



Info Alert 132

May 9, 2017

"Each time a person stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, that person sends forth a tiny ripple of hope and, crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."
-Robert Kennedy (1925-1968)

Education: Looking back over this year, let us recall Catholic Social Teaching Principles:

1. Life and Dignity of the Human Person, 2. Call to Family, Community, and Participation,
3. Rights and Responsibilities, 4. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, 5. Solidarity,
6. The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers, 7. Care for God's Creation

A review of the Info Alerts for 2016-17 shows input on the following justice concerns, concerns evolving from our commitment to grow in awareness of, and determination to implement Catholic Social Teaching Principles (as listed above). In the Education section of the Info Alerts, from 10/18/16 to 4/25/17, the following issues were addressed:

- 4/25 Workers' Rights, Immigrants 4/4 Climate Change, Inequality, Refugees
 3/21 Hunger, Health Care, Refugees, Water 3/7 Water, Hunger/Poverty, Immigration
- 2/21 Oppression(Trafficking, Refugees) 2/7 Discrimination (Racism:Bigotry/Prejudice,Sexism,Slavery)
 1/24 Racism 1/10 Active Nonviolence, Racism, Immigration 12/9 Refugees, Immigration
- 11/29 Immigrants, Racism, Hunger 11/15 Election Aftermath: Immigrants, Hunger
 11/1 Poverty/Hunger, the Excluded, Family Detention 10/18 Child Migration, Respect Life, Haiti

Action suggestions and **Prayer** supported our efforts on these injustices. As this is our last Info Alert until next fall, we ask you to continue your work for social justice during the summer with those you encounter in ministry, by contacting legislators by phone and voicing your opinions, based on CST Principles, as a constituent on present critical conditions.

Respect for life, justice for immigrants, including the elimination of unfair deportation, separation of families, inhumane conditions in Detention Centers--all deeply distress any person with a conscience--and definitely wound the hearts of IHM's, trying to follow the Gospel mandate to do justice.

Prayer: O God, we are grateful for the witness of heroic Christians, like Dorothy Day, Oscar Romero, Martin Luther King Jr., Marie Hession, Mary Scullion, and so many, many others, who remind us that a commitment to the Gospel of Christ is a commitment to justice and peace. With all such witnesses, we ask You to strengthen our hearts and hands for the service of the poor and needy. We ask this in the name of Jesus and his holy mother. Amen.

Action: 1. Speak out about CST Principles. 2. Call elected officials to address issues (1-202-224-3121). 3. Reflect on the life and dignity of the human person by trying to view some recent movies that deal with race and/or discrimination, etc. The Social Justice team is preparing such a list for your convenience. The list will be available this summer. Also, social justice magazines will be placed in the various retreat centers for your enrichment and sharing.

Upcoming events: " *Voices Against Violence*," Advocacy Open House, Thursday, 6/15/17, 6 to 7:30 pm at Saxby's Coffeehouse Headquarters, 2300 Chestnut Street, Suite 310. This event is sponsored by Women Against Abuse, an organization we support for their work against domestic violence.