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"...Is it realistic to hope that those who are obsessed with maximizing profits will stop to reflect on the environmental damage which they leave behind for future generations? Where profits alone count, there can be no thinking about the rhythms of nature, its phases of decay and regeneration or the complexity of ecosystems which may be gravely upset by human intervention." LS 190

# **Conscientious Consumers**

As we grow in our understanding of the principles contained within Laudato Si, we must also grow in our commitment to become more "conscientious consumers." Our economy is driven by our consumption of goods, which provides profits to the corporations who make these goods available. As consumers, it is incumbent upon us to demand that these goods are produced in fair and equitable ways. However, this is not always so and once we know the inequities and violations under which some corporations choose to operate, we must decide how we will respond. We can stop purchasing products and/or we can push for legislation that will force changes within the corporations.

## Nestle'

Nestle' is the world's largest food company. With 450 factories in 80 countries, the company likes to think of itself as the world's leading "nutrition, health and wellness company." It is one of the world's most controversial companies. Its marketing of infant formula in poor countries, the production of bottled water in the US and Europe, its poor labor practices, product safety, and human rights abuses have earned it countless violations and lawsuits. <a href="https://www.corp-research.org/nestle">https://www.corp-research.org/nestle</a> Watch this video <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HW2FTC7WFM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HW2FTC7WFM</a> Here is a list of everything owned by Nestle': <a href="https://wyominglicattorney.com/Blog/Everything-Owned-by-Nestle">https://wyominglicattorney.com/Blog/Everything-Owned-by-Nestle</a> You decide if Nestle' deserves your support.

## **Immigration**

On December 3, 2021, *Network* sponsored a Prayer Service and Press Conference in front of the White House demanding an end to the Title 42 expulsions of immigrant at our southern border. Title 42 is a provision that allows Customs and Border Protection to expel undocumented immigrants under the guise of preventing the spread of disease, even though <u>public health professionals questioned this move</u>. As a result of this action, immigration to the United States has almost completely ceased, even for asylum seekers who have rights under both national and international law.

Please sign your support for this legislation if you can. <a href="https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/sign-the-petition-president-biden-asylum-seekers-deserve-a-right-to-due-process?source=direct\_link&referrer=group-national-network-for-immigrant-and-refugee-rights">https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/sign-the-petition-president-biden-asylum-seekers-deserve-a-right-to-due-process?source=direct\_link&referrer=group-national-network-for-immigrant-and-refugee-rights</a>

## Immaculata Haiti Committee News

See the December *Angelus* for the OSPIHM Haiti Committee Fall Newsletter. Haiti Awareness Week is February 6 – 12, 2022. Details will be in the January *Angelus*. Let us pray for Haiti and her people, especially the Little Sisters of St. Thérèse and their ministries.

# **Berks County Family Detention Center**

In October, three members of Congress from PA sent a letter to ICE demanding the shutdown of Berks Detention Center. Our Congregation joined many Religious Communities of women and men who signed a petition supporting this action. Thank you to our leadership team.

## Prayer/ Action

Sign up for the Virtual Posadas with the Ignatian Solidarity Network. It begins December 16. <a href="https://ignatiansolidarity.net/virtual-posadas/">https://ignatiansolidarity.net/virtual-posadas/</a>

Try to become more conscientious in consumer choices.