



**SGFMC Action for Justice News
FEBRUARY 2023**

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/>

GUN VIOLENCE/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/INCARCERATION/CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence at St. Edmund Campus (188 S. Oak Park Ave.) Saturday, February 25 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm "Join us on the rectory lawn for our monthly vigil. It is our way of standing against the culture of violence in our country."



In an average year, over 10,300 hate crimes in the United States involve a firearm – more than 28 each day. Easy access to guns gives a single, hate-filled individual the means to shatter numerous lives and whole communities. Text READY to 644-33 to join the fight to [#DisarmHate](#) in 2023.

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| <p>Mar</p> <p>02</p> | <p>IL - Elmhurst- Moms Demand Training Event- Learn How to Be a Gunsense Voter</p> | <p>Thursday, March, 2nd, 7:00 pm</p> <p>Elmhurst Public Library 125 S Prospect Ave Elmhurst, IL 60126</p> |
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Illinois SB 2073: Retroactive Parole for Children and Young Adults – "Senate Bill 2073 would allow people currently incarcerated and convicted when they were younger than 21 to benefit from recent prospective parole laws. The recent laws, [Public Act 102-1128](#) (2023) and [Public Act 100-1182](#) (2019) created the first new parole opportunities in Illinois since our state abolished parole in 1978. Together, the laws ensure no children 17 and younger can receive a life without parole sentence; they also extend parole consideration to most people 18-20.

SB 2073 would apply both bills retroactively to make sure youthful parole opportunities are applied fairly and evenly and bring Illinois in line with most states that have abolished life without parole for children and young adults." <https://restorejusticeillinois.org/legislation/senatebill2073/>



Let's get this DONE! It is almost 2 years since bi-partisan H.R. 2119 PASSED in the US House. Urge the SENATE to pass S.1275: "The Family Violence and Prevention Services Act (FVPSA) provides dedicated funding for advocacy, safe shelter, and culturally-appropriate supportive services for domestic violence victims. Contact your senators to reauthorize [#FVPSA](#)! Go to <https://bit.ly/3IZrfuy>. "
<https://niwrc.quorum.us/campaign/35530/>



**CATHOLIC
MOBILIZING
NETWORK**

"Mercy in Action Project" Sign up to receive monthly alerts about upcoming executions which include resources for prayer and advocacy. <https://catholicismobilizing.org/action/mercy-action-project>

"On the First Friday of each month, Catholic Mobilizing Network holds a Virtual Prayer Vigil to lament upcoming executions and bear witness to the inviolable dignity of all human life. Our next vigil **is Friday, January 6 at 1 PM CT**. Virtual prayer vigils are held live via Zoom conference and livestreamed on [CMN's Facebook page](#)." **RSVP here:** <https://catholicismobilizing.org/first-friday-vigils> **Link will be sent to your email on the day of the vigil.**



**DEATH PENALTY
ACTION** <https://deathpenaltyaction.org/>



**American
Friends
Service
Committee**

<https://www.afsc.org/action/take-action-abolish-death-penalty-once-and-all?ms=WEB23LPGI>

IMMIGRATION



Bethany House of Hospitality "*Empowering Young Women Seeking Asylum*" - a facility to give unaccompanied young women immigrants, who are aging out of youth detention, an alternative to adult detention when they turn 18 years old. **[NOTE: IIM (Intercultural Immigration Ministry of Oak Park Catholic churches) works with Bethany House]**

What you can do: <http://bethanyhouseofhospitality.com/how-you-can-participate/>

Volunteer your time and talents to develop relationships with our residents. Use our [Contact Form](#) to let us know you would like to volunteer.

Offer an in-kind gift. We always need paper products (*paper towels, toilet paper, sanitary napkins*), personal products (*shampoo, conditioner, lotion, body wash, liquid hand soap*), bedding and towels. See our [Amazon Wish List](#) for more ideas!



Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants

Monthly Meeting, first Thursday of each month. (Next meeting: Thurs. 03/02/23 @ Noon)

- **REGISTER HERE:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsde2spjotHtJBQ97mO9XQRns5BwjnisjJ>

SIGN UP HERE to receive the monthly newsletter:

<https://icdichicago.us11.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=82b0654ecb0fb507bb0263776&id=c00f4d7cff>

Chicago Immigrant Transit Assistance (CITA)

- **DONATE -** <https://icdi.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/icdi/donation.jsp?campaign=70>
- **ORDER CITA DONATIONS -** https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2FQU4YLB8338/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex
(Note: Wish list is updated weekly according to the needs at the storage.)
- **VOLUNTEER -** <https://www.icdichicago.org/volunteer>

[Note: **CITA program** is featured at the [Elmhurst History Museum](https://www.elmhursthistory.org/316/Current-Exhibits) new exhibit In Pursuit of Happiness: Immigrants in Our Communities - focuses on the stories and experiences of immigrants in our area. The exhibit will be open **from October 28, 2022 - May 14, 2023**] <https://www.elmhursthistory.org/316/Current-Exhibits>

ENVIRONMENT: -



Native Organizers Alliance

"Currently, public land containing a Tribal sacred place or treaty rights to fish or hunt may be sold to private developers or put under state control regardless of a Tribe's relationship to the land."

https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/protect-native-places-petition?link_id=2&can **Follow HERE:**

S4421: "Advancing Tribal Parity on Public Land" Act <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senatebill/4421/all-actions>

HR8109 "Tribal Cultural Areas Protection" Act <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/housebill/8109/actions>

PLEASE keep advocating for this. (Will be very hard to pass in the new Congress.)



Join Black, Indigenous, Latinx and frontline communities along the Gulf Coast that are leading the fight against the new oil export infrastructure. **"Tell the Maritime Administration and Coast Guard to deny the GulfLink Oil Terminal!"**

<https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/National?actionId=AR0372286&id=7013q000001y7IqAAI&data=1fff60b0fb2b3c15041b7a9d811ebe8328501c98e3a>

AND...

EARTHWORKS

"Advocates argue approving GulfLink would exacerbate environmental racism, undermine climate goals" <https://earthworks.org/releases/opposition-grows-against-another-oil-export-terminal-proposed-on-the-texas-coast/>

FOOD AND SHELTER:



Volunteers needed for the SHELTER at St. Catherine/St. Lucy, 38 N. Austin Blvd.

1. Evening – 6:30p until 10:30p (3 volunteers)
2. Overnight – 10:30p until 5:00a (2 volunteers)
3. Morning – 5:00a until 7:00a (2 volunteers)

Volunteer HERE: <https://www.housingforward.org/get-involved/volunteer>



"Volunteers are critical to every aspect of our operation, providing over 2,000 hours of collective time every month..." <https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/>



"We welcome **volunteers** to assist with the day-to-day operations that make Oak Park Community Fridge possible. Become a fridge manager to maintain our fridge, stock the fridge by distributing food from our partners, and help with behind-the-scenes operations." <https://www.opfridge.com/volunteer>

...and more...

How/where to help earthquake relief for people in Syria and Turkey? See CHARITY NAVIGATOR for suggestions and ratings: <https://www.charitynavigator.org/discover-charities/where-to-give/earthquakes-turkey-syria/>



MARCH 3-12 "Join us March 3 to 12 for One Earth

Film Fest as well as April 19 to 23 for Earth Week Mini Film Fest" **TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW** for in-person and online viewing. (Full listing **HERE:** <https://www.oneearthfilmfest.org/>)

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



FAITH AND JUSTICE INTERNSHIP

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is the official anti-poverty, social justice program of the US Catholic Bishops, working to promote systemic change, leadership development and empowerment of low-income communities through grants and transformative education.

2023–2024 Academic Year Internship

Intern will work with staff to promote CCHD throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago including outreach, education, communication, marketing, grantmaking, research and community partnership projects.

Requirements:

- Work 15 hours/week at a rate of \$15/hour
- Attend a training in Washington DC (all expenses paid) from May 31–June 2, 2023
- Commitment to your Catholic faith and passion for addressing root causes of poverty through the lens of Catholic social teaching

Apply by Friday, March 31 at 11:59 p.m. CST at [CCHDchicago.org](https://cchdchicago.org).

For more information, contact Danielle Bodette at dbodette@archchicago.org.

"The church
needs us."

Pope Francis



DIRECTORY: (post and share these numbers widely, please!)

- o National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233
- o Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline 1-877-863-6338
- o National Sexual Assault Hotline (all ages) 1-800-656-4673
- o CAWC/Connections for Abused Women & Children <https://www.cawc.org/>
- o SARAH'S INN: 24-HOUR CRISIS LINE: [708-386-4225 \(phone\)](tel:708-386-4225) / [708-669-6149 \(text\)](tel:708-669-6149)
- o Trevor Line (for LGBTQ teens and young adults) 1-866-488-7386
- o National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: **DIAL 988** – 24/7, toll-free everywhere