

WALKthe**TALK**

**SGFMC Action for Justice News
December 31, 2020**

This is a limited compilation of **CURRENT** opportunities for action. **Additional suggestions are welcomed at:** marynpaul@comcast.net we will make every effort to share them as quickly as possible.

NOTE: View "Walk the Talk" previous issues at: <http://www.stgilesparish.org/peace-and-justice/>

DEATH PENALTY "...in the light of the Gospel, 'the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an [attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person](#)' and [the Church] works with determination for its abolition worldwide." (USCCB)

DEATH PENALTY **ACTION**

"The Trump Administration has restarted federal executions in a horrifying rush during a pandemic. After a 17 year hiatus, the U.S. Department of Justice has carried out **10 executions** since July 2020 - an unprecedented pace - with more on the way...To resume federal executions once again, especially at this time and at this rate, is an affront to the progress this country has made in eliminating the death penalty state-by-state and bringing us in-line with international human rights standards." **Three more executions are scheduled before inauguration day.**

12/30/20: The *Kansas City Star* calls the potential execution of Lisa Montgomery "Unconscionable"
<https://www.kansascity.com/opinion/editorials/article248166055.html?fbclid=IwAR17XQB2ZiIcJt93cT3-fkgKYrR4ehC6eYGEYv1UWPPwTa2z1ztuUVDGoJg>



"The Well Spirituality Center and the Illinois Prison Project are delighted to present a **virtual** conversation about Redemption and Hope between Sister Helen Prejean, CSJ, and Renaldo Hudson, moderated by Dana Divine of 95.1 F.M. Our conversation will take place on **Saturday, January 9th**. Our conversation begins at **9:30 am CST**.

Please **sign on as early as 9:15** to join our Welcome Space...There are several types of **tickets** to make the event as accessible as possible. Although we depend on your support, we value your presence more. If the cost of a ticket is prohibitive for any reason, please email illinoisprisonproject@gmail.com for access to the event."

REGISTER HERE: <https://secure.givelively.org/event/restore-justice-foundation/illinois-prison-project/redemption-and-hope-a-conversation-between-sister-helen-prejean-and-renaldo-hudson>

GUN VIOLENCE / Domestic Violence

(Due to COVID, there are no volunteer opportunities at this time; but financial support is always welcome.)



READI CHICAGO
REPAIRING AND BUILDING
COMMUNITIES FROM ILLINOIS

<https://www.chicagocreo.org/news-events>



GPEC / ICHV
GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION CENTER
& ILLINOIS COUNCIL AGAINST HANDGUN VIOLENCE

<https://www.ichv.org/>

PENDING GUN LEGISLATION TO WATCH IN ILLINOIS -

- **HB 2254** - Creates the **Safe Gun Storage Act**.

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=2254&GAID=15&DocTypeID=HB&LegId=118046&SessionID=108&GA=101>

- **SB 1966** – Expands **background checks to ALL gun sales**
<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=1966&GAID=15&DocTypeID=SB&SessionID=108&GA=101>
- **SB 2468** - Creates the **Assault Weapon Retailers' Tax Act.**
<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=2468&GAID=15&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=123022&SessionID=108&GA=101>
- **HB 5170** - ...Amends the **Firearm Owners Identification Card Act.**
<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=5170&GAID=15&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=125571&SessionID=108>

SHARE THESE:

Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline **1-877-863-6338**

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline **1-800-273-8255** (24/7, English/Spanish)

IMMIGRATION : PLEASE KEEP PRAYING FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN DETENTION AND FAMILIES WHO WERE SEPARATED AT OUR BORDERS



Urgent Need: In-Person Post-Detention Volunteers “**Volunteers are greatly needed to greet individuals being released in Broadview, weekdays, 1:45PM-3PM. Please contact Colin McCormick, the Post-Detention Program Director at cmccormick@icdichicago.org.** All COVID PPE will be provided to volunteers who are able to support this great need.”

Interfaith Prayer Vigil – Pray at Home: Friday mornings @ 7:15 am - 8:00 am – “Every Friday morning we hold a prayer vigil in solidarity with detained immigrants at 7:15 AM (CST). On the first Friday of every month the prayer vigil is interfaith. On the remaining Fridays we pray the Roman Catholic rosary. All are welcome every week. The prayer vigil is currently ‘virtual’. To receive a link, please email: hello@icdichicago.org.”



SOJOURNERS “**Immigration Mondays: Join us to pray and act**”

“Join us on the last Monday of every month at **12 Noon CDT** for prayer and action in support of DACA and the broader immigrant community. RSVP for *Immigration Mondays* below to receive a zoom meeting link and password!” <https://act.sojo.net/page/19116/survey/1?ea.url.id=614874>



<https://www.voterve.net/JFI/Campaigns/72538/Respond>

“As Catholics, we affirm the inherent dignity of every person and the ability of refugees to seek security and safety for themselves and family members...”

With your attention and action, this important legislation can move forward in the coming weeks!

1. **H.R. 2146/S.1088, the GRACE Act**, which returns the minimum annual resettlement goal to the historic average of 95,000 refugees;
2. **H.R. 2114 /S. 1123, the NO BAN Act**, which ends six Presidential executive actions that have reduced access to resettlement, asylum and family reunification.
3. **H.R. 5581 the Access to Counsel Act**, which allows access to counsel for asylum seekers, who are inspected by Custom and Border Protection.

ENVIRONMENT



“For over 10 years, Faith in Place has offered the **Eco-Ambassador Program** during the summer to **youth 14-18 years of age**...This year the program is going **year-round** for youth interested in continuing their

summer Eco-Ambassador experience, leadership projects, connection to nature, and understanding about environmental justice...

Schedule

The program will run for 32 weeks from approximately the beginning of February to the end of June. Expect to dedicate 3-5 hours per week. Parent and youth orientation will take place at the end of January.

Location

The Year-Round Eco Ambassador Program is a hybrid program, meaning that it takes place both virtually and in person. Due to Covid-19, the program will remain virtual until in-person programming is agreed upon by the CDC, Illinois State Policies, and Faith in Place.

Stipend

\$50 per week for Eco Ambassadors
\$100 stipend for Leadership Project Investments

Please **complete this application form and set up an interview by January 15th, 2021:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTwd_1yVRvKJ-h8LLcfY3IYzoKH-BJmKk3TUh081Gi18E5rw/viewform?usp=sf_link



SIERRA CLUB

ILLINOIS CHAPTER

You can help **pass H.R. 1**, the *"For the People Act"*

- **Expand voting access & restore voting rights:** Create a nationwide automatic voter registration system and have same day voter registration, restore the Voting Rights Act,
- **Protect our elections:** Safeguard our election infrastructure from hostile actors;
- **Strengthen ethics laws:** Curb the influence of corporate polluters by requiring the President to disclose their tax returns, put tougher restrictions on lobbying, prevent elected officials from spending taxpayer dollars to settle sexual harassment lawsuits;
- **Fixing our broken campaign finance system:** Empower small-dollar donors, support small-dollar public financing of elections, and combat the influence of "dark money" unleashed by Citizens United
- **Let the people pick their elected officials, not politicians pick their voters:** Ban partisan gerrymandering and increase protections for communities of color.

<https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/National?actionId=AR0307194&id=7013100001iOuIAAU>

...and more...



**housing
FORWARD**
ending homelessness

"To learn about our COVID Response and [Emergency Housing Assistance](#), click

here: <https://www.housingforward.org/covid-19-updates>

Follow the links in bold to [volunteer your time](#) or [donate to our Emergency Response Fund](#) or help with our [Hotel to Home](#) Initiative. If you are in need of housing assistance, call us at 708.338.1724, visit www.myentrypoint.org or call 1-877-426-6515."



**ONE EARTH
FILM FESTIVAL**

One Earth Film Fest Returns March 5-14, 2021!

If you took advantage of ONE EARTH's many opportunities to view films on line this year, please consider becoming a member and/or making a donation to support them. https://www.oneearthfilmfest.org/donate-now?mc_cid=278d900b1d&mc_eid=518b1e7fd8