

## Christ, King of Hearts

The [feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe](#), “in splendor robed,” closes Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar before the Season of Advent turns our attention to the vulnerable Child born in a stable. In the United States, we do not take kindly to kingship and kingdom given our history of separation from being ruled by a king. In the magnificent Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, over the main altar is a very large mosaic of a muscular, white, blond, scowling King Jesus (*pictured*) for which I feel antipathy. For me, it is no more authentic than the sweet, docile Jesus on many holy cards.



In this week’s gospel, Jesus acknowledges kingship when he is on trial before Pilate. He clearly states, however, “My kingdom does not belong to this world,” before he is led to be tortured and crucified. His is a spiritual kingdom embracing everyone. I recall an incident shared by a priest who was praying in a small chapel in a country in Africa (I forget which one) and noticed something different about the crucifix. A closer look revealed that there were no nails holding Jesus to the cross. Why? Because it was love that held Jesus, our crucified king, to an instrument of agony and death.

As the Church transitions from Ordinary Time to Advent preparations for the birth of the Incarnate God as a small baby, we are reminded that Jesus Christ is both the “Alpha and the Omega” (Rev. 1:8) and the King of Love. Today, we honor Christ, King of the Universe, and Christ, King of Hearts.

Sr. Marie Lucey, OSF  
FAN Associate Director

### **Suggested action:**

This week, each time you pray the familiar words of the Our Father, “thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven,” acknowledge that God’s kingdom of love, truth, mercy, and justice can come on earth today only through us, in faith.

### **Suggested Petitions:**

As we honor Christ, King of the Universe, may we remember that his kingdom embraces all people and all races, let us pray.

That we assume responsibility for spreading God’s kingdom of love, let us pray.

## Prayer by St. John XXIII

Lord Jesus Christ, the prince of peace,  
make all men and women witnesses of truth, justice, and neighborly love.  
Banish from their hearts whatever might endanger peace.  
Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee and defend  
the great gift of peace.  
May all peoples of the earth become as brothers and sisters.  
May longed-for peace blossom forth and reign always over us all.

Amen

## Take Action: FAN Continues Actions Against Public Charge

Last week, in celebration of the feast of Saint Frances Cabrini, patron saint of immigrants, many faith groups participated in [Faith Week of Action Against Public Charge](#).



Born in Italy, Saint Cabrini arrived in the United States in 1889 on a mission to help other Italian immigrants desperately fleeing extreme poverty, hunger, oppression, violence and exploitation.

She dedicated her life to serving immigrants in America by establishing social services institutions such as hospitals, orphanages, and schools across the country.

The interfaith community stands together to follow her example of compassion and tenacity to fight the proposed rule on public charge. From [Monday, Nov. 12th to Friday, Nov. 16th](#), daily actions took place to stand for our American and interfaith values and most importantly, those that need our voices now.

Our work is not done and your voice is critical. Act now to oppose this unjust public charge rule by submitting a comment here: <https://www.ouramericanstory.us/faith-traditions/>

## Climate Pilgrims Midway Through Their Journey

We let you know last week about the [Climate Pilgrims](#) on the road in Italy, walking from the Vatican to Katowice, Poland, the site of this year's UN climate talks. These are people of faith from around the world, united and inspired by Laudato Si and walking to show their commitment to climate justice and they are half way through their journey.



We urge you to [read and share their stories](#). Recently, the pilgrims urged Europe's third-largest insurance company, Generali to take a stand against climate change by joining industry leaders in the clean energy movement. They were able to celebrate a victory just a short while later as the company [announced](#) an improved policy.

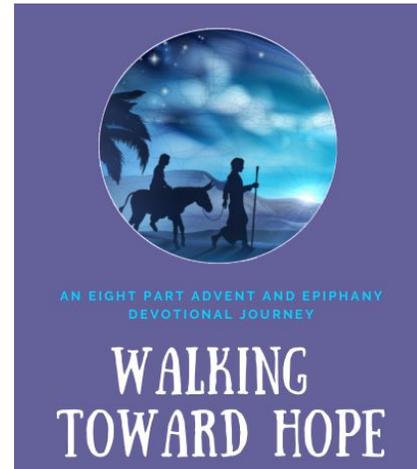
Let us walk together with the pilgrims by [sending prayers](#) and [taking action](#) for climate justice.

## IIC Eight Part Devotional Series for Advent

The [Interfaith Immigration Coalition's](#) Holy Days and Holidays committee has developed this eight part [devotional](#) for use during Advent.

The series offers different reflections, stories, actions and resources for use at vigils in support of refugees and immigrants over the eight week season.

You can access and download the devotional on the IIC's [Holidays and Holy Days web page](#).



## Indian-American Girl Scout Honored for Combating Trafficking

FAN staff was inspired by the [story](#) of Indian-American teenager Sakshi Satpathy who was recently named as one of ten 2018 National Gold Award winners from Girl Scouts of the USA for her efforts to counter human trafficking and child marriage.



The high school senior from Palo Alto, California, is the founder of Project GREET — Girl Rights: Engage, Empower, Train — and has designed, created, and distributed documentary films, a training curriculum, a website, and a YouTube playlist to educate the public about human trafficking. [Read more about her incredible efforts here.](#)

## Register today for the NIIC Conference in D.C.

Now in its 11th year, the [National Immigrant Integration Conference](#) (NIIC) is the largest conference on immigration in the U.S. and plays a central role in the powerful, diverse and broad immigrant and refugee



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rights and integration field. In the face of relentless attacks on our communities, the power of people to stand up, speak truth, and fight for a democracy that welcomes and uplifts us all is undaunted.

Countless thousands have organized in opposition to the separation of families at the border, raised their voices to defend refugees, DACA and Temporary Protected Status, and work every day to welcome and fully integrate immigrant and refugee communities. These leaders are creating change in their community and we encourage anyone interested to come see what it's all about at the [NIIC conference](#).