many years before. In the present era, we want to learn from history and inspire nations not to repeat our bloody past when nations and peoples resorted to war to solve differences between them.

We shared precious words about creating true peace out on the battle field site, culminating with time for prayer & meditation.

The second part of Peace Road was an actual cycle. We set out from the peaceful but busy town of Carlingford in the south of Ireland heading for the border in Northern Ireland. Carlingford nestles at the foot of the Cooley mountains and by the waters of the lough. Fifteen peace warriors cycled for the border, which is not really a border at all now. I reflected on the meaning of borders ... soft borders, hard borders, no borders, and even invisible borders that reside in the hearts of peoples and nations that separate us. Our group was joyfully uniting and sharing the beauty of the landscape as we rode along.

This day was a highlight of the year for me. I look forward to participating in Peace Road 2018 while longing for lasting peace for all humankind in the not too distant future.

