



J/P ALERT

CONFERENCE OF MAJOR SUPERIORS OF MEN JUSTICE AND PEACE OFFICE



JUNE 2014

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Greetings,

We live into the Gifts of the Spirit with the courage of engaging our mission. Below you'll see the influx of unaccompanied children fleeing poverty and violence across our border, Pope Francis on peacemaking and courage connected with a reflection on dropping the "just war" concept, the Catholic debate on capitalism, and homily notes. May our courage grow with our passion for living the Spirit of Christ today.

Immigrant Children Warehoused



For more details [click here](#)

Church Leaders Urge Governments to Better Protect Migrating Minors

Catholic News Service

June 6, 2014

"Catholic leaders call on the U.S. and Central American governments to protect Latin American migrants -- particularly children migrating alone -- during their difficult and

dangerous journeys to the United States. Children from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras are fleeing violence, poverty, and lack of opportunity in their home countries in order to find a better life in the United States and to be reunited with family members. On the way here, however, they become victims of abuse, exploitation, or human trafficking. Overwhelmed Central American governments will need the help of the United States in order to address root causes that push people to migrate north." Read the [full CNS article](#).

Detention Conditions

"No Water, No Toilet Paper, No Tampons: How the US Treats Border Detainees"

A new lawsuit reveals the awful conditions migrants face in Customs and Border Protection custody.

June 5, 2014



"Alba Quiñones Flores started her period the first week that she was in the custody of US Customs and Border Protection. Every morning, a guard delivered sanitary napkins to her cell of 20 women-but only four or five pads for all of them. Quiñones couldn't scramble to the door fast enough to claim one. She'd injured her ankle crossing the Mexican border before CBP picked her up near Falfurrias, Texas, and she still hadn't received first aid. A CBP agent had thrown out the pills and insulin she needed to treat her myriad health problems, including hypertension, diabetes, migraines, anxiety, and convulsions. So Quiñones wound up using the same, single sanitary pad for her entire period. She tried to extend its life by covering it in toilet paper, but without success, and her pants and underwear became soaked in menstrual blood." Read the [full article](#).

Bed Quota

Take Congressional Action: Call your Senators and Representative and tell them Congress should eliminate the detention bed quota, which ensures funding to keep 34,000 immigrants locked up in ICE detention facilities on any given day.

[Click here](#) to find your Senators and their phone numbers

[Click here](#) to find your Representative and their phone number

Congressional Switchboard: 202-224-3121

Sample Script:

My name is _____ calling from [CITY, STATE]. I urge Congress member [NAME] to oppose the wasteful and inhumane immigration detention bed

quota in any appropriations bill.

*Members of Congress will be voting on the Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations bill and, in the House of Representatives, will be voting on the Deutch-Foster amendment (which is an amendment that eliminates the detention bed quota in the bill) in the next few weeks.

More details on the [bed quota](#) and an [infographic](#).

Palestine/Israel: Pope Francis



Pope Francis: "Peacemaking calls for courage, much more so than warfare. It calls for the courage to say yes to encounter and no to conflict; yes to dialogue and no to violence; yes to negotiations and no to hostilities; yes to respect for agreements and no to acts of provocation; yes to sincerity and no to duplicity. All of this takes courage, it takes strength and tenacity....

Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace." [Full statement](#).

Letting go of the "just war" concept and turning to "justpeace" in Catholic Social Teaching

"Pope Francis recently visited the Holy Land and made a surprise offer to the Presidents of Israel and Palestine to "an encounter of prayer" at the Vatican. He has energized a return to a deep reading of the signs of the times, which includes his focus on peacemaking, the poor and creation. One of the most challenging and exciting "signs of the times" is the trajectory of Catholic moral theology and social teaching for letting go of the concept of "just war" and turning to "justpeace" as the approach to moral analysis and engagement, particularly to acute conflict. I sense that the centrality of Mercy, which Pope Francis illuminates, invites us to complete this turn." Eli McCarthy; [read full article](#).

Gates Divests: Israel

[Bloomberg News has confirmed](#) that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation divested all \$184 million of its holdings in G4S following an international, [Palestinian-led campaign](#) urging the foundation to end investments in the British private security company that helps run Israeli prisons that hold and torture Palestinian prisoners. In the U.S., G4S also operates privatized juvenile detention facilities and works with Homeland Security to detain and deport people across the U.S./Mexico border and transport immigrants to detention facilities nationwide.

On the heels of Gates' divestment, public pressure from well-known leaders, and activists' disruption of the company's annual shareholder meeting, [G4S announced](#) that it intends to pull out of Israeli prisons completely. Until it does, the campaigns targeting G4S will and must continue, but this welcome announcement shows the incredible power of divestment and international pressure.

Gun Violence

After his son, 20-year-old Christopher Ross Michaels-Martinez, was killed in the shootings in Santa Barbara

in late May, Richard Martinez shared a powerful message:

"Today, I'm going to ask every person I can find to send a postcard to every politician they can think of with three words on it: "[not one more](#)." People are looking for something to do. I'm asking people to stand up for something. Enough is enough."

[Click here to deliver a postcard](#) to your representative, senators and governor to tell them that not one more person should die because of our broken gun laws.



Capitalism Debate

A cardinal advisor to Pope Francis staunchly defended the pontiff's continuing critiques of the free market system, saying the world's economic system is founded on a "[new idolatry](#)."

Theologians respond to Cardinal Dolan's defense of capitalism. [Click here](#).

Vatican on the Environment

Vatican Sustainability Conference Roundup and Encyclical Update

May 2-6, 2014

"Professors (including several Nobel Laureates) from around the world came to share not just the science of climate change but new ways of measuring economic output and accounting for the 'externalities' of environmental degradation. You can read my [summaries of the talks](#)."

"What came up again and again was the importance of a new vision and new ways to consider this time, our time: a time when we must make critical decisions about how we live more in harmony with our resource-limited planet." --Dan Misleh, [Catholic Climate Covenant](#) Executive Director.

South Sudan

Meeting refugees on the island of Lampedusa early in his pontificate, Pope Francis had these words to say to the world. "**Solidarity**, this word that strikes fear in the more developed world...they try not to say it. It's almost a dirty word for them. But it is our word!" During this same event he called on religious orders to make a stronger commitment to the poor.



SOLIDARITY with South Sudan

In a follow up conference held in Rome in March of this year, treasurers of religious

congregations were called to reject accumulation of goods in order to follow Jesus, "the poor man who lives in **solidarity** with the poor."

Mindful of this challenge and that of the Gospel, we invite religious congregations to partner with Solidarity with South Sudan to assist the church in that war torn country to build the capacity of its people for leadership in the areas of health care, education, pastoral ministry and agriculture. This initiative of the global religious community, a project of the UISG/USG needs the support of every congregation be it in financial donations, personnel and most importantly prayerful support for those in ministry in South Sudan and for peace and reconciliation. Foundations which have promised funding have put their pledges on hold due to the situation in the country. Solidarity, however, continues to build the capacity of the people of South Sudan and needs the support of the global religious community.

Please check the website www.solidarityssudan.org for ways to support this initiative or contact Joan Mumaw, IHM, at the Solidarity office in Silver Spring, MD. at 734 731 3726 or jmumaw.solidarity@gmail.com

Human Trafficking

A few weeks ago, during the visit to this Pontifical Council of the representatives of the CMSM and the LCWR, the painful situation of the fishers' victims of human trafficking was discussed. Here is the latest edition of the "[Apostolatus Maris Bulletin](#)", no. 118, with information on the activities done on behalf of seafarers and fishers all over the world.

Here is an earlier edition, no. 115, with a [great summary article](#) on page 3, "Indifference: the great evil of the maritime world: Forced Migration and Pastoral Care for the People of the Sea.

If you'd like to receive further editions of this bulletin, contact Fr. Gabriele Bentoglio at [<vati047@migrants.va>](mailto:vati047@migrants.va).

J/P Ministry Tip: Homily Notes

For Sunday, June 22, 2014

Consider drawing on the readings to speak about how as disciples of Jesus we are called through the intimate experience of the Eucharist to participate in embodying Christ's Way among us. The participation is deeply personal and communal. We live the Eucharist by allowing our full person -- body and blood -- to be available for the needs of the hungry, the lonely, the afraid, and the wounded. We fully experience the body and blood of Christ as far as we avoid clinging to our own lives. We avoid such clinging by willingly risking our ideas, comforts, status, and physical lives not in any way, but in the particular way of Jesus' nonviolent love of friends, strangers, and enemies. This is the "eating" of Christ's "flesh" and "drinking" of Christ's "blood" that leads to eternal life.

With Hope,



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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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