



JP Alert

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

Blessings friends: Below you'll find examples of celebrating Laudato Si', gun violence prevention advocacy, an opportunity to endorse the statement from the Vatican conference on just peace, and linking the lectionary to justice and peace resources, etc. May the Spirit be with you as you respond...

Celebrating Laudato Si'!



It's been a little over a year since Laudato Si' graced our Catholic community and broader social world. Our men's religious communities have [done amazing things](#) this year to live into Laudato Si' and implement our CMSM resolution from Aug. 2015!! Examples include dialogue events, study groups, community gardens and tree planting, LEED lights and certified buildings, shifting to wind and solar

power, divestment and shareholder advocacy, etc. (*I'm sure there are additional stories, so please send them to: emccarthy@cmsm.org)

[Pan-Amazon Ecclesial Network \(REPAM\)](#)

This network largely led by religious orders is doing really fabulous work on the environment, human rights, indigenous rights, research, around the Amazon and fresh drinking water, etc. Of course, the health of the Amazon impacts all of us in terms of fresh drinking water. REPAM was born out of Central American Bishops Conference (CELAM), Religious Leaders Conference (CLARA), Caritas, and the Brazilian Bishops.

Fossil Fuel Divestment

Berlin, Germany is the [most recent city to divest](#) from fossil fuels, making Berlin the seventh major Western city to join a divestment movement that already includes Paris, Copenhagen, Oslo, Seattle, Portland and Melbourne. Here is a [broader set](#) of divestment commitments.

Upcoming Opportunities:

- Participate in the faith networking day in Buffalo **July 8th** on the new economy at which we'll explore ways that people of faith can participate in energy democracy, worker-owned coops, local currencies, local food systems and many other alternatives to the dominance of large corporations in our economy. The day will lead into the larger Common Bound Conference. You can register for one or both. www.commonbound.org

- Join other people of faith at the March for a Clean Energy Revolution on **July 24th** in Philadelphia, just before the Democratic National Convention, to urge the party to add to its platform commitments to ban fracking, address environmental injustices and transition to a 100% renewable future. www.Cleanenergymarch.org



Gun Violence Prevention

Franciscan Federation passes [Resolution on Gun Violence](#) and leaders make [public statement](#).

ACTION: Organize a Letter Drop to your congressional

representative for the July 4th recess week when they are in town.
Start collecting signatures now. 10-15 signatures are sufficient, but get more if you can.

After the historic and unprecedented Democratic sit-in on the House floor Wednesday June 22 to urge the House to take up what it has long ignored – preventing gun violence – it is now up to us, people of faith, to take this message to our Representatives.

This is a perfect time for you to let your Representative know that ignoring the epidemic of gun violence will not protect public safety. Every day 91 people in the United States are killed by a gun. Yet, the House and Senate continue to act as if this is not happening because of the stifling grip of the gun lobby.

Use this very simple [Tool-Kit](#) to make this happen!! (if you want this in Word, send me an email)

*For example, if your representative is Catholic, appeal to their Catholic faith and values such as "pro-life" in the letter.



Vatican Conference on Just Peace and Nonviolence

The stirring dialogue from this conference is ongoing. The CMSM Justice and Peace Committee as well as LCWR's Global Concerns Committee had their joint annual meeting in May and both endorsed the outcome statement of the conference. Recently added to the conference website is a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document that addresses some of the more challenging issues. Also, you can find added [resources](#), particularly about what a Just Peace approach can look like. Finally, here is a [blog post I wrote](#) from my encounter at the conference, particularly with those in the Global South.

ACTION: You are *invited and encouraged to endorse* the conference statement as an individual and/or as an organization (including JPIC offices, committees, etc.) on the [website here](#).



Palestine and Israel

It's been an active month by religious organizations on this issue. At their recent national assembly, the Presbyterian Church (USA), who already committed to boycott those who profit off settlements in Palestine, recently endorsed a call for the home seller Re/MAX to cut ties with settlement sales, urged the IRS to investigate tax-exempt status of those supporting such settlements, and for the Church to refrain from investments that support violence against Israelis or Palestinians. In addition to similar actions for divestment or screens by the United Methodists, Alliance for Baptists, 5 Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the United Church of Christ, we at [CMSM have endorsed a call to boycott settlement products and companies who profit.](#)

ACTION: Please join us by [making a commitment](#) to this boycott

Other News



Linking Lectionary to Justice and Peace

Please fill out this [brief survey](#) to offer us feedback on this new lectionary program.



Election Material

Our broad Catholic Coalition election material inspired by Pope Francis now has a [one pager](#) for you to utilize in your communities, ministries, parishes, etc. (Also, on this [webpage](#).)

Civilize It is a new initiative



Berta Caceres Killed by Soldiers trained by U.S. Special Forces

Berta Cáceres's name was on a Honduran military hit list, says a former soldier.

A unit trained by US special forces was ordered to kill the environmental activist

Below you will find homily resources from CMSM members and other people of wisdom in our community. If you are not giving homilies, please consider sharing with a presiding homilist.

[Sunday, July 3](#) by John Bostwick, O.Praem.

[Sunday, July 10](#) by Diane Bergant, CSA

[Sunday, July 17](#) by Mike Crosby, Ofm Cap

to increase civility, clarity, and compassion in our election discourse. You can take a pledge and find some handy resources [here](#).

who was slain in March, according to an ex-member who now fears for his life. [Full article here](#).

ACTION: [Contact Congress](#) to support a bill to suspend U.S. military aid to Honduras.

The Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) supports and offers resources for U.S. leaders of Catholic men's religious institutes. CMSM promotes dialogue and collaboration on issues of religious life as well as peace and justice issues with major groups in church and society. There are about 17,000 religious priests and brothers in the United States.

Connect with Us



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