

Info Alert 241

March 10, 2026

“The thought of holding thousands of families in massive warehouses should challenge the conscience of every American. Whatever their immigration status, these are human beings created in the image and likeness of God, and this is a moral inflection point for our country.” Bishop Brendan J. Cahill, February 20, 2026

Detention Centers

The Department of Homeland Security has been actively seeking and securing warehouse locations across the United States in which to house immigrants who have been arrested and detained while waiting for deportation. The thought of thousands of human beings crammed into a facility created to hold “things” is beyond comprehension, but it is not beyond reality. Our Catholic Bishops, especially those in border states, have presented a statement of immigration reforms recommended to law enforcement in the United States. You can read it here:

<https://www.ncronline.org/files/2026-02/Bishops-Immigration-Statement%202.24.26.pdf>

Catholic Relief Services

Due to the lack of government funding to assist humanitarian efforts in foreign countries, Catholic Relief Services has relied more heavily on donors, like us, to meet its financial challenges. Operation Rice Bowl is a Lenten opportunity for each of us to generously support the needs of people in Ghana, Timor-Leste, and Guatemala, as well as in an underserved part of the United States. You can find more information about Operation Rice Bowl here: <https://www.csricebowl.org/>

Everytown for Gun Safety – Gun Sense Voter

Every day in the United States, 130 people are killed through gun violence, and 200 more are wounded. Voting for candidates who will govern with gun safety in mind seems like a priority for anyone who wants to lower the temperature on gun violence in our country. Read more and join the movement to elect “gun sense” candidates. <https://gunsensevoter.org/mission-impact/>

FYI: Season of Faithful Witness

Season of Faithful Witness has been renamed “Catholics in Communion.” This is a shared effort of Catholic groups of Diocesan ministries, religious congregations, parishes, and Catholic Apostolates that seek justice that is rooted in the Gospel and formed by Catholic Social Teaching. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has initiated a local component called Faithful Philadelphia. Our IHM Social Justice Coordinator attends their meetings. Along with other religious congregations, we are supporting this initiative. Look for actions you can support. Good Friday is one of them.

Pope Leo’s Thoughts on the Iran Conflict

Stability and peace are not built with reciprocal threats nor with weapons that sow destruction, pain, and death,” the pope said, “but only through a reasonable, authentic, responsible dialogue.” Sunday Angelus, March 1, 2026

Prayer

IHM Scranton CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER FOR THE UNITED STATES
THURSDAY, March 12, 2026, 6:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85728904263?pwd=HBURb9bhlag90b6hEYb7dfNVa6fbHm.1>

Prayer of Renewal by Jane Deren, Education for Justice

Listen and look to the earth, to the gift of Creation.
In spite of the present cold and darkness, winter will be nearing its end,
and the light will warm us again, as we move through Lent
toward the Light who is our salvation.
Even now in the dark earth, hidden seeds are growing, moving,
Reaching toward the hope of a Spring,
Just as Easter moves us forward, calling us to the work of inner renewal
So, we may be strengthened for the work of our day,
The renewal of hearts, the renewal of community, the renewal of our common home.
Guide us in these weeks ahead, loving Lord of Resurrection.
Draw us forward despite our pain and fear, may we learn, like the barren trees,
to blossom again, to bear fruit, to praise you by our lives,
continuing the great work of justice, of peace. Amen

Action

1. Continue support for Operation Rice Bowl.
2. Educate yourself on all issues facing our world and country today.