

### Info Alert 231

September 9, 2025

“In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring.” Pope Francis on Year of Hope

#### Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation

As we move into the Season of Creation (September 1-October 4), it is the right time to participate in a Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation. This Holy Year, called by Pope Francis, invites us to be Pilgrims of Hope. Let us find creative ways to take this journey, viewing it through the lens of creation.

A Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation is a living expression of our faith. It responds to the invitation found in Laudato Si, which calls us to care for our common home by walking to places in nature in our local communities. Whether we visit a site of environmental harm, stroll through our parish grounds, or explore a park, as pilgrims, we seek to restore right-relationship with God, with Creation, and with one another.

The Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns provides us with further explanations, examples, and resources to take this Pilgrimage during the Season of Creation. You can access the Maryknoll video, called “Pilgrimage, Mission and Care for Creation,” here: <https://maryknollogc.org/resources/webinar-pilgrimage-mission-and-care-for-creation/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=c857dfaf-4592-46d1-aa70-1187d8e4fe06>

#### Procession for Migrants and Refugees

Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, celebrates World Day for Migrants and Refugees. The theme of this day, chosen by Pope Leo, is “Migrants, Missionaries of Hope.” The Archdiocese of Washington, DC, and the Jesuit Refugee Service are hosting a Procession in Solidarity and Prayer with Migrants and Refugees. The Procession will conclude with a Mass celebrated by Cardinal McElroy at 5:30 pm in the Cathedral of St. Matthew, the Apostle. The event begins at 2:30 pm and will be live-streamed.

<https://adw.org/event/mass-to-commemorate-the-111th-world-day-of-migrants-and-refugees/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=91b24da6-cd64-4714-a308-5ae441e1dbd8>



#### Gun Violence

On August 27<sup>th</sup>, in Annunciation Catholic Church in Minneapolis, MN, twenty people were victims of gun violence, including two children who were killed. This statement was made by Everytown Gun Safety concerning this day: “This isn’t normal, and it’s not inevitable. It’s a choice our lawmakers make every single day when they prioritize the gun lobby’s agenda over our lives. All signs point to this tragedy being perpetrated by an assault weapon, which begs a question: How many more Americans must die before lawmakers ban these weapons of war?” If this tragedy moves you to action, this link will take you to actions being promoted by Everytown Gun Safety: <https://www.everytown.org/actions/>



## Haiti

Sister Bernadette Nicolas, psst. May She Rest in Peace

Recently, the Little Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus suffered the loss of one of their former Responsible General superiors, Sister Bernadette Nicolas, psst. Sister Bernadette was beloved by all. She welcomed many of the OSP IHM Haiti Outreach Committee to Haiti over the years. Members of the OSPIHM Haiti Committee viewed the live streaming of the funeral Mass and burial of Sister Bernadette. The present OSP IHM Haiti Committee knew and interacted with Sister Bernadette, either when we visited Haiti and the Little Sisters over the years or when she visited with us here in the United States.

We all learned so much from her about the Little Sisters and the people of Haiti. Sister Bernadette was fond of saying, “Our foundresses in heaven have brought us together.” When she would come to the United States and had reason to stop by Villa Maria House of Studies, she would always ask to visit our cemetery and Mother Theresa Maxis’ grave. She would spend time there in prayer on her knees and end her prayer by kissing Mother Theresa’s grave.

## Hunger Action Month

September is Hunger Action Month. This is an action of Feeding America. Please follow the link to find more information and how you can help: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/take-action/hunger-action-month>

## Prayer for Migrants by Jane Deren, PhD, Education for Justice

Uprooted, walking across their country,  
Walking across borders, Walking to and from boats,  
Walking with no home in sight.

Waiting along roads, along borders,  
Waiting for boats, for help to come,  
Waiting in tents, in camps, Waiting in detention centers,  
Migrants are children of God With no end to waiting in sight.

Let us pray for all migrants, Women, men, and children.  
Walking and waiting, Longing for security,  
The safety of a home, For welcome, for inclusion.

Let us pray that the day will come,  
Through God’s grace and our work for justice,  
When the walking and the waiting will be over  
When all migrants find the welcome they seek  
And the embracing community they long for. Amen.

## Actions

1. Participate in a Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation.
2. Take action against Gun Violence.
3. Locate a food pantry near you. Consider making a donation.