

## Catholics for Peace and Justice

### AUGUST 2013 Newsletter

In his **May 16 Morning Meditation** Pope Francis exhorted the faithful by saying, with our witness to the truth, Christians must cause discomfort in “our comfortable structures”, even to the point of ending up “in trouble”;

At the same time, in **Habits of the Heart**, Parker Palmer contends that “many Americans have little confidence in their own voices or in their power to make a difference. For many reasons—including the fact that educational and religious institutions tend to teach us how to be an audience to a performance rather than participants in a drama.

Can it be that we, the faithful, doubt the power of the Holy Spirit acting through the faithful community of this world? Or do we, as Americans, fear our culture so much so that it is difficult to move beyond our comfortable circle of experience?

This month we are asking you to make yet one more push beyond your comfort zone. We can literally see immigration reform on the horizon, but without all of us moving beyond ourselves, the opportunity will disappear like a mirage. Read more in “Immigration Reform – You Can Help Finish the Race”

"No one can remain insensitive to the inequalities that persist in the world!" "No amount of peace-building will be able to last, nor will harmony and happiness be attained in a society that ignores, pushes to the margins or excludes a part of itself." *Pope Francis*

Blessings on your ministry!



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### **Pope Francis's Morning Meditation – Even to the Point of Trouble**

Thursday, May 16 2013 - With our witness to the truth, Christians must cause discomfort in “our comfortable structures”, even to the point of ending up “in trouble”, because we must be enlivened by “a healthy spiritual craziness” in all “outskirts of existence”. Following the example of St Paul, who “fought one battle after another”, believers must not retreat “to a relaxed life”.

Today there are “too many arm-chair Christians”, those who are “lukewarm”, people for whom “everything goes well”, but who do not have “inner apostolic ardour”. The starting point of his reflection was taken from the Acts of the Apostles (22:30; 23:6-11) which tells of St Paul's battles. It is “Paul who causes discomfort”. Paul was a man, explained the Pontiff, “who through his teaching and his attitude caused great discomfort because he proclaimed Jesus Christ. And the message of Jesus Christ makes our comfortable structures, even Christian ones, uncomfortable”. [Read More ...](#)  
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### **Immigration Reform – You Can Help Finish the Race to Comprehensive Reform**

Senate Bill S.744 for Comprehensive Immigration Reform which passed in the Senate, has moved to the House of Representatives; however the House is not taking up S.744. Instead, they have five separate bills pending, none of which advocates a road to citizenship for undocumented immigrants. Representatives are now seeking their constituents input; thus, letters and visits to our House Representatives during the August recess are critical. If an overall bill is not passed in early fall chances of bill passage this year is slim as our legislators will turn their attention toward elections.

The House of Representatives, to date, is not outwardly considering S.744. Instead members are taking a piece-meal approach and not considering a bill with a path to citizenship. Over August and early September, when representatives are in their home district **it is important that we reach out to them in support of comprehensive reform which includes the following:**

1. A path to citizenship that is affordable and accessible for undocumented immigrants and their families. [S.744 is \$2000/person] including special consideration for young people [DREAMERS] who came to this country as children.
2. Preservation of family unity; keeping children with parents and expedited processing for family reunification [S.744 includes spouse and children under 21 only / excluding other family members]
3. A viable and robust program for low-skilled workers to enter and work legally, with appropriate worker protections
4. Due process protections for immigrants, including alternatives to detention
5. Policies which address the root causes of migration such as poverty and persecution

**We need to get as many people as possible to contact their congress people.**

1. Beginning now and throughout August [Write and Call Your House Representative](#) multiple times:
2. Ask 3 to 5 others to Write and Call Their House Representative [Offer this information call sheet](#)
3. Plan to attend your representative's town hall meetings in August - [check their website for a listing of meetings](#)
4. Volunteer to Phonebank calling voters and asking them to contact their representative. Calls are made from SEIU office at 600 W. Virginia Street in Milwaukee. Contact Nancy Flores [Voces de la Frontera] at [nancy@vdlf.org](mailto:nancy@vdlf.org) or by phone at 414-643-1620 x208 or 608.358.0565 to volunteer.

Three-quarters of Americans [75%] say immigration policy needs major changes and that it would be better for the economy for undocumented immigrants to gain legal status. Major GOP donors are also lobbying for an overhaul which includes a path to citizenship. [Information Call Sheet to share](#) – Personally ask others to make phone calls to their Representatives

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### **Open the Door and Let 'Em In**

[By Rana Foroohar, Time Magazine, July 22, 2013](#)

“From an Economic standpoint, the battle over immigration reform has always been utterly baffling to me. Immigrants, or the children of immigrants, founded 40% of this country's Fortune 500 firms and untold millions of smaller businesses. They are the key reason that the U.S.'s population growth, and thus its economic growth, is predicted to be higher than that of most of the rest of the rich world over the next couple of decades. Immigrants are the difference between an economy growing at a healthy 3% rate and a sluggish 2%. Why wouldn't we want as many of them as we can get?”

“But the truth is that the net FLOW OF IMMIGRANTS FROM MEXICO TO THE U.S. HAS BEEN SLOWING for a decade. It has now essentially stopped and is likely to reverse later this year, with the number of Mexicans returning home from the U.S. exceeding the number crossing over to America. Increased border patrols and tougher U.S. laws have clearly played a part, but a more important reason is that the economic calculus of migration has changed. The recession hurt prospects in the U.S. Meanwhile, a booming Mexican economy and better educational and job opportunities in Mexico have led many Mexican migrants--who make up 28% of the foreign-born population of the U.S.-to go home.” [Read more:](#)

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### **The All American Canal – Hundreds of Immigrants are Drowning**

In a story called “The All-American Canal,” the newsmagazine 60 Minutes covered the shocking death toll – hundreds of people drowned – when the desperately poor who are lured to the U.S. with the promise of jobs risk their lives in the crossing. “Officials not only refused to take the simple measure of providing safety features like ladders and buoys, but actually took them down when a concerned citizen put some up. The story provides a case study of how dehumanizing language is used to defend the indefensible.” As Christians there is no other answer than to know we are our brother's keeper. [Watch the video.](#)

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### **11X15 Campaign Working Together Moving Forward**

In June our legislature approved a small increase to the budget for Treatment Alternatives and Diversions (TAD) – not enough to make the impact that is needed. Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Program. TAD provides state grants to counties to establish and operate programs that provide alternatives to prosecution and incarceration for criminal offenders who abuse alcohol or other drugs. [The budget doubles TAD funding from \$1 million to \$2 million annually, and mandates annual reports. The budget provides an additional \$500,000 annually for drug courts in counties that do not currently have such programs.] On Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, WISDOM and its affiliates will be gathering to discuss Next Steps for the 11X15 Campaign. Topics to be covered include: Sentencing, TAD and Upfront Diversions, Issues Affecting those Presently Incarcerated, Post Release Needs. Gather with experts: Nicole Porter, Dr. Mike Connelly, Professor Michael O'Hear and others to learn and strategize on next best steps. All stakeholders are invited: WISDOM members, Corrections Dept., Legislators or their representative, TAD service providers, religious leaders, judicial delegates, mental health providers, affected family members, and other interested community members.

**Date and Location :** Thursday, August 22, 2013, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Concourse Hotel, 1 West Dayton Street, Madison. Reservations Please to: WISDOM office (414 831 2070) or [wisdomwi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wisdomwi@sbcglobal.net) \$15 per person,

includes lunch. After August 9th \$20 per person (state regular meal or vegetarian). [FLYER](#)

**About WISDOM's 11X15 Campaign:** In Wisconsin, we know we have too many people in our prisons and through pilot programs, studies and the experience of other state's programs, we know that Treatment Alternatives and Diversions (TAD) work as an alternative to incarceration. These programs are cheaper and more effective than jail and prison time for low-risk offenders. Our state's incarceration rate has grown dramatically in recent decades. The system we now have is wasteful (we spend more than twice as much per year on Corrections as our neighbors in Minnesota, though we have similar populations), it is ineffective (our overuse of prisons and jails makes us less safe than we would be if we used more alternatives), and it is unfair (the racial disparities in Wisconsin's prison system are among the worst in the nation). Incarceration comes with a cost. We pay a huge human price for our overuse of incarceration. Families and communities have been destroyed. The cost of Corrections in Wisconsin has risen from under \$200 million per year in 1990 to more than \$1.3 billion in 2011 – more than we spend on the entire UW Education system. There are effective options.

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### **Common Ground Update**

**Want to get more involved with Common Ground Campaigns?** Come to the next Catholics for Peace and Justice core team meeting. Contact Mary Kleist [maryakleist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryakleist@sbcglobal.net) or [info@catholicsforpeaceandjustice.org](mailto:info@catholicsforpeaceandjustice.org) for more information on attending team meetings.

**Next Fair Play Team Meeting** - Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00 - 7:45 PM - At Hamilton High School, At 7:00pm we will join the team BBQ and be able to speak to the parents, students and coaches of the team..

**Fair Play Bus Tour** - Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am - 12:30pm, We will be taking a bus tour of a school athletic facility that was rated excellent and one that was rated terrible, after which we will tour the Bradley Center with a question and answer period with someone from the Bradley Center.

**CG Delegates Assembly** - Save the Date: **Monday September 30 at 7 pm** Place TBA

For more Common Ground news see the [CG Website](#) and the [latest CG Newsletter](#).

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### **Trayvon, Racism and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" Speech**

In Jim Wallis of Sojourners July 15, 2013 article "[Lament from a White Father](#)", he wrote, "If my white 14-year-old son Luke had walked out that same night, in that same neighborhood, just to get a snack he would have come back to his dad unharmed"... "when the defense put up as a witness a white woman who had been robbed by a black man as central to why Zimmerman picked out Trayvon Martin to follow and stalk — it really said it all. Was she robbed by Trayvon Martin? No. So why should he be suspect because of another black robber? That is racial profiling. Period." To add "more proof" to the profiling, one media outlet in particular re-justified the verdict with quoting endless statistics of black on black crime.

Wallis continues, "As the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. said in his most famous ["I Have a Dream" speech](#), whose 50th anniversary is coming up this August 24th: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." "King's dream failed on February 26, 2012, in Sanford, Fla., when George Zimmerman decided to follow Trayvon Martin because of the color of his skin. This led to a confrontation in which a child was killed by an adult who got away with it, because of the way Florida laws were written and interpreted."

[Mary Adamski of the Hawaii Catholic Herald](#) asks the questions, "What makes one person want and believe he has the right to destroy another, how [does] civilized society fail to draw the line at what behaviour, and attitude is acceptable, or when [does] stupidity or fear or bullying cross the line into racism." She points out that our language and culture is rife with references to killing from kills on the court to killings in the market. "We have shared assumptions about killing." Its okay to kill under authority of the government, or in self-defense, or in resistance to invasion [or in more recent history, as in the case of Iraq, as a preemptive measure.]

The point is that as much as we think we have progressed toward Dr. King's "dream" systemic racism and religious discrimination continue to proliferate within our culture and communities. While the white majority may blindly believe we've turned the corner, it's our sisters and brothers of color and minority religious affiliations who feel the heat. Our challenge is to continue to ask - and more importantly act to change the structure of our culture and laws in ways that

align us more closely with the love of Christ. We must continuously seek to stand firmly together in solidarity regardless of color, origin of country or religious affiliation to yet achieve a nation where each individual person will be "judged by the content of their character" not their "profile".

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### **I am George Zimmerman**

**By Nicole Sotelo, National Catholic Reporter, Jul. 25, 2013**

I have a confession to make. After the verdict in the case of George Zimmerman, I have seen a few articles or postings stating, "I am Trayvon Martin." People want to put a face to the ongoing and very personal consequences of racism in our times. If I were to write something, I would also have to say, "I am George Zimmerman." As someone who is biracial, I resonate with some aspects of both men -- Trayvon and George ... [Read More ...](#)

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### **How to Attract Young Adults to Peace and Justice Ministry**

At the Pax Christi National Conference in June, Patrick Cashio and Adrienne Alexander addressed participants on the topic of getting young adults involved in peace and justice ministry. In follow up, Patrick wrote the following letter which is posted on the Pax Christi website: "I am writing this letter to give you some other resources for finding and inviting young adults into the incredible work of "Pax Christi" [or substitute in the name of Your Parish Ministry]. While Adrienne and I gave you some insight into the lives of young adults, we also wanted to follow up with ways that you can find and invite other young adults. [Click Here for the list of detailed recommendations....](#)

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### **St. Catherine's S.T.A.R.R.S. Mentor Program**

S.T.A.R.R.S. is a school-based, academic mentoring collaboration between Catholic Charities of Milwaukee and St. Catherine's School. The program provides academic support and encouragement to elementary students through one-on-one relationships with mentors. A mentor is someone who provides a student with the tools to grow academically and socially. Mentors serve as a role model and friend helping students reach their full potential by building a positive relationship through listening, helping with homework and spending time with their student. Mentors will meet with their student at St. Catherine's school for two hours a week during the school year and over the summer. GETTING STARTED IS EASY! [For more information Check out the S.T.A.R.R.S. program brochure here](#) or contact one of Catholic Charities' Community Outreach Case Managers: Carlos Perez or Sheng Vang (414) 771-2881 or via email [cperez@ccmke.org](mailto:cperez@ccmke.org) or [svang@ccmke.org](mailto:svang@ccmke.org)

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### **Lanterns for Peace – Aug 3**

Join us in commemorating the anniversary of the atomic attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Saturday, August 3, 2103, 6:00 – 9:00 pm at the Peck Pavilion – 929 W Water St, Milwaukee – rain or shine. [Note New Location]. The evening will include guest speaker Pardeep Kaleka, founder of Serve 2 Unite, and a musical performance by Natty Nation. There will be family activities, traditional Japanese lantern creation, and the floating of lanterns on the Milwaukee River. The event is free and suitable for all ages. Sponsored by Peace Education Project of Peace Action Wisconsin. For more information, go to [www.PeaceActionWI.org](http://www.PeaceActionWI.org) or email [info@peaceactionwi.org](mailto:info@peaceactionwi.org)

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### **Chardhi Kala 6K Memorial Run & Walk – Aug 3**

Saturday, August 3, (on-site registration starts @ 8:30am) Oak Creek High School Track Area, 340 E. Puetz Rd, Oak Creek, WI 53154. "Turning Tragedy Into Triumph" The Chardhi 6K will be a community event honoring those we lost in the attack on the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin on August 5th 2012, as well as celebrating all that we have done to bring the community closer together. 'Chardhi Kala' is the spirit of relentless optimism: a philosophy that empowers us to persevere and grow from hardship Registration: Free (Donations encouraged) Donations received will help support the Chardhi Kala Memorial Scholarship Fund and the August 5th Memorial. For more info & to register online:

[www.chardhikala6k.org](http://www.chardhikala6k.org) Contact: [chardhikala6k@gmail.com](mailto:chardhikala6k@gmail.com)

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### **Weekend of Unity on the Anniversary of the Sikh Temple Shooting – Aug 3/4**

From WI Council of Churches: Please join us August 3rd and 4th, 2013. WI Communities Stand United in Peace on the

One Year Anniversary of the Sikh Temple Shooting. August 5th, 2013, marks the one-year anniversary of the mass shooting at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin in Oak Creek. On that day, 6 people lost their lives, when a white supremacist entered the temple and opened fire. It is during tragic times such as this that we must stand united in peace against gun violence and intolerance. We invite you and your congregation to participate in a Weekend of Unity by incorporating one of the simple actions below into your weekend service. Light a candle in honor of victims of gun violence, Observe a moment of silence for the victims of the Sikh Temple shooting, Ring bells for victims of gun violence, Talk about gun violence and peace, Host a prayer vigil in your community, Take any other action you feel is appropriate

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### **Community Gathering Honoring the Sikh Victims of Violence – Aug 2**

U.S. Attorney James L. Santelle of the Eastern District of Wisconsin has announced that a special observance will be held on Friday, August 2, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 pm in remembrance and honor of the hate crimes victims of violence at the Sikh Gurdwara in Oak Creek. This special community gathering will be held in the Ceremonial Courtroom (Room 390) of the Historic Federal Courthouse, located at 517 East Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee. It will include a reflection offered by the Interfaith Conference on behalf of the area's diverse faith community. [For more details:](#)

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### **Candlelight Vigil on the Anniversary of Sikh Shooting – Aug 5**

An outdoor candlelight vigil will be held on the anniversary date of the shootings, Monday, August 5, at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin, 7512 S. Howell Ave., Oak Creek. It is expected to start on an outdoor stage shortly after the conclusion of a 6 to 8 p.m. Sikh contemplative meditation Simran inside the temple. People throughout the metro area are invited. The Rev. Jean Dow, chair of the Interfaith Conference, will offer an interfaith prayer at the start of the vigil, joined onstage by representatives of the area's diverse faiths. Other prayers will take place during the four-day observance, including a 48-hour continuous recitation from the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib. A Langar (community meal) will be served at the temple throughout this period. [For more details](#)

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### **Vigils for Immigration Reform – Aug 6 & Aug 8**

**Vigil at Ascension Lutheran Church** - On Tuesday August 6th at 6:30 pm - Join us as we pray for our families who are separated due to deportation. Where: Ascension Lutheran Church. The address is 1236 South Layton Blvd. This vigil is in Spanish and English

**ICE Vigil** - Thursday August 8th at 12 pm noon - Purpose: Join us as we stand across from the ICE building in Milwaukee and pray for those who are suffering because they are separated from their families. We also pray for a comprehensive immigration reform bill that will focus on family unity. Where: 310 East Knapp Street in Milwaukee across the street from the ICE Office. This vigil is in English

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### **Nick Turse – Talk and Book Signing – Aug 7**

Author of "Kill Anything That Moves: The Real American War in Vietnam" – Wednesday, August 7, 7:00 pm, talk/signing at Boswell Books (2559 N. Downer Ave.) In June 2001, Nick Turse was a graduate student researching post-traumatic stress disorder among Vietnam veterans at the U.S. National Archives Turse's now decade long investigation of secret Pentagon archives and extensive interviews with American veterans and Vietnamese survivors has produced a groundbreaking book, exposing fully for the first time the workings of a military machine that resulted in millions of innocent civilians killed and wounded—what one soldier called "a My Lai a month." Nick Turse is the author of The Complex, the managing editor for TomDispatch.com, and a fellow at the Nation Institute. His work has appeared in the Los Angeles Times, the San Francisco Chronicle, and The Nation, among other publications.

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### **Dorothy Day, Her Long Loneliness and Her Duty of Delight: - Aug 14**

"Dorothy Day, Her Long Loneliness and Her Duty of Delight: - Inspiration for Lay Ministers" is the title of the 7<sup>th</sup> annual symposium on lay ministry hosted by the Cardinal Stritch Saint Clare Center for Catholic Life. Featuring Dr. Donna Orsuto, Co-founder and Director of the Lay Centre, Rome, Italy. Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2013 at 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Sr. Camille Kliebhan Conference Center, Cardinal Stritch University, 6801 N. Yates Rd. , Milwaukee, WI 53217, \$45 per person (fee includes continental breakfast and lunch) [More Information and Registration](#)

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### **Honoring Trayvon Martin – A Book Study of “The New Jim Crow” – Aug 16**

A Study of the book “The New Jim Crow” by by Ohio State Af. AM. Professor Michelle Alexander

- Why is Wisconsin #1 for jailing black males?
- Let us reason together about the crime of black punishment.

DATE: Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, TIME: 6:00 Potluck, 7:00-8:30 Book Study, PLACE:Waukesha catholic Worker house, 615 Lake Street, Waukesha, WI 53186. PHONE: 262-524-8278. Sponsored by Waukesha catholic Worker and Plowshare Center

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### **"Fluent in Faith -- the Gift of Mary McCormick" – Aug 16-18 at Irish Fest**

"Fluent in Faith -- the Gift of Mary McCormick" is the story of a widow who left Milwaukee in 1968 with her three youngest children to become a missionary in Bogota, Columbia. The authors will be highlighted at Irish Fest in the Literary Corner August 16-17-18. The book, published by Marquette University and released June 30, 2013, is available. [The link to the book:](#)

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### **Interfaith Day at Miller Park – Date Change to August 20**

We've changed the date of this year's Interfaith Day at Miller Park to Tuesday, August 20. Join us for an exciting 7:10 p.m. Brewers vs. Cardinals game. ALL faiths are welcome! Donate food at the ballpark for the Hunger Task Force. Support the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee and our many efforts to counter hate with understanding, tolerance and friendship. Wear our optional "Going to bat for a better world" t-shirts. And every person who attends our Interfaith Day at Miller Park will get a \$10 voucher as they enter the ballpark, good for free food, beverages or merchandise! [New Deadline Order Tickets by August 5](#)

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### **Hearts United 2013 - Year of Faith Celebration – Sep 7**

Saturday September 7, 2013 at 12:30 pm Music Concert, Rally 1- 4 pm at the WI Exposition Center at WI State Fair Park Milwaukee. Cost: \$12 per person; \$5 for under 18 years old. This event will be a historic Eucharistic Rosary Rally for Peace & the Family in response to the spiritual crisis in the culture and for the cause of peace and the family. Everyone is welcome: Presenters will include Fr. Larry Richards from PA and Jesse Romero from CA as well as Archbishop Jerome Listeck. Sponsored by: Rosary Evangelization Apostolate, Men and Women of Christ Ministries in cooperation with the Nazareth Project of the John Paul II Center of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. [register online:](#) or by mail: Rosary Evangelization Apostolate, PO Box 305 Oak Creek, WI 53154 (please include address, phone number and email address so tickets can be sent to you). Contacts: Dick and Terry Boldin 414-570-4389 or [info@rosaryea.org](mailto:info@rosaryea.org).

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### **Poverty Matters Conference – Sept 25/26**

The 2013 WISCAP 'Poverty Matters!' conference will be held September 25 - 26, 2013, at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, Wisconsin. This conference (formerly "Women & Poverty Conference") will bring together human service professionals, community leaders and state officials, low-income advocates, educators and low-income people to talk about the causes and solutions to poverty. [More Information](#)

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### **Rob Hopkins at Brew City Abundance Tour – Oct 15-17**

Rob Hopkins, an independent activist and writer on environmental issues, based in Totnes, England, best known as the founder and figurehead of the Transition Towns movement, which he started in 2005, will be in Milwaukee for the Brew City Abundance Tour hosted by Transition Milwaukee. Save the dates Oct 15-17. More information to come. Hopkins has written three books in support of ecological community Transition: The Transition Handbook (2008), The Transition Companion (2011) and The Power of Just Doing Stuff (2013). [Transition Milwaukee](#)

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### **Join SOA Human Rights Activists at Fort Benning – Nov 22 to 24**

Mark your calendars, please consider joining human rights activists at the SOA [\[What is School of the Americas and](#)

[SOA Watch?](#)] Vigil at Ft Benning the weekend of November 22, 23, and 24th. This year marks the 30th anniversary of Fr. Roy Bourgeois, Fr. Larry Rosebaugh, and Linda Ventimiglia's tree climbing action on the base at Ft Benning. Recently, the Pentagon lost its Court Case over refusal to release names of SOAWHINSEC graduates and Efraim Rios Guatemalan Dictator has been found guilty of Genocide. We must continue our work for justice and close the School of the Americas! For more information contact Barb M. at [jandb@wi.rr.com](mailto:jandb@wi.rr.com)  
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### **Reflection: A Misunderstanding About Consistent Life Ethic**

Quotation of Fr. Frank Pavone, Director, Priests for Life brought to our attention by [Consistent Life Ethic](#)

Note: Fr. Pavone is addressing the misunderstanding that the consistent life ethic requires people who address one issue to likewise address a multitude of others.

"This misunderstanding often causes people to criticize those whose individual or group ministry focuses on a specific issue exclusively . . . It is somewhat like accusing the Alcoholics Anonymous movement of not doing anything about the arms race . . . [and] it can tend to expect the impossible, and expect people and groups to use their already limited time and resources to address any number of issues, any one of which could easily require a lifetime of effort. . . . Yet there is a truth here which must be stressed: no person or group is free to be unconcerned about all the attacks on human dignity, nor are we free to ignore the interdependence of all the efforts on behalf of human life. There are numerous activities being carried out in defense of human dignity. There may not be room for all of them on our schedule, but we must make room for all of them in our heart."

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### **Prayer: Transfiguration on the Anniversary of Hiroshima**

**By Sister Lillia Langreck, SSND from her book "Sparks from the Sacred Fire"**

August 6, 1945

Bombs falling

Hiroshima burning

Death - Destruction -

A city in flames disappears

In one vast mushroom cloud!

So much pain

So much agony

So much devastation

For those left behind!

Yahweh, it was our bombs

Our air force

Our heinous act

Which caused so much pain!

I am truly sorry!

O God, how my heart hurts

And it hurts today

That in the act remembered

Some say, "It was good!"

O God, will we never learn?

Fill my heart with love

That overflows our world.

Let me cradle Mother Earth

And hold her close to my heart

Let your love flow through me

Through Mother Earth

Fill each person with

Wisdom / Love

Give us eyes to see

And hearts open to love

O God, I recall the Mount of Tabor

And your love shining through.

Let this be a Tabor moment

Let your love and light shine through us

Transform us, God,

So that Hiroshima, Nagasaki

Never happens again!

Fill our world, fill our hearts,

With your great longing for peace

Make us all compassionate lovers

So that someday soon

ALL WARS WILL CEASE!