



“Just Us”

News & Notes from Sisters of St. Joseph
Justice & Peace Office
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President Trump’s Latest Executive Order Affecting Refugees

President Trump’s latest Executive Order removed some of the barriers which were declared unconstitutional in the original order having to do with banning refugees from Syria, prioritizing refugees who were non-Muslim, and removing Iraq from the list of countries banned from entrance for four months. The others still remain on the list: Syria, Iran, Sudan, Somalia, Libya, and Yemen are all banned for three months (90 days).

Legal permanent residents and students with international visas for study, are permitted to enter.

Refugees will be considered in a case by case basis.

The impact on Catholic Family Center’s Refugee Assistance Program and other refugee resettlement programs is major. The agency expects to settle less than 35 refugees in the period of March 4-July 16, 2017. After that time it is expected that the resumption of refugee resettlement will be very slow due to lack of travel ready cases.

Since the program receives federal funding for each person admitted, it is expected that significant funding will be lost which will jeopardize the program.

Continued advocacy on behalf of refugees is important. Two agencies that continue to assist refugees are Saint’s Place and OACES.

How You Can be Involved:

Saint’s Place has been CFC’s most important partner in outfitting refugee homes with clothes, furniture and household items for the last 20 years. For those unfamiliar with their work check out their website here. During the refugee arrival suspension they are looking to provide additional clothing to refugees already living in Rochester. Refugees themselves can call to set up an appointment to get clothing and anyone who would be interested in volunteering to help connect refugees to the clothing closet by providing transportation is urged to contact Michele Quinn at Saint’s Place by phone at 585-385-6860 or email: michele@saintsplace.org.

OACES (Office for providing Adult Career & Education Services through the Rochester City School District) is in continued need of funding. Contact your State Legislator to advocate for continued program support.

Refugees Helping Refugees <https://rhrroc.org/> welcomes volunteers .

Mary’s Place Refugee Outreach <http://www.communitywishbook.org/mary-s-place-refugee-outreach.html>

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT—ACTION NEEDED!

Many Americans may lose their healthcare if the current GOP plan is enacted.

NETWORK has prepared information and talking points on this important issue. See Attachment!

From the Catholic Climate Website: Another Way to Fast During Lent

GREEN CORNER Week II Consumer Fast:

Fasting from Disposables

We live in a disposable world—paper products can easily fill a grocery cart. They all require resources to create and landfill space when we dispose of them. Lent is a good time to see which ones we can give up. Cloth napkins are an easy place to start and many cleanup jobs can be handled just as well with rags as with paper towels. For paper products you can't live without, consider more earth-friendly products. Paper towels and toilet paper made from recycled paper instead of harvested trees are readily available in most grocery stores.

Go to <http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/> to find a Lenten Caring for Creation Calendar.

(reprinted from **Salt & Light**, 3-18-17)

The Catholic Climate Covenant is also offering Earth Day Program. Toolkits for inter-generational parish programs, schools, and any group interested in exploring how a deeper connection with creation can draw us closer to the Creator of the universe. Each program includes prayers, scripture readings, a short video, discussion questions, and suggested activities to help your group learn about climate change and Catholic Social Teaching about climate change issues.

Go to <http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/earthday>

Great Lakes Funding Is In Danger!

Our five Great Lakes comprise 20% of the surface fresh water available on earth yet President Trump is proposing to cut funding from the \$300 million requested in this year's budget to maintain structures to ensure pollution control, eliminate invasive species, and promote economic growth and tourism. His proposed budget would give \$10 million for the lakes!! Urgent contact is needed with our Congress people and the EPA to prevent this travesty!

You can Find *Just Us* on the SSJ Website www.ssjrochester.org/ and links to Facebook!



Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/SistersofSaintJosephofRochester](https://www.facebook.com/SistersofSaintJosephofRochester) (CTRL & Click)

Brazil link: Copy & Paste: <http://www.isjrochester.com.br>

Coming Events & Opportunities

The Commission on Christian –Muslim Relations Invites You:

Keeping Vigilant on Religious Liberty

Sun, Mar. 19 @ 5:30 p.m.

Islamic Center of Rochester

727 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Roy Medley, ABCUSA
General Secretary Emeritus

Dr. Medley is former General Secretary of the USA American Baptist Convention has been engaged in Muslim-Baptist dialogues for many years. In 2015 he was honored by the Islamic Society of North America for his efforts in Christian-Muslim Relations.

Save the Date!

Saturday, March 25 Earth Hour

8:30-9:30 pm Turn off your lights and chill out. Join communities around the world that turn off electricity for one hour!

Honduras: Exploring the connections and reasons people migrate
by Sr. Phyllis Tierney

Posted In Global Sisters Report, **National Catholic Reporter** for March 9, 2017
<http://www.globalsistersreport.org/column/justice-matters/migration/honduras-exploring-connections-and-reasons-people-migrate-45336> (Copy & paste into browser)

7 pm, Wednesday, March 29, Honduras, Land of Beauty, Land of Pain, presentation by Sr. Phyllis at Church of the Assumption, 20 East Ave., Fairport, NY .