

Info Alert

February 11, 2025

“Silence over social injustice is also contrary to the values of Catholic social teaching, which holds that respect for truth, the pursuit of justice, and welcoming the immigrant are not partisan values but gospel imperatives.” Martin Luther King Jr. [Letter from a Birmingham City Jail](#)

Common Good

Since the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump, there has been a dizzying number of policy changes through Executive Orders. We should approach these with a discerning heart. Sometimes change appears to be good and for the best but a deeper search reveals outcomes that may be harmful to others and our environment. Sometimes what benefits one nation does so at the cost of diminishing the quality of life for another. It is important, for the sake of the common good, that we pray and discern how each policy will affect others' lives, especially the poor and the most vulnerable, which includes all of creation before we give it our wholehearted support. We must ask ourselves often and in prayer: Where would Jesus be on this issue?

Black History Month 2025

The theme for Black History Month this year is: African Americans and Labor. This theme examines the role that labor has played in shaping the Black experience in America. It explores the numerous ways Black people have worked in America. From enslavement, and through various paid and unpaid jobs, from agricultural labor to union leadership, activism, and community building, Black workers have made great contributions to the social, cultural, and economic well-being of our country. While this theme highlights the achievements of the African American worker, it also calls attention to their struggles for racial and economic justice. Please view this montage of collective achievements on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ih0XxS1JUW8>

Haiti

Our January Info Alert presented some positive things happening in Haiti but recent reporting from the [National Catholic Reporter](#) and the [Global Sisters Report](#) paints a different picture. If you have not seen this article, please take the time to read: [“People Can’t Survive in Haiti Safely: Sisters Struggle to Serve Surrounded by Gangs.”](#) The article was published on February 4th. Learn about Haiti from two natural sisters working for the Haitian people, one in Boston and one in Port-au-Prince in this YouTube video:

[Haiti Cannot Die](#) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k3MuaXTMRos>

Immigration: Know Your Rights Cards

We know our immigrant sisters and brothers fear being targeted by I.C.E., arrested and detained, or worse. CLINIC, the legal aid arm of the USCCB, has published cards containing information for many situations in multiple languages. LCWR has suggested that each one of us become familiar with our rights as well. These cards can be downloaded, copied, and shared.

<https://clinic.shorthandstories.com/know-your-rights/index.html?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=290d792d-08e1-479c-915d-f62b53f3e215>

Hunger – SNAP

If you received \$6.00 per person per day, how much food would you be able to put into your shopping cart? Millions of people across America rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to aid them in feeding their families. It helps but it is not enough. Congress is proposing dangerous cuts to this program that would make it even more challenging for people with limited incomes to keep food in their pantries. [Take the SNAP Challenge](#) is an interactive way to learn how people struggle to provide nutritious meals.

<https://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/SNAP-Challenge-2025-Toolkit.pdf?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=1c91f3f0-1391-4689-9e0e-a9601073f8fd>

Take action and fight hunger in America today: https://act.feedingamerica.org/ii3dbKfyd06loldfuL-yRQ2?source=E25238AAV&utm_medium=email&utm_source=owned&utm_content=advocacy&utm_term=advocate&utm_campaign=fy25_advocacy_tea

Catholic Relief Services

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and Catholic Relief Services are urging Congress to engage with the Administration as it reviews U.S. foreign aid programs. Most programs have been paused and essential funding that provides lifesaving aid has been stopped. It is normal to review policy but not at the expense of vulnerable communities worldwide. Congress can play a role in keeping these programs running during the review.

<https://support.crs.org/act/foreign-aid-operations?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=290d792d-08e1-479c-915d-f62b53f3e215>

A Prayer of Faith and Hope in a Time of Fear *Education for Justice January 2025*

In times of fear amid rumors of war,
We pray that one day justice will roll down like water,
And righteousness like a mighty stream.
We pray that all our elected officials will
Do justice and love mercy
And walk humbly with their God. (excerpt)

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/FO8oGKvLSkY>

Action

1. Educate yourself.
2. Complete the actions provided.
3. Pray for courage.