

WALKtheTALK

SGFMC Action for Justice News

May 5, 2018

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

Gun Dealer Licensing: Illinois Senate Bill (SB) 337 Follow the bill or file a ***Witness Slip**

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=337&GAID=14&DocTypeID=SB&LegId=100277&SessionID=91>



INVC outreach – 4926 W. Chicago Ave. - assist the Wednesday evening bi-weekly dinner gatherings for survivors and family members of victims of gun violence. **Go to:** www.CareCalendar.org; in calendar number space, put 247210; in security code, put INVCHelper. (it is case sensitive). Red items are needed

NOTES: There are usually 10-12 participants at each dinner. Preferred: no red meat in entrees. (Desserts and salads welcomed.) Donations **can be dropped off** any time before 5:30PM.

IMMIGRATION



Project IRENE – Illinois SB 3488 – “No Registry Programs Targeting Specified Groups” -

BACKGROUND: “Through the years, Illinois has been a welcoming state for families and individuals from all over the world, people of all nationalities and faiths. From our study of history, we know that our country has previously isolated individuals and families through the use of registry programs based on their national origin and religion. During World War II, amid pervasive hysteria fueled by false perceptions of Japanese Americans as security risks to the United States, the federal government interned over 100,000 people, two-thirds of whom were United States citizens. The rest were barred from gaining citizenship. After 40 years, the families of these internees received redress. Illinois needs to declare that the state will not participate in, facilitate, or support the creation of a registry directed at any group of residents in our state based upon ancestry, ethnicity, national origin, race, or religious belief.” **Scheduled for vote NEXT WEEK - follow the bill, find the sponsors, or file a *Witness Slip:** <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=3488&GAID=14&DocTypeID=SB&SessionID=91&GA=100>

NOTE: “Project IRENE” is: IL Religious Engaging in Nonviolent Endeavors) an initiative of the **Leadership Conference of Women Religious** in Illinois, to impact systems change beneficial for women and children.



“American Tunes” – a concert to benefit ICDI – Friday, May 11th, 7:30PM,
Lake Street Church (607 Lake Street, Evanston) <https://www.icdichicago.org/> (Tickets: \$20)

ENVIRONMENT/CARE OF THE EARTH – “The harvest is plenty; laborers are few...”

JOIN the St. Giles' "green team" Thanks to the hard work of Parish and Family Mass members, many green (and 'greening') projects are already underway across the St. Giles campus. But it will take the ongoing work of dedicated people to see them through to completion **and beyond. If you have a passion for the care of the Earth, contact: marynpaul@comcast.net**

PEACE



Interfaith Action Group for a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine – march for a just peace – Saturday, May 12th, 11:30AM – 2:30PM

Beginning: First United Methodist Church 324 N. Oak Park Ave. Oak Park, IL

Ending: First United Church of Oak Park 848 Lake St. Oak Park, IL

Interfaith speakers, music, march in central Oak Park, and Middle Eastern lunch

Speakers

Shafic Budron, PhD
Stephanie Downs Hughs, PhD
Rabbi Brant Rosen
Pastor Marti Scott

Musicians

Susan Salidor
Michael Levin
Drum Circle

ETC.



"Where you put your money can changed the world..." AFJ is currently looking at **RESPONSIBLE INVESTING**. For reference, here is: <https://www.greenamerica.org/finance>



Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership – Over the past several months CSPL has been collaborating with the Vicariate IV office of the Archdiocese of Chicago to organize a Ministry Commission **led by lay people** and focused on creating leadership formation opportunities for lay Catholics.

The June 16th training will be held at Saint Giles in McDonough Hall. A flyer will be forthcoming.

Registration will be at 8:30am and the program will be from 9am-3pm.

Contact John Barrett (St. Edmund's) for further details (gabolga@aol.com 708-848-4179)

***ABOUT WITNESS SLIPS:** * "Witness slips are a vital piece of the legislative process. Before a bill is heard in committee, the chairperson will read who has submitted witness slips and whether they support or oppose the bill. This helps inform me and other legislators as to where Illinoisans and organizations stand, allowing us to make informed decisions when voting. Witness slips are a great and relatively quick way to make your voice heard in state government."

<http://www.senatorsteans.com/constituent-resources/how-to-submit-a-witness-slip>



BETTER ANGELS: "Talking Across the Political Divide"

*"The divisions among Americans are widening, damaging personal relationships and creating acrimony in public discourse. Political polarization has clearly intensified in the wake of the divisive election of 2016. We must do better. The encouraging news is that we can do better, we can depolarize America. Creative solutions are emerging from **Better Angels**, <https://www.better-angels.org/features/talking-across-the-political-divide>*

*Better Angels' depolarizing initiatives are just now beginning to penetrate metropolitan Chicago. In time these Red/Blue workshops will be initiated locally but the first step is to introduce Better Angels' skills workshops to our community. These **free** workshops offer the opportunity to learn and practice skills for having respectful conversations, clarifying differences, searching for common ground, and affirming the importance of relationships. These workshops provide participants with a chance to practice skills in a friendly and welcoming environment"*

A **Better Angels workshop** will be held on Saturday, June 16 from 10 am to 12:30 pm at the Oak Park Public Library. *There is no charge to attend.* If you are interested in attending this workshop, **please contact Celine Woznica celinewoznica@gmail.com**

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in detention.....

Name	Country	Prayer Request from Kankakee 043018
Alek	Russia	Please pray for the success of his court date May 7th.
Gerardo	Mexico	Pray for his 4 year old son Andreas.
Jesus	Mexico	Pray for the families of those detained here. Pray for a successful court date in Columbus, IN.
Luis	Cuba	Pray for his court date May 14 that he will be able to stay in U.S.
Jaime	Mexico	Pray for his safe deportation.
Arnold	Honduras	Pray for his family in Honduras.
Vicente	Mexico	He's been in 6 months and waiting for a final judgement. He's worried because he's been out of contact with his ex-wife and children. Pray for his family. He has 6 children. The mother of the children is working day labor to support them.
Jose Sebastian	Guatemala	Pray for his next court date - the last one was cancelled by the judge.
Darwin	Guatemala	Pray for his court date that things go well. Pray for his family, and for the people who have lost their families in Syria & Iraq.
Cipriano	Guatemala	Pray that I learn more about God and be able to support people here and those I meet. Pray to God that I become a better man.
Emilio	Mexico	Pray for my family that they are ok, especially my oldest son. Pray that God can work in the heart of the President to stop him from breaking up families.
Pascual	Guatemala	Pray for his family & daughter, and that he gets a court date soon.
Alfredo	Mexico	Pray for my family & detainees here. Pray that Sister Mary is getting better, & pray for all the people who are praying for me.
Gietzi	Mexico	Pray for strength for him to get through this. Pray for his family and that court goes well for him.

Also, please kindly pray for all those who were recently deported.

Jose S

Jose C

Carlos C

Marco O

Carlos L

Experanza H

Enrique F

Octavio P