

Sisters of Christian Charity JPIC Office

September 11

Anniversary of 9/11

Let us remember the victims of the terror attack and their loved ones. We remember the first responders many of whom still suffer the effects of that day.

Prayer Service

Sept. 15 - Oct. 15

Hispanic Heritage Month

We are invited to celebrate the culture of our Hispanic sisters and brothers. Use the Toolbox from the *Ignatian Solidarity Network* for resources.

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September 21

International Day of Peace

We join together to pray for peace in our world especially remembering Ukraine.

Prayer Service





September 25

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

"Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees"

Listen to Pope Francis' message for WDMR.

"God's plan is essentially inclusive and gives priority to those living on the existential peripheries. Among them are many migrants and refugees, displaced persons, and victims of trafficking. The Kingdom of God is to be built with them, for without them it would not be the kingdom that God wants. This inclusion of those most vulnerable is the necessary condition for full citizenship in God's Kingdom."





Immigration Statistics

LEARN THESE FACTS FOR OUR OCTOBER ASSEMBLY

Did you know that approximately 25% of SCCs currently belonging to the North American Province (east and west) were born in a country other than the United States? (Source: SCC statistics)

Did you know that over 300 SCCs from the German Province came to minister in North America between 1873 and 1926? (Source: SCC Archives)



Season of Creation Sept. 1 – Oct. 4

"Our goal is to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering." (Pope Francis LS 19)

Pope Francis asks the UN for the "effective implementation" of the Paris Agreement as he urges us to listen to the cry of the earth.

Season of Creation

Summary

Pope Francis' message to open the Season of Creation on September 1

(Taken from the Laudato Si' Movement)

A TIME TO CULTIVATE OUR ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION

The Pope defines the Season of Creation as "an opportunity to cultivate our 'ecological conversion'", recalling this concept encouraged by St. John Paul II as a response to the 'ecological catastrophe' announced by St. Paul VI as early as 1970. In this way, he invites all Christians during this time to "pray once more in the great cathedral of creation, and revel in the "grandiose cosmic choir" made up of countless creatures, all singing the praises of God". People of faith, says the Pope, feel "even more responsible for acting each day in accordance with the summons to conversion. Nor is that summons simply individual: "the ecological conversion needed to bring about lasting change is also a community conversion".

SWEET SONG AND BITTER CRY

Listening to creation, Francis mentions that there is a "kind of dissonance...On the one hand, we can hear a sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator; on the other, an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of our common home. The sweet song of creation is mixed with its bitter cry, as evidenced by the intense heat wave that is experienced in much of the northern hemisphere and that has already killed, only in Spain and Portugal, more than 1000 people or has left 5 million people without water in Monterrey, Mexico". Francis encourages people to

stop consumerism, change lifestyles and harmful systems. All scientific reports prove it and the Pope reaffirms it: "We are reaching 'a breaking point" and we must act now. "The crisis is no longer a hypothesis of a distant future but a tangible reality that is costing human lives."

A WARNING MESSAGE AHEAD THE COPS

Ahead COP 27 on climate (Egypt, November 2022) and COP 15 on biodiversity (Canada, December 2022) Francis recalls in his message the importance of "promoting the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement". Each passing moment is an opportunity for everyone, especially world leaders, to reverse the biodiversity and climate crises. Let COP 27 bring forth ambitious commitments to prevent carbon emissions from fossil fuels and support for clean energy transition as well as relief for our brothers and sisters already within the climate crisis. Let COP 15 bring forth a firm commitment to end any more biodiversity collapse. And to the community of Catholics, the Pope calls them to prayer: "In this Season of Creation, let us pray that COP27 and COP15 may unite the human family to decisively address the double crisis of climate and biodiversity reduction".

FOUR KEY PRINCIPLES FOR BIODIVERSITY

Francis also uses his message to call on nations to halt the further collapse of the "web of life" – biodiversity – pointing to four principles:

- 1. Building a clear ethical basis for the transformation we need in order to save biodiversity;
- 2. Fight biodiversity loss, support its conservation and recovery, and meet people's needs in a sustainable way;
- 3. Promote global solidarity, taking into account that biodiversity is a global common good that requires a shared commitment;
- 4. Put people in vulnerable situations at the center, including those most affected by biodiversity loss, such as indigenous peoples, older people and youth.

