

Dorothy Day Quotes

*People, Men, Believe, Thinking, Children, Heart, Community, Saint, Giving,
War, Brother, Mean, Trying, Order, Prayer, Way, Writing, World, Reading, Body*

The Gospel takes away our right forever, to discriminate between the deserving and the undeserving poor.

~Dorothy Day

If you feed the poor, you're a saint. If you ask why they're poor, you're a Communist.

~Dorothy Day

I really only love God as much as I love the person I love the least.

~Dorothy Day

We have all known the long loneliness, and we have found that the answer is community.

~Dorothy Day

Don't worry about being effective. Just concentrate on being faithful to the truth.

~Dorothy Day

We must talk about poverty, because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it.

~Dorothy Day

Our problems stem from our acceptance of this filthy, rotten system.

~Dorothy Day

We plant seeds that will flower as results in our lives, so best to remove the weeds of anger, avarice, envy and doubt, that peace and abundance may manifest for all.

~Dorothy Day

No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There's too much work to do.

~Dorothy Day

The older I get, the more I meet people, the more convinced I am that we must only work on ourselves, to grow in grace. The only thing we can do about people is to love them.

~Dorothy Day

We must always aim for the impossible; if we lower our goal, we also diminish our effort.

~Dorothy Day

I have long since come to believe that people never mean half of what they say, and that it is best to disregard their talk and judge only their actions.

~Dorothy Day

There is plenty to do, for each one of us, working on our own hearts, changing our own attitudes, in our own neighborhoods.

~Dorothy Day

Think what the world could look like if we took care of the poor even half as well as we do our Bibles!

~Dorothy Day

My strength returns to me with my cup of coffee and the reading of the psalms.

~Dorothy Day

You will know your vocation by the joy that it brings you. You will know. You will know when it's right.

~Dorothy Day

An act of love, a voluntary taking on oneself of some of the pain of the world, increases the courage and love and hope of all.

~Dorothy Day

The greatest challenge of the day is: how to bring about a revolution of the heart, a revolution which has to start with each one of us?

~Dorothy Day

If I have achieved anything in my life, it is because I have not been embarrassed to talk about God.

~Dorothy Day

Food for the body is not enough. There must be food for the soul.

~Dorothy Day

The biggest mistake sometimes is to play things very safe in this life and end up being moral failures.

~Dorothy Day

Women think with their whole bodies and they see things as a whole more than men do.

~Dorothy Day

Dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, to love our enemy as well as our friend.

~Dorothy Day

You can spend your time agonizing or organizing.

~Dorothy Day

Those who cannot see Christ in the poor are atheists indeed.

~Dorothy Day

What I want to bring out is how a pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. And each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that.

~Dorothy Day

With prayer, one can go on cheerfully and even happily. Without prayer, how grim a journey!

~Dorothy Day

We should live in such a way that our lives wouldn't make much sense if the gospel were not true.

~Dorothy Day

Don't call me a saint; I don't want to be dismissed so easily.

~Dorothy Day

Words are as strong and powerful as bombs, as napalm.

~Dorothy Day

As Dostoevski said: 'Love in action is a harsh and dreadful thing compared with love in dreams.'

~Dorothy Day

What else do we all want, each one of us, except to love and be loved, in our families, in our work, in all our relationships?

~Dorothy Day

Life itself is a haphazard, untidy, messy affair.

~Dorothy Day

Common sense in religion is rare, and we are too often trying to be heroic instead of just ordinarily good and kind.

~Dorothy Day

True obedience is a matter of love, which makes it voluntary, not compelled by fear or force.

~Dorothy Day

People, wherever they are, can make a community.

~Dorothy Day

The only solution is love.

~Dorothy Day

Men are beginning to realize that they are not individuals but persons in society, that man alone is weak and adrift, that he must seek strength in common action.

~Dorothy Day

Most of our life is unimportant, filled with trivial things from morning till night. But when it is transformed by love it is of interest even to the angels.

~Dorothy Day

You see I'm such a fool that I'm never afraid of appearing foolish.

~Dorothy Day

I firmly believe that our salvation depends on the poor.

~Dorothy Day

God meant for things to be much easier than we have made them

~Dorothy Day

Our rule is the works of mercy... It is the way of sacrifice, worship, a sense of reverence.

~Dorothy Day

The final word is love.

~Dorothy Day

To me, birth control and abortion are genocide. I say, make room for children, don't do away with them.

~Dorothy Day

Love casts out fear, but we have to get over the fear in order to get close enough to love them.

~Dorothy Day

They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time.

~Dorothy Day

Your love for God is only as great as the love you have for the person you love the least.

~Dorothy Day

What we would like to do is change the world - make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended for them to do.

~Dorothy Day

If we love each other enough, we will bear with each other's faults and burdens.

~Dorothy Day

Our faith is stronger than death, our philosophy is firmer than flesh, and the spread of the Kingdom of God upon the earth is more sublime and more compelling.

~Dorothy Day

Thank God that He has permitted us to live among the present problems. It is no longer permitted to anyone to be mediocre.

~Dorothy Day

When they call you a saint, it means basically that you are not to be taken seriously.

~Dorothy Day

Love and ever more love is the only solution to every problem that comes up.

~Dorothy Day

If you are going to try and change things, you had better have your wits about you.

~Dorothy Day

The best thing to do with the best things in life is to give them up.

~Dorothy Day

The only way to live in any true security is to live so close to the bottom that when you fall you do not have far to drop, you do not have much to lose.

~Dorothy Day

Writing is hard work. But if you want to become a writer you will become one. Nothing will stop you.

~Dorothy Day

As for ourselves, yes, we must be meek, bear injustice, malice, rash judgment. We must turn the other cheek, give up our cloak, go a second mile.

~Dorothy Day

The mystery of poverty is that by sharing in it, making ourselves poor in giving to others, we increase our knowledge of and belief in love.

~Dorothy Day

How much did I hear of religion as a child? Very little, and yet my heart leaped when I heard the name of God. I do believe every soul has a tendency toward God.

~Dorothy Day

When it comes to labor and politics, I am inclined to be sympathetic to the left, but when it comes to the Catholic Church, then I am far to the right.

~Dorothy Day

The legal battle against segregation is won, but the community battle goes on.

~Dorothy Day

Everything a baptized person does each day should be directly or indirectly related to the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

~Dorothy Day

Communities are made up of the unlovable as well as the lovable.

~Dorothy Day

The work is more important than the talking and the writing about the work.

~Dorothy Day

We cannot build up the idea of the apostolate of the laity without the foundation of the liturgy.

~Dorothy Day

Where were the saints to try to change the social order, not just to minister to the slaves, but to do away with slavery?

~Dorothy Day

It is only through religion that communism can be achieved, and has been achieved over and over.

~Dorothy Day

It is best to disregard their talk and judge only their actions.

~Dorothy Day

Knitting is very conducive to thought. It is nice to knit a while, put down the needles, write a while, then take up the sock again.

~Dorothy Day

I offered up a special prayer, a prayer which came with tears and anguish, that some way would open up for me to use what talents I possessed for my fellow workers, for the poor.

~Dorothy Day

When you love people, you see all the good in them, all the Christ in them.

~Dorothy Day

It is penance to work, to give oneself to others, to endure the pinpricks of community living.

~Dorothy Day

It is people who are important, not the masses.

~Dorothy Day

The only answer in this life, to the loneliness we are all bound to feel, is community.

~Dorothy Day

No matter how corrupt the Church may become, it carries within it the seeds of its own regeneration.

~Dorothy Day

We are not, most of us, capable of exalted emotion, save rarely.

~Dorothy Day

If we had had the privilege of giving hospitality to a Ho Chi Minh, with what respect and interest we would have served him, as a man of vision, as a patriot, a rebel against foreign invaders.

~Dorothy Day

Christ is God or He is the world's greatest liar and imposter.

~Dorothy Day

Some have more capacity. Some proceed a few steps along the way. But Christ seemed to love all men. He desired all to be saved.

~Dorothy Day

The idea that when the health of one member suffers, the health of the whole body is lowered is a teaching of St Paul which is timeless.

~Dorothy Day

It is not easy always to be joyful, to keep in mind the duty of delight.

~Dorothy Day

One of the disconcerting facts about the spiritual life is that God takes you at your word.

~Dorothy Day

Recording happiness made it last longer, we felt, and recording sorrow dramatized it and took away its bitterness; and often we settled some problem which beset us even while we wrote about it.

~Dorothy Day

The holy man was the whole man, the man of integrity, who not only tried to change the world, but to live in it as it was.

~Dorothy Day

First of all, let it be remembered that I speak as an ex-Communist and one who has not testified before Congressional Committees, nor written works on the Communist conspiracy.

~Dorothy Day

Together with the works of mercy, feeding, sheltering, and clothing our brothers, we must indoctrinate.

~Dorothy Day

We are the nation the most powerful, the most armed and we are supplying arms and money to the rest of the world where we are not ourselves fighting. We are eating while there is famine in the world.

~Dorothy Day

Certainly we disagree with the Communist Party, as we disagree with other political parties who are trying to maintain the American way of life.

~Dorothy Day

A 'Dictatorship of the Proletariat' becomes again another dictator.

~Dorothy Day

There's enough hate in the world. I command you to love. And you have to make an effort.

~Dorothy Day

We're under obligation to love - that's the commandment.

~Dorothy Day

When it comes down to it, even on the natural plane, it is much happier and more enlivening to love than to be loved.

~Dorothy Day

We must recognize the fact that many Nazis, Marxists and Fascists believe passionately in their fundamental rightness, and allow nothing to hinder them from their goal in the pursuit of their mission.

~Dorothy Day

When people are standing up for our present rotten system, they are

being worse than Communists, it seems to me.

~Dorothy Day

Women think with their whole bodies

~Dorothy Day

For me Christ was not to be bought for thirty pieces of silver but with my heart's blood. We buy not cheap in this market.

~Dorothy Day

The whole point of view of the anarchist is that everything must start from the bottom up, from man. It seems to me so human a philosophy.

~Dorothy Day

God forbid we should have great institutions. The thing is to have many small centres. The ideal is community.

~Dorothy Day

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