

## Abound in Love

“The days are coming, ...May the Lord make you increase and abound in love,...for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.”

In [this week's first reading](#) we are reminded that God's plan and will for us as a person and as a people will prevail. Now, that really is Good News! Because far too often in our time and in our lives it really takes Faith and Trust in God to believe this, in spite of what we see and hear around us.

This past week I, along with so many others, spent time traveling to be with family and friends for Thanksgiving and/or hosted family and friends. Many of us used our time, talent, and treasures to do so and took on more anxiety, work, and perhaps even stress to do so. Some of us were even able to go beyond our comfort zone by sharing the gift of hospitality to help others have a time of welcome and acceptance into our homes and lives.

As we hear in the second reading, “May the Lord make you abound in love for one another and for all.” Hopefully we can extend a day to a season of Preparing for the Lord to come afresh into our hearts and lives. Doing good deeds, being kinder, accepting the stranger and encouraging others to become a sign of God's Love in and through service to others.

This is what Advent is about, preparing, changing our hearts and embracing God's call to abound in love.

Br. Paul Crawford, OFM Cap.  
FAN Board Member

### **Suggested Actions:**

This week, be mindful of extending hospitality to others in your life

### **Suggested Petitions:**

May we be ever faithful to God and watchful of his return, we pray...  
May faithful hearts be opened to God's plan in our lives, we pray...

### **Collect Prayer:**

**Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,  
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ  
with righteous deeds at his coming,  
so that, gathered at his right hand,**



they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever.

Amen

## Giving Tuesday is Tomorrow!

Tomorrow is [#GivingTuesday](#)! While [#GivingTuesday](#) reminds us about the importance of giving, we also have just celebrated Thanksgiving, a holiday that allows us to reflect and share what we are grateful for.

As we have been celebrating our [10th Anniversary](#), the staff and board of FAN is grateful for you, our members, partners, and friends for your prayers and support throughout these years. Without you, we could not have grown in to the respected organization we are today.

We invite you to join us in saying thanks and encouraging your family and friends to join you in giving back on [#GivingTuesday](#). We humbly ask that you think of us at Franciscan Action Network as you make your [#GivingTuesday](#) donations. You can [donate online](#) with a credit card or **send a check to: P.O. Box 29106, Washington, DC 20017.**

Peace and All Good!



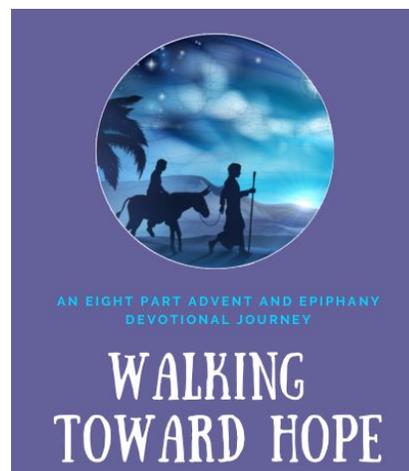
#GIVING  
TUESDAY

## 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.

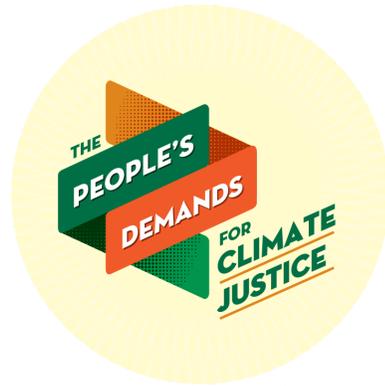
The series offers different reflections, stories, actions and resources for use at vigils in support of refugees and immigrants over the eight week season.

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



## Take Action: People's Demands for Climate Justice

Saints Francis and Clare had a relational understanding of creation that all creatures, from the smallest to "our Sister, Mother Earth" are part of the very family of God. It is with this value as our guide that we encourage our members to take action for climate justice.



Government delegates from around the world will meet in early December to decide how to implement the landmark Paris Agreement. The [People's Demands for Climate Justice](#) is a joint global call to these delegates demanding that this year's climate talks actually lead to meaningful, just climate solutions. FAN has joined this effort in partnership with other climate justice organizations to help raise awareness among our membership and demonstrate to government leaders the wide support of these demands. [Read the petition text here.](#)

## Catholic Mobilizing Network Hosts "Hope Over Death" Event

The [Catholic Mobilizing Network](#) (CMN) recently hosted "Hope Over Death", an event which challenged participants to imagine transformative approaches to criminal justice that promote human dignity. The night included a personal story (*pictured*) of one couple's journey toward forgiveness after their daughter was tragically shot and killed by her fiance. FAN's Sr. Marie Lucey and Sr. Maria Orlandini were in attendance. In case you missed it, you can view the event [livestream here](#).



Additionally, we share with you CMN's newest resource — [Pathways to Restoration](#) — an online toolkit to guide your journey toward becoming an agent of restoration.

## Take Action: Pledge to Stand in Solidarity with Asylum Seekers

The administration's recent [presidential proclamation](#) and interim final rule will prevent immigrants who enter the U.S. between ports of entry from seeking asylum. It will endanger



the lives of migrants fleeing untenable situations in their home countries in search of safety and asylum in the United States. These are mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers who have been forced from their homes by unimaginable violence and insecurity; runaway corruption; and droughts and floods linked to climate change. These are women and girls fleeing intolerable situations of domestic violence. These are young men seeking a life free from gang violence. This policy:

- **Ignores U.S. law:** the ability to access the well-established asylum system is legally required.
- **Is cruel and unnecessary:** restricting access to this protection has life and death consequences for families and individuals fleeing violence and persecution.
- **Closes off access to protection:** although the policy is directed at migrants arriving between ports of entry, for months those seeking asylum at ports of entry have been forced to wait in line for days or have simply been turned away.

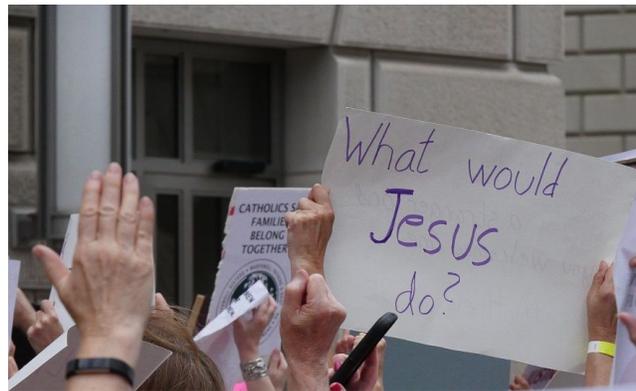
Want more information on this policy and its context? Read this month's [From the Hill column](#) and our [Statement](#) calling for humane treatment of arriving migrants.

We stand with Pope Francis who calls us to “promote the dignity of all our brothers and sisters, particularly the poor and the excluded of society, those who are abandoned, immigrants and those who suffer violence and human trafficking.”

[In the face of this inhumane decision, we invite you to stand in solidarity with people fleeing violence and seeking asylum.](#)

## Take Action: Submit a Comment Against “Public Charge Rule”

“Public Charge” is a term used by U.S. immigration officials to refer to a person who is considered primarily dependent on the government for subsistence, as demonstrated by either receipt of public cash assistance for income maintenance or institutionalization for long-term care at government expense. Where this consideration applies, an immigrant who is found to be “likely . . . to become a public charge” may be denied admission to the U.S. or lawful permanent resident status. (Source: [National Immigration Law Center](#).)



The Trump Administration's proposed "public charge rule" would drastically redefine who the U.S. welcomes in to the United States by putting a higher value on affluent immigrants. Basically, immigrants would have to prove their worth and only those of a certain income would be allowed in.

As Franciscans and Christians, we value the dignity of each human person as created in the image and likeness of God. In our quest for ongoing conversion, we urge our members and friends to speak out against this injustice toward the poor and vulnerable. Before this “public charge” rule can be finalized, the administration is *required by law to review and respond to*

every *unique public comment they receive* about the proposed regulation. We strongly encourage our members and friends to [submit a unique comment here](#).