

WALKtheTALK

SGFMC Action for Justice News

MAY 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/>

"Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me...."

Join the Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence: Please join us on **Saturday, May 27 at 6:00 PM** on the **Ascension Parish Green (808 S. East Ave.)** Please note the change of location due to the St. Edmund campus temporarily being closed.

Gun Violence Awareness Month June 2023 [#WearOrange](#) next **Friday (6/2) – Sunday (6/4)** National Gun Violence Awareness Weekend

Get involved and support National Gun Violence Awareness Day in a few ways:

- Mark your calendars with a reminder to [#WearOrange](#) on **June 2 (a pin, a scarf – GET CREATIVE!)**
- Attend [an event](#) in your community: **Oak Park Austin Area - Wear Orange in the Garden: Saturday, June 3rd 9-11AM: Mercy Garden for Peace and Healing - 4910 W Quincy St - Chicago, IL 60644** ("Join us as we honor victims of gun violence during our annual Wear Orange event. We will inaugurate the Garden for Peace and Healing by planting vegetables.")
- Go to one of the official "Wear Orange" sites and share one of their pre-created [social media posts](#) on your personal or business social media page
- [Display a poster](#) from your window, door, office space or car"



COMMUNITY OF
CONGREGATIONS

Rev. Ciera Bates-Chamberlain (Live Free Illinois) Oak Park

Temple, 1235 N Harlem Ave., Oak Park - Tuesday, May 30, 2023 • 7:00pm

"Do you want to build capacity for justice within your congregation and community? Learn from Rev. Ciera Bates-Chamberlain and her organizers at Live Free Illinois, a Black-led advocacy and congregational-organizing coalition that addresses public safety and criminal justice reform."

Live Free Illinois partners with people of all faiths who share their vision of change. Rev. Ciera Bates-Chamberlain created a faith coalition with Rev. Otis Moss III, Rabbi Seth Limmer, and Fr. Michael Pfleger who have written over 25 Chicago Tribune editorials on how to make Chicago a safer, more humane city.

To RSVP, email us at oprffc@gmail.com

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



**CATHOLIC
MOBILIZING
NETWORK**

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



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". **(Silence is consent!)** <https://deathpenaltyaction.org/take-action/execution-petitions/>

URGENT ACTION NEEDED:

James Barber – Alabama, 6/3 <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/stop-the-execution-of-james-barber-in-alabama/>

Michael Tisius – Missouri, 6/6 <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/stop-the-execution-of-michael-tisius-in-missouri/>

Duane Owen – Florida, 6/15: <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/stop-the-execution-of-duane-owen-in-florida/>

"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



Bethany House of Hospitality "Empowering Young Women Seeking Asylum" - [NOTE: IIM (Intercultural Immigration Ministry of Oak Park Catholic churches) works with Bethany House]

See the **Amazon Wish List** for needs: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3CK43HZBHC297?ref=wl_fv_le



"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>



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

1. Site Captains - recruit and manage a team of volunteers from your congregation to fill volunteer needs and/or meals for a night of shelter operation
2. Evening – 6:30p until 10:30p (3 volunteers)
3. Overnight – 10:30p until 5:00a (2 volunteers)
4. Morning – 5:00a until 7:00a (2 volunteers)

***MEALS needed*:** Volunteers donate a full hot dinner, and/or continental breakfast, and/or sack to-go lunches for 15 people **Volunteer HERE:** <https://www.housingforward.org/get-involved/volunteer>

URGENT NEEDS: MEAL PROVIDERS FOR THIS HOLIDAY WEEKEND!

****EMERGENCY HELP FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS** [CPD DISTRICT 15, 5701 W. MADISON]**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yThsNFonQ5VFTjkSagCqbEIkC4K0mB2EyAKMzC6GCg/edit#heading=h.4knqfkamwek9>

Population as of 5/24/23: 40 adults

AMAZON WISH LIST: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2YXLE64SHKNHC?ref=wl_share



HUNGER

848 Lake Street, Oak Park – Volunteer Opportunities -

- assisting clients to shop for food
- data entry
- unloading food deliveries
- stocking shelves
- re-packing produce
- Transporting donated food from local donors

<https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/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 Earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof..." Psalm 24:1



Sustainability at Home: Waste Reduction & Recycling Right – Thursday, 6/1 – 7-8 PM – Maze Branch Library (845 Gunderson)

Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability's Community Outreach Coordinator Kate Carney will discuss ways to create less waste and how to recycle various household materials. A Q&A session will follow.

Register here: <https://oakpark.librarycalendar.com/event/sustainability-home-waste-reduction-and-recycling-right>

SAVE THE DATE: Thurs. 6/22, 8:30AM – 4:30 PM Green Town Climate and Equity Conference (How climate solutions and equity go hand-in-hand to create a healthy, sustainable West Suburban Cook County for all.)

Register here: <https://greentownconference.com/gtrf-registrations> [\$45/Students \$15]



SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, July 15, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM - Rainbow Beach Park, 3111 E 77th St, Chicago, IL – "DOUBLE DUTCH FEST 2023" "The Double Dutch Fest is an annual Faith in Place event that celebrates our public parks, community, and the relationships between our community and the natural environment. Learn how to Double-Dutch, about monarch butterflies, and about the importance of preserving our natural spaces!" **REGISTER HERE:** <https://secure.everyaction.com/07mtiqKBukCFFqzwGxOBpw2>



Join a grassroots & entirely nonprofit movement of people who are giving and getting stuff for free in their own Towns. It's all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills. Membership is free.

SIGN UP HERE: <https://freecycle.org/signup>



Support **Illinois HB 3119 (Carbon Dioxide Transport Act)** – Protect Illinois from unregulated carbon capture. **READ MORE HERE:**

<https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/Illinois?actionId=AR0383503&id>

FOR YOUR REFERENCE...

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

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