

Society of Mary

An International Religious Congregation

Marists in the United States

May 8, 2026

Justice & Peace Alert



Marist School

Atlanta, Georgia

**Holy Week Mission Trip Deepens Faith,
Service, and Global Connection**



Duluth, Georgia

ND Academy students of the House of Lourdes had a wonderful visit recently to Rainbow Village! They spent time with children in the After School Care Program, creating Earth Day crafts, tackling a LEGO challenge, and competing in a paper airplane contest.





Duluth, Georgia

ND Academy 8th grader students made their final visit of the school year to Clyde's Kitchen! The school community sends a huge thanks to Chef D. for welcoming the students and for the meaningful opportunity to serve the guests of Crossroads Community Ministries with dignity and care.



Matti, Digos, Philippines

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Tutu Welcomes Pacific Farmers Delegates

Tutu Rural Training Center (TRTC) warmly welcomed Pacific Farmers Delegates for three days of learning, sharing, and farmer-to-farmer exchange.

This gathering brought together farmers from across the Pacific to learn from one another, share experiences, and strengthen regional collaboration in sustainable agriculture and rural development. Through hands-on sessions, dialogue, and field visits, participants explored practical approaches to food security, climate resilience, and value-added farming practices. The TRTC community believes that true learning happens through sharing, solidarity, and lived experience – growing stronger together as a Pacific community.



Cardinal Cupich: What the Gospel demands in times of war



Pax Christi International at the NPT Review Conference 2026



FAITH LEADERS' SUMMIT DIALOGUE ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS ABOLITION

LEARN - STRATEGIZE - MOBILIZE

Inspired by the leadership of Archbishop John Wester, who published a seminal pastoral letter over four years ago and has organized the Partnership for a World Without Nuclear Weapons, we, the Pax Christi New England Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (PCAN), have organized a series of four 90-minute virtual "mini-summits," each featuring five Catholic or disarmament leaders sharing their views on how we can best mobilize the Catholic population in nuclear disarmament and abolition work.



MAY 16

10 - 11:30 AM EDT
 • Gaila Berdis, Pax Christi International
 • Ira Wolfand, PCAN, ICAN, IPPNW
 • Marie Demiss, Catholic Nonviolence Initiative
 • David Cortright, Notre Dame, Peace Action
 • Maria Vidovic, Students for Nuclear Disarmament



MAY 31

3 - 4:30 PM EDT
 Confirmed Panelists
 • Jerry Powers, Notre Dame
 • Claire Schaeffer, Duffy, Catholic Worker Community
 • Michelle Dume, OFS, Franciscan Action Network



JUNE 6

2 - 3:30 PM EDT
 Confirmed Panelists
 • Archbishop John Wester, Santa Fe, PWWN
 • Kevin Ahern, Manhattan College
 • Dorothy Day Guild
 • Margaux Cuijmann, Loyola, Catholic University



JUNE 14

7 - 8:30 PM EDT
 Confirmed Panelists
 • Nick Maki, Pax Christi USA
 • Disarmament WG
 • Sr. Bridget Barakat, LSWR
 • Joseph Barakat, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament, & Common Security

Faith leaders' summit dialogue on nuclear weapons abolition

**Mobilizing Nonviolent Social Change:
Lessons from Latin America**

The Catholic Institute for Nonviolence

Webinar Rome Series

Mobilizing Nonviolent Social Change
Lessons from Latin America

WITH **DR. MARIA BELEN GARRIDO**

12.05.26 6:00 pm (CET time)



**In Africa, Pope Leo's quiet papacy came
into full view**



**Pope answers migration question
with a question**



**JRS Advocacy Day 2026: A Nationwide Call
for Protection and Accountability**



**DePaul University conference on Pope Leo
draws conversation about AI, human dignity**



**What A.I. has to do with poverty and
human dignity**



Justice Dept. adopts firing squads same day Pope Leo backs death penalty abolitionists



Video from Pope on death penalty aired same day Trump expands it



Moved by pastoral letter against racism, US Bishops journey to Deep South



The Supreme Court and the Voting Rights Act: Who rules when we give up on laws?



A backyard response to the homelessness crisis in New Haven



Miami Catholic Charities lays off more than 80 employees after government contract not renewed



Pope Leo encourages Catholic Charities USA to continue work amid political turbulence



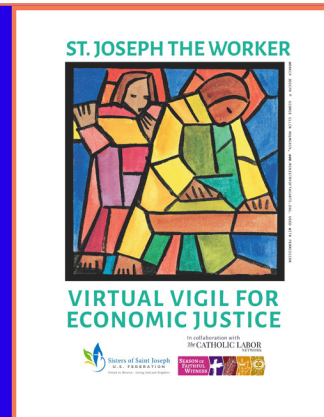
Archbishop Wenski: The folly of ending a 60-year partnership with Catholic Charities



IMF and World Bank Risk Deepening Debt Crisis



Recording of St. Joseph the Worker Virtual Vigil for Economic Justice - May 2026



Creation Care Ceremony: A Blessing and Sending Forth

Save the Date

Creation Care Ceremony: A Blessing and Sending Forth 2026

May 23

Online

Vancouver 5:00 AM | New York 8:00 AM
London 1:00 PM | Nairobi 4:00 PM
New Delhi 5:30 PM | Manila 8:00 PM
Sydney 10:00 PM

Join this online gathering

to renew your commitment, reconnect with others, and receive a sending forth on mission.



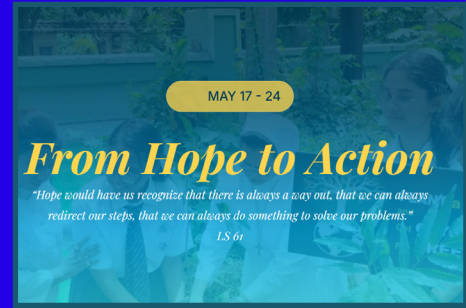
Laudato Si' Week 2026

MAY 17 - 24

From Hope to Action

"Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems."

LS 61



Laudato Si' Movement – May 2026 Prayer Guide



One year in, Pope Leo forges ahead with Francis' ecological legacy



Catholic Climate Covenant 20th Anniversary Celebration



First Global Conference to Transition Away from Fossil Fuels



Peru gathering of Indigenous women and sister defends Amazon

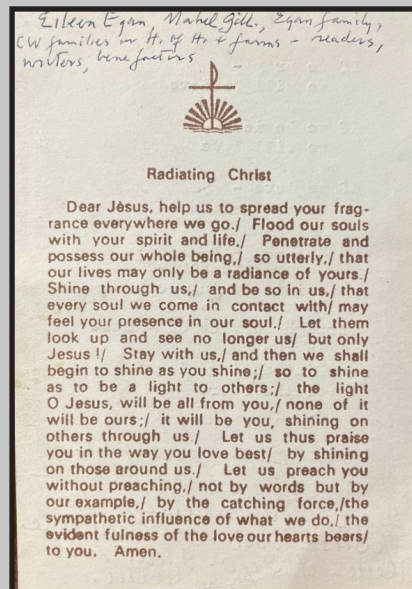
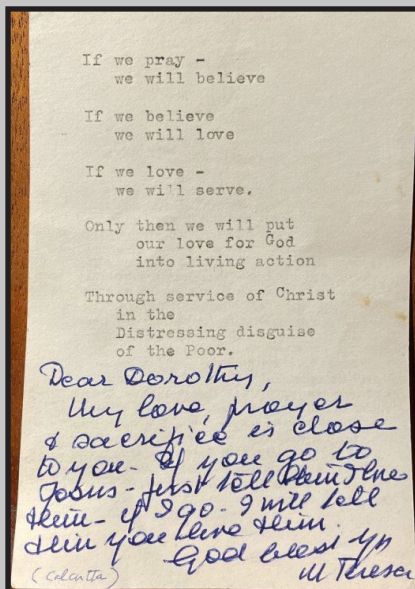
News from the Dorothy Day Guild

The Dorothy Day Guild's collaborative preservation project cataloguing and mapping Dorothy's room at Maryhouse is continuing! Over the past year and a half, a team of volunteers has worked closely with members of the New York Catholic Worker community to document and preserve Dorothy's material legacy. When Dorothy died in 1980, her personal artefacts—her books, photographs, framed prints, collections, and clothing—remained in the bedroom she had occupied for the last several years of her life. Working with the community to sort and track the provenance of these items has been an educational, enlightening, and surprisingly tender experience. Sometime this summer, the Guild will have an exciting update for researchers and members of the public on this topic.

In undertaking this work, the Guild has encountered a number of interesting and unexpected items, but perhaps the most important of these has been a note from Mother Teresa of Kolkata to Dorothy, which Dr. Kevin Ahern found tucked between the pages of one of Dorothy's Bibles in September of 2023. The note, written on a small prayer card, reads:

*“Dear Dorothy,
My love, prayer, and sacrifice is close to you. If you go to Jesus first, tell Him I love Him. If I go, I will tell Him you love Him.
God bless you.
M. Teresa”*

On the back of the card, Dorothy had written her own prayer list, adding intentions for their mutual friend, Eileen Egan and her family, Catholic Worker families in houses of hospitality and on farms, and readers, writers, and benefactors of the newspaper. The authenticity of the note, in Mother Teresa's own handwriting, has been verified by the Missionaries of Charity sisters in Rome, and right now, we are working with a museum preservation specialist in South Bend, IN to preserve and create a display for this beautiful relic of two holy women and spiritual friends.



Writing Dorothy Day: Perspectives from Four Recent Biographers

Sunday, May 17th at 1:30 PM-3:00 PM Eastern

Writing Dorothy Day: Perspectives from Four Recent Biographers

Kate Hennessy John Loughery Blythe Randolph D.L. Mayfield

Join us for a conversation with four authors whose books explore Dorothy's legacy for the 21st century

FREE online event. Sponsored by:

MANHATTAN UNIVERSITY
The Dorothy Day Guild



The Christophers

"It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness"

Depressed Teen Creates 'notOK' App

An estimated 49.5 percent of young people between the ages of 13 to 18 endure mental health struggles, according to the National Institute of Mental Health. One such teen created light out of that dark period in her life by developing an app to help others battling similar issues.

Hannah Lucas, a high school sophomore from Georgia, was facing depression due to a medical condition that left her feeling isolated from others. As reported by ABC News, she "wished there was an app she could use to quickly alert her family and friends when she needed help, either physically or emotionally."

With assistance from her brother, Charlie, they created the "notOK" app. It enables people in distress to press a button which instantly connects them to five emergency contacts with a text message, such as, "Hey, I'm not OK. Come find me," along with GPS coordinates.

The response to the app has been overwhelmingly positive. Hannah, who once felt isolated, is now connecting with others in need: "It definitely gave me a sense of comfort."

Preserve my life, for I am devoted to You. (*Psalm 86:2*)

Merciful Jesus, guide those living with mental illness towards Your light so they get the help they need.

Does frequent worship lead to better mental health? Often, but not always, experts say



What We've Learned After One Year of Pope Leo's Papacy



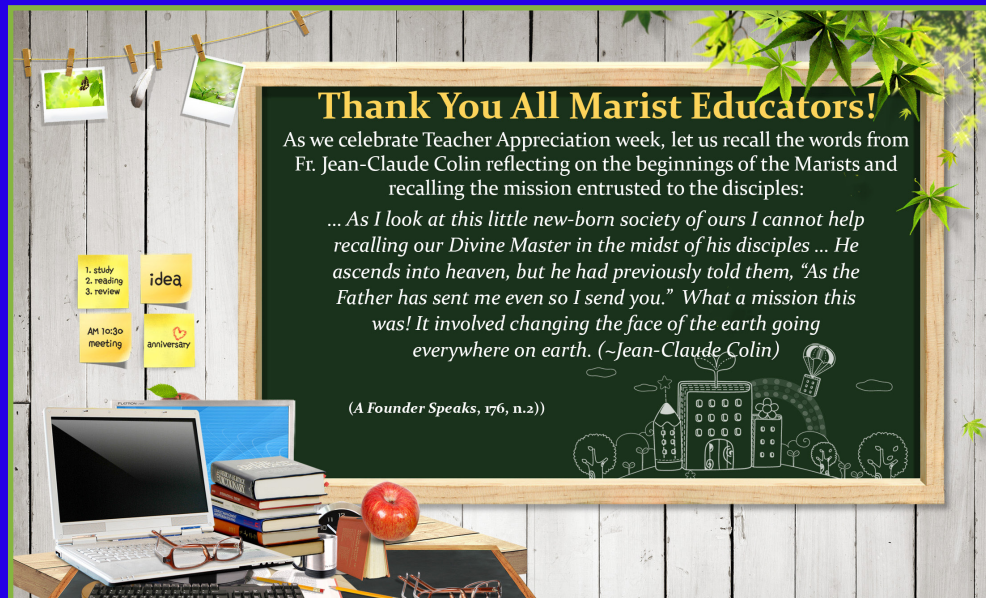
Leo's first encyclical set for May 15 debut



Make the Exercises



Marist Laity NZ – May Reflection: The Modern Day Beatitudes



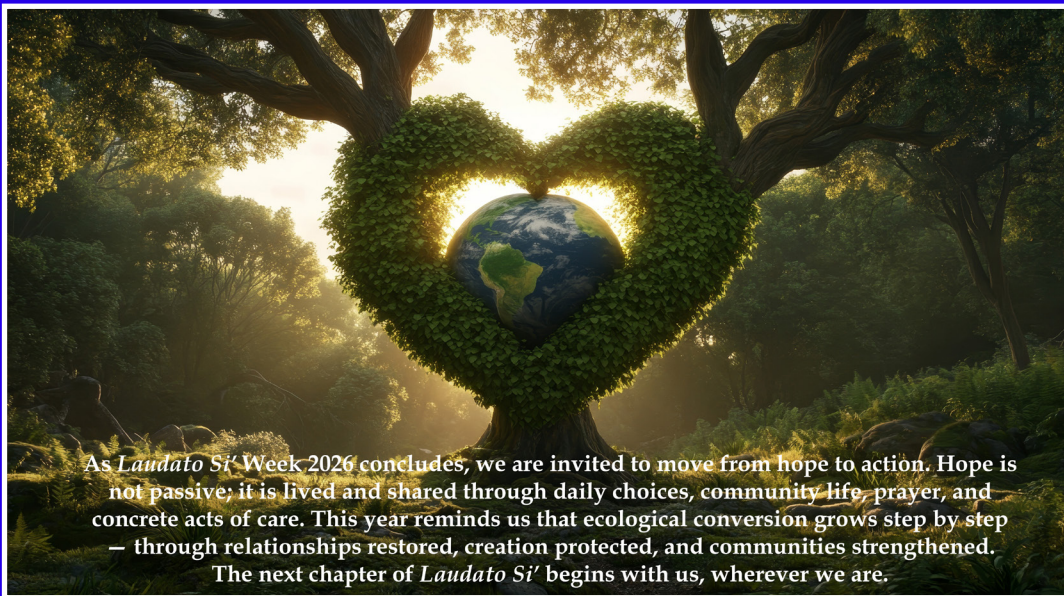
The Marists would like to remember all Mothers - both living and those Mothers who have gone before us - today with the following prayer:

A Prayer in Gratitude for Our Mothers

Good and Gentle God, we pray in gratitude for our mothers and for all the women of theory who have joined with you in the wonder of bringing forth new life. You who became human through a woman, grant to all mothers the courage they need to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings. Give them the strength to live and to be loved in return, not perfectly, but humanly.

Give them the faithful support of husband, family and friends as they care for the physical and spiritual growth of their children. Give them joy and delight in their children to sustain them through the trials of motherhood. Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help when they need it most.

- Author Unknown



As *Laudato Si'* Week 2026 concludes, we are invited to move from hope to action. Hope is not passive; it is lived and shared through daily choices, community life, prayer, and concrete acts of care. This year reminds us that ecological conversion grows step by step – through relationships restored, creation protected, and communities strengthened. The next chapter of *Laudato Si'* begins with us, wherever we are.

Prayer for Peace

*Lord of Life,
you shaped every human being in your image and likeness.
We believe you created us for communion, not for war,
for fraternity, not for destruction.
You who greeted your disciples saying, “Peace be with you,”
grant us the gift of your peace and the strength to make it a reality in history.*

*Today we lift up our prayer for peace in the world,
asking that nations renounce weapons
and choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy.*

*Disarm our hearts of hatred, resentment, and indifference,
so we may become instruments of reconciliation.
Help us understand that true security does not come from control fueled by fear,
but from trust, justice, and solidarity among peoples.*

*Lord, enlighten the leaders of the nations,
so they may have the courage to abandon projects of death, halt the arms race,
and place the lives of the most vulnerable at the center.
May the nuclear threat never again dictate the future of humanity.*

*Holy Spirit,
make us faithful and creative builders of daily peace:
in our hearts, our families, our communities, and our cities.
May every kind word, every gesture of reconciliation,
and every choice for dialogue be seeds of a new world.*

Amen.