



J/P ALERT

CONFERENCE OF MAJOR SUPERIORS OF MEN JUSTICE AND PEACE OFFICE



JUNE 2013 (en español)

- Immigration Update
- [Monk Killed in Syria](#)
- [Economic Justice](#)
- [CMSM Justice and Peace Priorities](#)
- [Climate Change](#)
- [Bishop Gumbleton's Speech](#)
- [Restorative Justice and Death Penalty](#)
- [Plowshares Activists](#)
- [J/P Ministry Tip: Nonviolent Communication](#)

Immigration Update

Thank you so much for your attention and participation in advancing immigration reform! So far, we have a pathway to citizenship for a good portion of the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants, including dreamers. The Senate passed an immigration bill this **Thursday June 27th** with a 68-32 vote. We pray and hope that you'll stay with us and if you

haven't been involved, join in as many of our immigrant sisters and brothers are anxiously awaiting and advocating for more just results. Congresspersons often tell us that they still get most of their calls from people against immigration reform, so *your participation is very much needed*. Join the [Interfaith Immigration Coalition](#) and [Justice for Immigrants Campaign](#) list-serves to get more timely and specific updates as we move to the even more difficult House deliberations. Below is some recent polling of folks directly impacted by immigration reform.

This is **NOT** the immigration reform LATINOS voted for!

Latino Decisions conducted a nationwide poll of Latino voters from May 25th - June 1st, 2013. Respondents were asked questions about the immigration reform bill's different components. Some of the questions have never been asked of Latino voters and the results are important. These are some of our findings:



Poll conducted by Latino Decisions on behalf of [presenta.org](#)

For a recent polling of 29 states which shows strong bipartisan support for immigration reform, [click here](#).

Time for Prayerful Reflection: As immigrant communities become divided about the bill, with many border immigrant organizations coming out in opposition to the present state of the bill, how can we regain the momentum of justice and compassion in the immigration debate? How can we develop social habits and attention to addressing the root causes of conflicts rather than reacting with intimidation and militarization as we've done once again in the present immigration bill? How can we grow to recognize that legal law is not always the same as "justice," as MLK did and as some, but not enough, recognize today regarding our immigration laws? How can we shift to thinking about the kinds of people we are becoming, such as the opportunity to grow in the virtue of hospitality by welcoming the stranger and those in urgent need?



*Consider how each of us can scale up our resistance and 'take on some of the suffering' to transform the direction of our immigration discourse and policy?

Watch and share these videos to help mobilize your community:

Erika has mother and brother taken from their home: [click here](#) (2 mins.)

Bishop John Wester, Chairman of US Bishops Committee on Migration: [click here](#) (4 mins.)

Read and share these articles:

[Immigration Reform: Good News for Contractors](#)

[Border security agreement has immense human costs](#): by Donald Kerwin

[Documented Failures: The Consequences of Immigration Policy on the U.S. Mexico Border](#) by key Jesuit organizations (includes regular abuse by U.S. border agents)

Jesuit Conference Statement on Senate Bill: [click here](#).

Syria: Monk Killed



Fr. Francois Mourad killed by rebel group: [click here](#)

Recently, President Obama decided to arm the violent opposition to Assad publically, but along with Russia, he supports the "peace conference." One key assumption seems to be that Assad is primarily driven by self-interest ("wants") and thus will only give ground in negotiations if he is in a position of "weakness." In turn, we must arm the rebels in order to "tip the scales" of violent threat so that he feels "weaker."

Although many of us at times allow our "wants" or "interests" to cloud our sensitivity to our actual needs and others' needs, as humans we are actually more oriented by our genuine human needs even if we are not consciously thinking about them. God creating us "good" and in the image and likeness of God illuminates this reality, even in the midst of sin.

What if we reframed negotiations as being aimed at mutual understanding and meeting genuine human needs rather than an interest-based calculation of taking power? This would recognize that Assad (and the other parties) will actually give more when the needs of all parties are acknowledged and met, regardless of what "interests" they claim. This would be an integrative power (do what is most in accord with human dignity, and it will draw the parties closer) rather than a violent threat power approach. The latter type of power is similar to the logic of torture, i.e. increase de-humanizing pain and they will give us

information, whereas we've learned that when we increase trusting relationship, we actually get better information. *For more details on attending to human needs in conflict, see the J/P Ministry Tip at the end of this e-letter.*

See this [poll](#): **People of the U.S. are largely against arming the rebels- 70%** and climbing since Mar. 2012!

For a recent letter we sent to Secretary of State Kerry, [click here](#); for the USCCB's June letter [click here](#).

Contact Congress about Syria: [click here](#).

Economic Justice

Dr. Charles Clark who spoke at the recent Catholic Social Ministry Gathering has written this article, "The Economics of Inequality: Why the Wealth Gap is Bad for Everyone."

Some excerpts: "'I've probably learned more about economics working in factories than I did from my Ph.D. program,' says Clark. Working on an assembly line in a motor oil canning factory for \$2.35 an hour, he saw how racial and ethnic minorities are treated differently in the workplace.

A job at a wire striping factory helped to illustrate Adam Smith's theory on the division of labor. Earning \$9.10 an hour to wash pots at a nursing home helped Clark appreciate the power of unions. In the real world Clark found that ideologies proposed by economists fail to hold up. 'This is really the big problem with my profession,' he says. 'We look at markets as if they're like the ones we teach in textbooks and they're all the same. But they're not. Every market has to be established with a set of rules.' In the article, he also addresses the question, 'What's wrong with a system where successful people can become a lot wealthier than everyone else?' For the full article in *US Catholic*, [click here](#).

CMSM Justice and Peace Priorities



The CMSM Justice and Peace Committee met recently and discerned an [updated list of priorities](#) for May 2013-May 2014. We look forward to advancing these urgent issues towards participating more fully in God's beloved community. We hope each of you will sense how God is calling you to participate in advancing these issues in your communities and through collective advocacy. If ideas come up about enhancing collaboration or advocacy, please contact Eli McCarthy <emccarthy@cmsm.org> or 301-588-4030. Please keep Richard Oliver <roliver@cmsm.org> updated with JPIC contacts and changes.

The new chair of the Justice and Peace Committee is Fr. Neil Pezzulo of Glenmary Home Missioners. We thank the Very Rev. Perry Henry C.M. for his leadership this past year as the chair and wish him many blessings as he transitions into a new role in his community. Contact Neil

by email: <npezzulo@glenmary.org>.

Climate Change

President Obama is rolling out [his plans](#) for climate change legislation. So, now is the time to educate your communities about this pressing issue.



Catholic Coalition on Climate Change Adds New Resources to Website

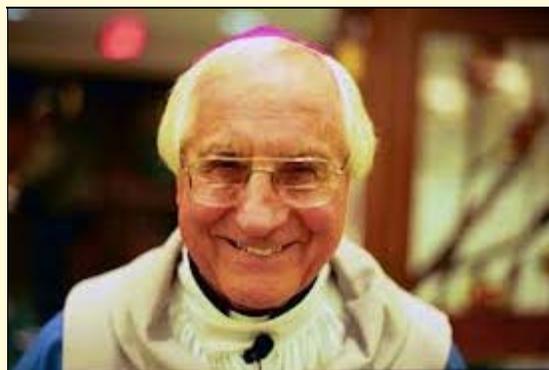
[The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change website](#) is a one-stop shop for the Church's witness on climate change and environmental justice. The site has been updated with additional and revised resources including:

[Melting Ice, Mending Creation: A Catholic Approach to Climate Change](#)

The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change has announced the 2013 Feast of St. Francis program, which will provide photographic evidence of the melting glaciers across the globe and a review of the [Pontifical Academy of Science's](#) Working Group statement, "Fate of Mountain Glaciers in the Anthropocene." A free Educational Toolkit and other resources will be available during the late summer that will help you promote and create your own community event!

Bishop Gumbleton's Speech

At the recent Pax Christi USA 40th Anniversary Conference in Atlanta, GA where Martin Luther King Jr. was born, Bishop Tom Gumbleton offered an insightful and prophetic keynote presentation on the history of Pax Christi USA as an orientation toward the future. Rev. Bryan Massingale, who is a professor at Marquette University, gave a rousing keynote presentation about the trends and challenges for Pax Christi to address today. To listen to these speeches [click here](#) (Day 1 for Gumbleton; Day 3 for Massingale).



Restorative Justice and Death Penalty

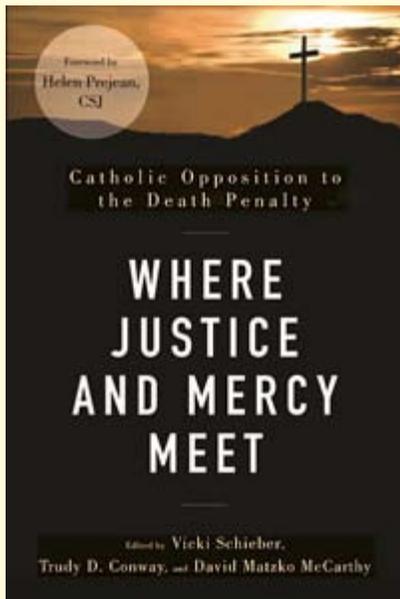
Catholic Mobilizing Network Shares and Requests Religious Congregation Statements on the Death Penalty and Restorative Justice

Catholic Mobilizing Network to End the Use of the Death Penalty, a ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph and a collaborative of the USCCB, works to educate Catholics about our Church's unconditional pro-life teaching and its application to capital punishment and restorative justice.

More and more, religious communities of women and men, who view the death penalty as incompatible with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, have become active in efforts to abolish it and to work to promote restorative justice. Go to CMN's website, www.catholicismobilizing.org, to see the statements of dozens of these congregations across the country.

If your religious community has or would be willing to issue a statement on the death penalty or restorative justice, we would like to share it! Please contact CMN at Cathy@catholicismobilizing.org and provide us your statement, information about your community's mission, and a link to your community's website.

Where Justice and Mercy Meet: Catholic Opposition to Death Penalty Now Available from CMN.



Where Justice and Mercy Meet: Catholic Opposition to the Death Penalty, edited by Mount Saint Mary's professors Trudy Conway and David McCarthy, as well as Catholic Mobilizing Network's Vicki Scheiber is now available. This book, featuring a forward by Sister Helen Prejean, CSJ, is the first of its kind -- the book comprehensively explores the Catholic stance against capital punishment in new and important ways through a number of essays by faculty from Mount Saint Mary's University.

The essays offer readers new insight into the debates about capital punishment; provides revealing, and sometimes surprising, information about methods of execution; and explores national and international trends and movements related to the death penalty. The book also addresses how the death penalty has been intertwined with racism, the high percentage of the mentally disabled on death row, and how the death

penalty disproportionately affects the poor. The book is perfect for parish reading circles, book groups, lay leaders, university students, and anyone interested in learning more about this important pro-life issue

WHEN YOU ORDER *Where Justice and Mercy Meet: Catholic Opposition to the Death Penalty* DIRECTLY FROM CMN YOU HELP CONTRIBUTE TO VARIED PROJECTS. Order today at www.catholicismobilizing.org.

Plowshare Activists Sunday, May 12, 2013

"Christian nuclear weapons opponents carry on as debate wanes"

"The recent conviction of three Catholic activists in the U.S. has brought new media attention to faith-based opposition to nuclear weapons. But Christian disarmament is nothing new.

Since the U.S. federal trespassing and sabotage conviction of three American Catholic activists -- including an 83-year-old nun -- much media attention has been given to the Christian argument against nuclear weapons. In July 2012, Greg Boertje-Obed, Sister Megan Rice and Michael Walli broke into the Y-12 National Security Complex, which produces

nuclear weapons, in Knoxville, Tenn. They waged a protest with hammers, spray paint, and blood for which each of them now faces up to 30 years in prison following their May 8 conviction. Sentencing is expected in September.

The Transform Now Plowshares activists -- as the trio calls themselves -- are neither singular nor novel in their faith-based argument against nuclear weapons. Indeed, Christian opposition to such weapons is almost as old as their use. In 1946, just one year after the first atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to end World War II, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) declared that "life abundant involves seeking international disarmament and arms control measures." To read the full article from *Ecumenical News*, [click here](#).

J/P Ministry Tip: Nonviolent Communication

Fr. Michael Lynch, SJ has been studying and praying about the potential for integrating the NVC approach with Christian Spirituality. He has found many ways that NVC can help to illuminate our spirituality and connect with the everyday lives of people. He presently offers workshops on this topic in his ministry in China. For a summary of NVC [click here](#) and for an online source [click here](#). To contact Michael about his insights: <mjmlynch@gmail.com>.

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.