

# WALKtheTALK

SGFMC Action for Justice News

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

## JANUARY 2024

**"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God..." (Matt. 5:9)**



**Saturday, Jan.13 – 3PM- 4:30 PM CST – livestream: [youtube.com/@ChurchesforMEP](https://youtube.com/@ChurchesforMEP)**



**CANDLELIGHT PRAYER VIGIL**  
*for a Ceasefire*

Join Christian leaders in prayer for a ceasefire and demilitarization in Israel and Palestine.

The White House  
Lafayette Square, 1600 Penn. Ave NW  
**JAN 13TH | 4 - 5:30 PM EST**  
All faiths welcome  
Electronic candles will be provided

**Church Leaders**  
Register your group to co-sponsor the vigil  
[info@cmep.org](mailto:info@cmep.org)

**Livestream**  
[youtube.com/@ChurchesforMEP](https://youtube.com/@ChurchesforMEP)

**\*\*NOTE – the Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence is moving back home!** Please join us on **Saturday, January 27th, at 6:00 PM** (following the 5PM Mass) **at ST. EDMUND CHURCH, 188 S. Oak Park**

**SAVE THE DATE! Coming to St. Giles, Mon, March 11, 2024, 7-9 PM: An evening with FR. JOHN DEAR** "Peacemaker, author, and Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, **Father John Dear**, will be with us to talk about and sign copies of his new book, his life's work: ***The Gospel of Peace: A Commentary on Matthew, Mark, and Luke from the Perspective of Nonviolence.*** It is the first ever commentary on the Synoptic Gospels from the perspective of active nonviolence in the tradition of Gandhi and Dr. King. In this original work, Fr. John walks us through every line of the three synoptic Gospels pointing out Jesus' practice and teachings on nonviolence, peace, and universal love..." **Registration info coming soon – watch this space...**



**sarah's inn**

together strong

<https://sarahsinn.org/> and the 24-HOUR CRISIS LINE: 708-386-4225 (phone) /

708-669-6149 (text). Sarah's Inn provides comprehensive services for families impacted by domestic violence. Families get the support they need to find safety, rebuild their lives, and heal.



<https://www.cawc.org/about-programs/> Multi-lingual shelter, hospital services, education and outreach programs, counseling, court advocacy, and more! **[CAWC 24-HOUR HOT LINE: [773.278.4566](tel:773.278.4566) ]**

**FOR YOUR REFERENCE... (please post and share these numbers widely!)**

○ **National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233**

- [Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline 1-877-863-6338](tel:18778636338)
- National Sexual Assault Hotline (all ages) 1-800-656-4673

- 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

***"Let us pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country." – Pope Francis***



**Urge President Joe Biden and his administration to honor the sanctity of life by prioritizing an **end to the federal death penalty**.** <https://catholicmobilizing.org/biden-end-federal-dp>

**[URGENT! Please** read the background on Kenneth Eugene Smith (Alabama) **and speak out]**  
<https://catholicmobilizing.org/action/2022-10/stop-execution-kenneth-eugene-smith>



**DEATH PENALTY  
ACTION**

"The following link is to an updated list of **currently scheduled executions** in the United States. **Select the prisoner's name to sign the petition** which will be delivered on your behalf to the respective state's government officials". <https://deathpenaltyaction.org/take-action/execution-petitions/>

**URGENT ACTION NEEDED:**

January 25, 2024 at 6:00 pm CT: [Kenneth Smith in Alabama](#)

February 1, 2024 at 10:00 am CT: [James Ryder in Oklahoma](#)

**Where to political candidates stand, on eliminating the death penalty? TRACK THE CANDIDATES HERE:** <https://deathpenaltyaction.org/2024candidatepositions/>

***"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me..." Matthew 25: 35***



**The Migrant Ministry** has MOVED to the former school at St. Edmund's (200 S. Oak Park Ave.) If you are interested in volunteering, please contact: [immigrantministry@gmail.com](mailto:immigrantministry@gmail.com)

ITEM DONATIONS – clothing donations will be welcome at the north entrance of the school on Pleasant Ave. Only these items are needed: **winter jackets, sweatpants especially for men and boys, leggings for women, hoodies, and layering items, socks, gloves, hats, blankets, suitcases, and sleeping bags. We continue to need new underwear for men, women, and children. For men boxer briefs in small and medium. For women underwear and sports bras in small and medium. For children underwear in all sizes, particularly for boys.** We ask you please to stick to this list.

Here is the current **AMAZON** wish list:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VKSYQWISEBOM?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VKSYQWISEBOM?ref=wl_share)



**848 Lake Street, Oak Park** – "A variety of volunteer shifts are available, during weekday, evening, and weekend hours. We offer shifts that run the gamut, including data entry, repacking, serving Pantry guests, and unloading delivery trucks. We hope to provide a volunteer opportunity for everyone, at every ability level."

<https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/volunteer>



"Volunteers are a key part of operating our emergency warming shelter for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness. The volunteer opportunities for this shelter are:"

- **Evening Shelter Host:** Volunteers help get set-up for the evening, greet the shelter guests as they arrive, help them to set up their sleeping area, host dinner, and interact with clients until lights out;
- **Overnight Attendant:** Volunteers support staff in ensuring a safe experience for the shelter guests;
- **Breakfast Host:** Volunteers serve a light breakfast, help shelter guests exit and assist with light clean-up;
- **Meal Provider:** Volunteers donate a full hot dinner, and/or continental breakfast, and/or sack-to-go lunches for 15 people.

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



"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>



"**The Night Ministry** is a Chicago-based organization whose mission is to provide human connection, housing support, and health care to members of our community who are unhoused or experiencing poverty..."

<https://www.thenightministry.org/other-ways-to-support>

**"The Earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof..." Psalm 24:1**

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO 



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Catholic Youth Climate Summit 2024

Sunday, February 25, 2024 | 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
St. Ignatius College Prep  
1076 Roosevelt Road, Chicago, IL 60608

### Are You Ready to Move the Conversation Forward?

**Celebrate** the beginning of the Summit at Mass with His Eminence Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, concelebrated with Fr. Pat Fairbanks, SJ and Fr. Mark Luedtke, SJ. Families are welcome to join and support their teens, ages 14 – 18, for Mass.

**Connect and Grow** with other teens to meet the challenges of the climate crisis within a faith community; grow as a leader and advocate for our common home.

**Impact** your school, Church and community by developing an action plan to address climate change in a day of discernment, fellowship, prayer, and empowerment.

Lunch will be provided during the Summit.

**9 a.m. Registration sign-in** (Pre-Registration required at [forms.office.com/r/fZyjcAMBtz](https://forms.office.com/r/fZyjcAMBtz))

**10 a.m. Mass at the Church of the Holy Family** (adjacent to St. Ignatius College Prep)

*"We need a conversation that includes everyone..."*

– Pope Francis (Laudato Si' 14)

**PRE-REGISTER HERE!**



**REGISTRATION:** <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=o-0BRmklpkqOCzBfwpVBLh5mG0xRhKxPmjZNj-qSPZhUMzE3RVFVVUJDT0IHSzFEODI2UKY5MzMzTS4u>



**Natural Resources Defense Council:** stop the Dakota Access Pipeline once and for all.

"Submit your public comment to the Army Corps of Engineers and join the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in demanding a new, unbiased Environmental Impact Statement that adequately assesses the environmental impact of the Dakota Access Pipeline." <https://action.nrdc.org/letter/2380-dapl-comment-period-act-102723?initms=WB>

**...and more...**

### **How to Help the Asylum Seeker as a Layperson**

Immigration Attorney Ana Fuentes of Fuentes Palmisano, PC will be giving pointers for those interested in helping immigrants who are navigating the complex asylum process on their own.

- **Sunday, January 14 from 2 to 4 pm**
- McDonough Hall on the St. Giles Campus - 1101 Columbian Avenue in Oak Park, IL 60302
- **RSVP by Wednesday, January 10**
- Organized by Intercultural Immigration Ministry (IIM) of Ascension and St. Edmund Parish

**RACE CONSCIOUS DIALOGUES** <https://raceconsciousdialogues.org/> The primary focus is working with the privileged majority in the context of affinity groups, in a four-part workshop series. Topics include whiteness, socialization, social identity, dominant narratives, privilege, racism interruption, solidarity, systems of oppression and more.

*\*WINTER 2024\* COHORTS*

**FOUNDATIONAL COURSE on WHITENESS & ANTI-RACISM**

**VIRTUAL: Thursdays 9AM-12PM: January 25TH- February 15TH**

**IN-PERSON: Sundays 2PM-5PM: January 21ST- February 11TH in Oak Park, IL**

**\*\* What YOU can do in 2024 - help to insure that every eligible person in this country is given the opportunity to VOTE! \*\***

**CONGRESS.GOV**

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1/related-bills>



<https://americansofconscience.com/01-05-2024/>



<https://votefwd.org/>