



JP Alert

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

May the New Year of Peace and Hope bless us as we embark into increasingly uncertain territory. Let us take up the courage and persistence of John the Baptist who "Behold's the Lamb of God."

Brother and Sister Immigrants



Bridge Act

Sen. Durbin (D) and Sen. Graham (R) have co-sponsored the Bar Removal of Individuals who Dream and Grow our Economy (BRIDGE) Act. The Bridge Act is a bipartisan bill that aims to maintain protection from deportation for the estimated 800,000 undocumented community members who currently have DACA (Deferred

Action for Childhood Arrivals) and are known as “Dreamers”. This bill doesn’t fix our broken immigration system but is an important step to protect the gains we have worked for. We plan to use this bill to talk with members of congress about the Dreamers and their parents as well as others impacted by the broken system.

ACTION: [Contact your Congresspersons](#): urge them to co-sponsor or support the BRIDGE Act.

Providing Protection and Sanctuary

Now is the time to join the efforts to directly protect and provide sanctuary. See these resources for becoming a sanctuary parish with over 4000 people representing [700 congregations](#) in the U.S. or joining a protection network.

1. Interfaith Protection Initiatives [Webinar](#)
2. Sanctuary Pledge and Tool-Kit for [Parishes](#)
3. Emergency Response Network Model in [Philadelphia](#)
4. [School](#) protection ideas
5. [Four ways](#) to prepare



MLK Day and World Day of Peace

As we recall the courageous leadership of Martin Luther King Jr., we encourage you to read and reflect on his speech: “[A Time to Break the Silence: Beyond Vietnam](#),” Apr. 4, 1967. In this speech, he connects and calls us to challenge the three evils of racism, materialism, and militarism. He also says that “war is not just.”

“This business of burning human beings with napalm, of filling our nation’s homes with orphans and widows, of injecting poisonous drugs of hate into the veins of peoples normally humane, of sending men home from dark and bloody battlefields physically handicapped and psychologically deranged, cannot be reconciled with wisdom, justice, and love.”

Likewise the Apr. 11-13, 2016 [Rome conference](#) carried on this tradition of Martin Luther King, which helped lead to Pope Francis’ [World Day of Peace message](#) on nonviolence. ***We encourage you***

to set up an event to discuss this profound message and how it can be applied in your life and ministry.

[CMSM's Eli McCarthy on World Day of Peace](#) in USCCB's blog *To Go Forth*.

[Prof. Gerald Schlabach](#) on World Day of Peace message

Maryknoll's [Lenten Reflection Guide](#) on Gospel Nonviolence



Linking Justice and Peace in the Lectionary

Below you will find homily resources from CMSM members and other people of wisdom in our community for your reflection. If you are not giving homilies, please consider sharing with your local priest.

[Sunday, Jan. 22](#) by Dianne Bergant, CSA

[Sunday, Jan. 22](#) by Mark Peters, JPIC Priests of Sacred Heart

[Sunday, Jan. 29](#) by John Donahue, SJ

[Sunday, Feb. 5](#) by Fr. Joe Serano, O. Praem.



Palestine and Israel

In December we asked President Obama to support a UNSC resolution calling all settlements illegal. On December 23 UNSC resolution 2334 stating just that passed as the U.S. abstained. *This was very rare for a U.S. administration to not veto such a resolution.* Now Congress is seeking to characterize UNSC resolution 2334 as an obstacle to peace.

ACTION: [Contact your Senators](#) TODAY to support the UN resolution.

Other News

FIGHT FOR \$15



"Fight for \$15"

Workers have been challenging their companies to raise their minimum wage to \$15. There were many successes last year and some challenges. If you'd like to learn more about this worker-led effort for economic justice in accord with Catholic Social Teaching's call for a living wage, [go here](#).

Ecumenical Advocacy Days, Apr. 21-24, 2017

Join us in Washington for "[Confronting Chaos, Forging Community](#)" to grapple with the intersectionality of racism, materialism, and militarism, and learn more about the impact they have around the world, in our communities, and in our own lives. After a weekend filled with education and training, Ecumenical Advocacy Days will culminate with a Lobby Day on Monday, April 24, 2017, where participants will converge on Capitol Hill to meet with their members of Congress.

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



Eli S. McCarthy, PhD
Director of Justice and Peace

8808 Cameron Street
Silver Spring, MD 20910-4152
www.cmsm.org
emccarthy@cmsm.org
301-588-4030
Twitter: @emccarthy3

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)