

Info Alert 228

June 10, 2025

"In the present condition of global society, where injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable, the principle of the common good immediately becomes, logically and inevitably, a summons to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters." LS 158

World Refugee Day 2025

World Refugee Day is an international day initiated by the United Nations to amplify the rights, needs and dreams of those who are forced to flee their homes around the globe. The theme this year is **solidarity**.

Solidarity happens when we turn hope-filled words into meaningful actions.

1. It requires listening to refugees and making space for their stories.
2. It demands defending their right to seek safety, helping them to find solutions to their plight, and working to end conflicts in their countries so they can return home in safety.
3. It means ensuring they have opportunities to thrive in the communities that have welcomed them.
4. It challenges us to provide host countries with the resources they need to include and support refugees.

But above all, solidarity means saying, clearly and courageously, that refugees are not alone and that we will not turn our backs. (UNHCR United Nations Refugee Agency)

Learn more about solidarity with refugees here: <https://www.unhcr.org/media/world-refugee-day-2025-key-messages>

If you would like to take more action, visit the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns here:

<https://maryknollogc.org/action/advocate-for-refugees-with-refugee-council-usa/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=1220f27f-8ce6-4796-a997-4fc7d43393e5>

Juneteenth

June 19th will mark the 5th year our country is observing Juneteenth. While the African American community has celebrated and remembered this day for years, it is a relatively new national holiday. Use this link to learn more about this special and significant day in our American history:

https://joinarcc.org/things-to-know-about-juneteenth/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=17687030862&gbraid=0AAAAAownb7wS7Tk9TYKloyA0gT2iicELz&gclid=Cj0KCQjwuvrBBhDcARIsAKRrkjevTutRZ

Patroness of Haiti – Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is the patroness of Haiti. In 1942, the Haitian president and his cabinet petitioned the Holy See to declare her the patroness of the country, according to a Roman Catholic bishop. The church and the civil government in Haiti have both honored her as such, and she is celebrated with an annual Novena leading up to her feast day on June 27th.

Advocacy Needed

The **FY2025 budget reconciliation package** has passed in the House and is now headed to the Senate. There are actions proposed in this bill that are deeply troubling to all who embrace gospel values and Catholic social teaching. It is time to raise a collective voice urging the U.S. Senate to reject proposals in the bill that would deepen hardship, particularly for immigrants and low-income families, and to instead uphold policies that foster human dignity, equity, and the common good. Ignatian Solidarity Network is one organization that is providing a vehicle by which we can access our senators here:

https://ignatiansolidarity.net/action-alerts/reject-harmful-cuts-stand-with-vulnerable/?utm_source=ISN+Updates+List&utm_campaign=ee342708c0-NEWS_VOICES_081220_COPY_02&utm_medium

Prayer Mercy Focus on Haiti

Let us pray on behalf of the people of Haiti:

Mother of Perpetual Help,
you have been blessed and favored by God.
You became not only Mother of the Redeemer,
but the Mother of the redeemed as well.
We come to you today to ask for your help.
Watch over our sisters and brothers in Haiti and take care of them.
As you held the child Jesus in your loving arms,
so take the nation of Haiti in your arms.
Be a mother ready at every moment to comfort those most in need.
Intercede for us, dear Mother,
in obtaining peace for Haiti and nurture a lasting hope.
Give the people of Haiti the perseverance
and grace to always call upon you.
Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for Haiti! Amen.

Action

1. Learn about the actions proposed in the FY2025 budget reconciliation bill.
2. Locate your senators. If you live in PA, your senators are John Fetterman and Dave McCormick.
3. Look for ways to present your position on the proposed actions in the reconciliation bill.
Call, email or write but do it often. Our senators need to hear from us many times to move them
for or against the many aspects of this bill.

Senator John Fetterman
Philadelphia: 215-241-1090
Harrisburg: 717-782-3951
Washington: 202-224-4254

Senator Dave McCormick
Philadelphia: 215-405-9660
Harrisburg: 717-231-7540
Washington: 202-224-6324