



J/P ALERT

CONFERENCE OF MAJOR SUPERIORS OF MEN JUSTICE AND PEACE OFFICE



September 2014

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Iraq/Syria

The House of Representatives and Senate recently voted to provide training and military equipment to Syrian rebels, but now the Administration has started bombing in Syria. These bombs have killed children of

God who have been [armed and unarmed civilians](#). [Recruitment for ISIL](#) has also spiked by at least 6,000 since the airstrikes.

Regarding ISIL, Pope Francis said, "I did not say bomb, or war."

But there's still time to roll back a military operation. [Please respond to your representative's vote and encourage him or her to speak out for effective alternatives](#).

Find out more about how the U.S. should respond to the Islamic State: Michael Shank [spoke out against airstrikes](#) on CNN, Raed Jarrar on [FAIR Media](#), and Kate Gould worked with Col. Lawrence Wilkerson -- former chief of staff to Secretary of State Colin Powell -- to [analyze the effects of arming Syrian rebels](#). Take a look, then:

Take action.

*CMSM's Eli McCarthy was recently on [EWTN](#) and Al Hurra television discussing this issue. See this recent [HuffPost article by Eli](#) explaining in more detail the "JustPeace" religious coalition letter. Please consider sharing it on your Facebook.

Environmental Justice



Climate March in NYC: On Sept. 21st, over 400,000 turned out as the UN began to debate further action. [Click here for details.](#)

Divestment Movement of Fossil Fuels grows to include the Rockefellers! [Click here for details.](#)

Feast of St. Francis program *From St. Francis to Pope Francis to You! Creating a Climate for Solidarity.* [This link](#) has all of the relevant information, signup details, etc.

Immigration



A group of 16 people, religious men and women as well as lay, traveled to Tucson, AZ, from Sept. 14 to 18 to encounter the border, the migrants, the system, and the ministries. The trip was initiated and supported by CMSM's Justice and Peace Committee. Salvatorian Bill Rimmel coordinated the trip in Tucson

and was excellent!

The group hiked the migrant trails and left water for migrants to help save

lives through the ministry of the Samaritans. The group also learned from John Fife about the history, the deaths on the trails, and the present Sanctuary movement to protect migrants in danger of deportation. We had a chance to meet with the Border Patrol, Bishop Kicanas, and view the court system's Operation Streamline, which sends 60-70 migrants in one court session to for-profit prisons and then deportation. Sadly, the flooding prevented us from going to the Kino Border Initiative, so we watched a



video about it and heard from a local Catholic priest about his experience with migrants, the border, and the impact of NAFTA. We also experienced daily group reflection and prayer.

The group met Rosa, who is in Sanctuary at the Southside Presbyterian Church. If you'd like to see a picture, support her and help prevent her deportation, [click here](#). The Sanctuary Movement is spreading across the country to various churches, such as Denver, Chicago, and Philadelphia. We encourage you to consider if your parish or religious community might be called to provide Sanctuary to a migrant in need. Here is a [tool-kit](#) that explains Sanctuary and offers resources.

The **National Sanctuary Movement** has a [website](#) and a [Sanctuary Declaration Sign-On](#) for those willing to be supporters at least of Sanctuary.

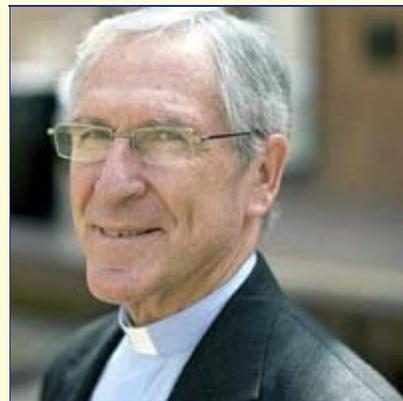
Here are [more pictures and a blog](#) kept by Laura and Carey, two of the participants.

Palestine/Israel

On 3 Sept. 2014, CMSM participated in the ecumenical Faith Forum on Middle East Policy's worship service to mourn the recent violence in Palestine/Israel. To view and experience this moving and transformative service, [click here](#).

Redemptorist Bishop Dowling

Redemptorist Bishop Kevin Dowling is the Bishop of Rustenburg, South Africa and Co-President of Pax Christi International. In the past, he received an award from Africa Faith and Justice Network. He recently gave the Table Lecture of 2014 in the UK. For the full lecture, [click here](#).



J/P Ministry Tip

Consider using JustFaith Programs in your formation, parishes,

schools, etc. They have 6-8 week modules and 30

weeks, but it all can be adjusted for your needs. Here is a link to [general programs](#). Of the shorter JustMatters Modules, particularly good are [Crossing Borders](#) and [Just Peacemaking](#).

CMSM



- *assists major superiors in their role as leaders;*
- *promotes dialogue and collaboration with the conference of bishops and other major groups in church and society;*
- *provides a corporate influence in church and society.*

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This newsletter is sent to members and associate members of CMSM.
It is also sent to justice and peace directors of CMSM member organizations,
and to others who have expressed an interest.

If you fall into the last category and no longer wish to receive this newsletter,
send an e-mail to postmaster@cmsm.org and you will be removed from the list.