

WALKtheTALK

SGFMC Action for Justice News
June 3, 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/>

GUN VIOLENCE/Domestic Violence



ST. EDMUND CHURCH (Oak Park) Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence – SAT., JUNE 27th, 6:30 – 7:00 PM Gun sales, especially hand-guns, continued at a record rate in May, according to [Small Arm Analytics and Forecasting](#) **Consider setting aside this half-hour to pray in solidarity with all people working to end gun violence.**

wear orange



#wearorange weekend starts june 5

[IL - Oak Park - Wear Orange Survivor Care Packages](#) Oak Park-Austin Community - Oak Park, IL 60302 – Saturday, June 13, 10:00 AM

"Isolation can compound grief, and we want to show survivors that even while sheltering in place, we see them, and honor their lost loved ones. How can we support survivors and bring awareness to gun violence at this time? We will collect and distribute kits for children to make memory boxes and self-care packages for mothers. We will have a Facebook group where families can present their boxes and talk about the items that remind them of their lost loved ones, tell stories and share. We will hold still vigil, albeit virtually."

To donate or help with deliveries, please RSVP. <https://act.everytown.org/event/wear-orange-2020/33565>



SHARE THIS [April 2020: The Illinois Department of Human Service

launched a \$1.2 million plan to increase the capacity of its current statewide network of services for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors during the COVID-19 pandemic.] "From March 21 to April 22, 2019, the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline received five text messages...In 2020, in the same time frame, the number was 118, **an increase of over 2,000-percent.**" (<https://the-network.org/>)

"...If you are experiencing domestic violence or live in fear of it...please know that you can call our Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline at **1-877-863-6338** for help."

IMMIGRATION



Interfaith Prayer Vigil – Pray at Home: Friday mornings @ 7:15 am - 8:00 am – "Join us every Friday ...for the **Interfaith Prayer Vigil** ... We gather in solidarity with people who are detained or being deported. People of all faiths are welcome." **[SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENT FOR ICDI'S VIGIL PRAYERS YOU CAN USE AT HOME!]**



American Friends Service Committee

"...Join AFSC in calling on governors in every state and the leadership of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to respect the human rights and dignity of every person and take steps that help create healthier and safer communities for us all."

<https://www.afsc.org/action/tell-your-governor-and-ice-protect-people-prisons-jails-and-detention-centers-covid-19>



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

ENVIRONMENT



SIERRA CLUB

From the *Sierra Club*: ways YOU can help (besides staying home!)

- The State of Illinois, along with United Way Illinois and the Alliance of Illinois Community Foundations: [Illinois COVID-19 Response Fund](#) that will be distributed to non-profits.
- The largest coronavirus hotspot in Illinois is in the Cook County jail, where those without enough money to post bail are awaiting trial. [The Chicago Community Bond Fund](#) is helping those awaiting trial to leave the jail.
- [The Little Village Mutual Aid Fund](#) serves the most vulnerable people in Little Village and its surrounding communities.
- [Food banks throughout Illinois](#) including the [Greater Chicago Food Depository](#) are feeding those who are food insecure.
- [WINGS](#) is providing resources and housing to those suffering from domestic violence.
- [Ignite](#), [Connections for the Homeless](#), [The Night Ministry](#), [Cornerstone Community](#), and [La Casa Norte](#) all help people without a home.
- [All Chicago](#) provides financial aid for low-income individuals for their living and transportation needs.
- [Thresholds](#) provides housing, mental health care, substance abuse treatment, and financial support throughout Chicago and Illinois.



SIERRA CLUB

Halt Keystone XL Construction Due to Coronavirus Public Health

Emergency: "TC Energy (formerly TransCanada) is disregarding public health and safety and moving hundreds of workers to rural and Tribal communities along the path of its proposed Keystone XL pipeline, endangering their well-being along with that of local community residents. These communities are unequipped to handle the public health threat of a COVID-19 outbreak, in addition to the increased crime and sexual violence – especially targeting Indigenous women -- arising from pipeline worker 'man camps.' ...**stand with rural and Tribal communities, calling on Montana Governor Steve Bullock to immediately halt all construction activity on the Keystone XL project and recall all workers TC Energy has *already* dispatched into the small rural and Tribal communities.**"

https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/National?actionId=AR0257196&id=7013q000002CLsNAAW&data=1fff60b0fb2b3c15041b7a9d811ebe8328501c98e3af2078705cd6a798d4addf98a2b5f1e5f4bc75afb4f6176849f84a&utm_medium=email&utm_source

...and more...



SOJOURNERS

"With the 2020 presidential election on the horizon, and new challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, the right to vote is under attack. If you care about our democracy, now is the time to act."

Add your name **HERE:** <https://act.sojo.net/page/19213/action/1?ea.url.id=469291&forwarded=true>



Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

Virtual "March on Washington" Saturday, June 20, 2020.

- The Mass Poor People's Assembly and Moral March on Washington will be the largest digital gathering of poor, dispossessed and impacted people, faith leaders, and people of conscience on June 20, 2020.
- The increasing urgency of a broad movement led by the poor and most impacted is more apparent every day. Now is the time to organize towards collective action to enact a moral agenda for the nation. As our ranks grow in the coming months due to COVID-19 and the ongoing crisis of poverty, building a platform for the plight, fight, and insight of the poor is even more urgent.

Email illinois@poorpeoplescampaign.org or visit illinoisppc.org



BlackVotersMatterFund.org

“Black Voters Matter Fund is in the process of identifying and building relationships with communities and organizations which would like to expand their civic engagement work and which are committed to building progressive power in the south. BVMF is particularly interested in supporting organizing work and electoral campaigns related to:

- the criminal justice system excessive force and ending mass incarceration. In many communities, too little attention and resources are focused on elected offices such as district attorneys, sheriffs and judges;
- voting rights/access, including restoration of the Voting Rights Act, ending voter suppression efforts such as voter id and felony disenfranchisement, ballot access for independent efforts and campaign finance reform; and
- economic justice, including exploring new models for equitable development.”

<https://www.blackvotersmatterfund.org/take-action>



**INTERFAITH COMMUNITY
FOR DETAINED IMMIGRANTS**

Prayer Vigil for Immigrant Justice

Welcome

Invocation (Read together)

Source of Life who is known by many names;
We gather with gratitude for the earth and all who journey in it.
We give you thanks for the interconnectedness of all creation.

Source of Justice who is known by many names;
Open our eyes that we may see the immigrant and undocumented;
Not as threats, but see siblings whose dignity is tied to our own dignity
And whose lack of freedom calls into question our own freedom;

Source of Wisdom who is known by many names;
let us not forget that your creation is founded on justice;
And that we have the moral responsibility to bring forth justice into these times;

May it be so.

First Intention (Read together)

We pray for the people being deported from all detention centers in the country, especially the ones deported from Jerome Combs Detention Center.

Lifting up of names

(You are invited to lift up names aloud of those who are being deported, those who have been deported, those who are in detention, or anyone affected by the inhumane immigration system.)

Faith Reflection - Jewish

Second Intention (Read together)

We pray for families who have experienced the devastation of raids and deportations. For the children who have lost parents; for the husbands and wives who were left alone to take care of their families; for all undocumented people who experience fear and live in a state of uncertainty.

Song – I’m Gonna Lift My Sister Up (Verse 1)

I’m gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy,
I’m gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy,
I’m gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy,
If I don’t lift her up,
If I don’t lift her up,
If I don’t lift her up,
I will fall down.

Faith Reflection - Christian

Third Intention (Read together)

We pray for all those connected with the Department of Homeland Security, that they treat people with respect. We pray for ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the staff of all detention centers in our country.

Song – I’m Gonna Lift My Sister Up (Verse 2)

I’m gonna lift my brother up, he is not heavy,
I’m gonna lift my brother up, he is not heavy,
I’m gonna lift my brother up, he is not heavy,
If I don’t lift him up,
If I don’t lift him up,
If I don’t lift him up,
I will fall down.

Faith Reflection - Muslim

Fourth Intention (Read together)

We pray for leaders in our country and leaders of all faiths that we may work together with a common wisdom to stop deportations and work towards compassionate immigration policies.

Song – I’m Gonna Lift My Sister Up (Verse 3)

I’m gonna lift my people up, they are not heavy,
I’m gonna lift my people up, they are not heavy,
I’m gonna lift my people up, they are not heavy,
If I don’t lift them up,
If I don’t lift them up,
If I don’t lift them up,
I will fall down.

Fifth Intention (Read together)

We pray that the spirit of goodness and love be a more powerful witness than the spirit of fear, hatred and discrimination expressed in anti-immigrant legislations in the country.

We pray for President Trump, elected officials and the general public to continue opening their minds and hearts to find a way for compassionate immigration policies.

Oración por los Migrantes

Creador Amoroso, lleno de amor y misericordia, quiero pedirte por mis hermanos migrantes: Ten piedad de ellos y protégelos, pues sufren maltratos y humillaciones en su caminar, son señalados por la mayoría como peligrosos, y marginados por ser extranjeros. Haz que les respetemos y valoremos su dignidad. Toca con tu bondad el corazón de cuantos los vemos pasar. Cuida a sus familias hasta que regresen a sus casas, no con el corazón roto, sino con sus esperanzas colmadas. Así sea.

Prayer for Migrants

Loving Creator, full of love and mercy, I want to offer this prayer for my migrant siblings: Have mercy on them and protect them, as they suffer mistreatment and humiliation on their journeys, are labeled by many as dangerous, and marginalized for being foreigners. Make them respected and valued for their dignity. Touch with Your goodness the many that see them pass. Care for their families until they return to their homes, not with broken hearts, but with hopes fulfilled. Let it be so.

Closing Blessing

Joys and Concerns/Announcements

Song – We Shall Overcome

We shall overcome
We shall overcome
We shall overcome someday Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
We shall overcome
This YEAR!

Since January 2007 the ICDI Prayer Vigil has occurred every Friday at 7:15 AM, rain or shine.
First Fridays are Interfaith. Other Fridays we pray the rosary. All are welcome each week.



www.icdichicago.org