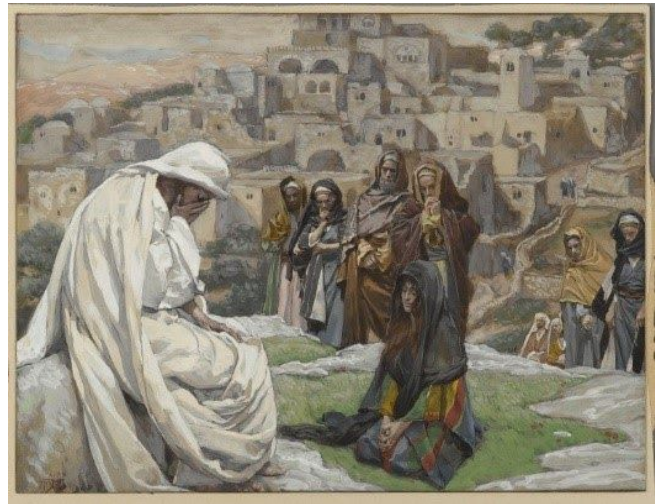


“See how he loved him”

“When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Sir, come and see.” And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.” (Jn 11:33-36)



How deeply does God love you? How deeply does God love me? And how do we deeply love each other? We believe that each of us is created in the image of God—loved and beloved—called as God’s children. God becomes fully human through Jesus, and as Jesus weeps for Lazarus and for the community who is grieving Lazarus’ death, it is God who is weeping the loss of a child.

The miracle of this story may not only be in Lazarus’ resurrection, but in the love and care of the community. Martha and Mary are persistent in wanting to save their brother. The community surrounds them in their hope and in their grief. Jesus is overwhelmed by his own love for Lazarus and by the love that is shown by the community.

As we move through this period of Lent, we must remember that some in our beloved community may be forced to leave us. The Supreme Court will decide between now and the end of June the fate of the DACA program. These young people are beloved members of our community, striving to make their mark and make their communities better. Their leadership has provided light in a path that often seems dark. Earlier in the [Gospel passage](#), Jesus talks about how we must walk in the way of the light. It is our responsibility to lament, to confess, and to work for transformation that brings justice to these members and others under threat of immigration enforcement policies. It is our responsibility to stand as community members, and weep and then call out the powerful to make changes. The leaders of undocumented and DACA-mented youth and young adults need our accompaniment, our voices, and our bodies to show love, support, and protection. This is how we deeply love each other.

So, united with the Christian community we love, we cry out with the words of the Psalmist, “Out of the depths we cry to you O Lord, Lord hear our voices” because the ones we love need your help. We trust the Spirit that is already in us and ready to witness that as Lazarus came out of the tomb so will those who call on God’s name.

(Adapted from IIC Holy Days and Holidays devotions)

Suggested Action:

This week, in support of DACA recipients, head to [United We Dream](#) to learn about the current state of DACA and take part in one of their petitions.

Suggested Petitions:

For DACA recipients, may they find strength in God's love in these very uncertain and difficult times. We pray...

That we may grow in solidarity with others in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic. We pray...

Collect Prayer:

**By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,
may we walk eagerly in that same charity
with which, out of love for the world,
your Son handed himself over to death.
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

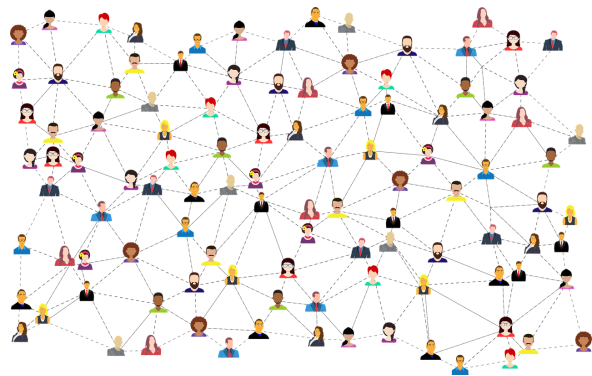
Franciscans Across the U.S. Celebrated Solemnity of St. Joseph Together with Pope Francis

When the Vatican [announced](#) last week that Pope Francis was appealing to Catholics and all faithful to "unite spiritually" in praying the rosary to celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph on Thursday, Franciscans across the U.S. responded.

FAN sent out an email blast to our entire database asking for participation. We received over 70 responses from Franciscans across the country who planned to join in the prayer.

In this fearful time of uncertainty, the uniting of our voices at the appointed hour was deeply moving and resulted in a calm sense of trust in the Holy Spirit to guide us.

We will continue to update [this page](#) on our website with resources and prayers as they come in. We also continue to pray for all our members and friends and hope you, in turn, will keep us in your prayers. It is with confidence in our loving Creator that we move forward, assured of God's love and mercy.



Caring for Creation in the Midst of a Pandemic

As social distancing becomes our “new normal,” many Earth Day activities and plans may be affected. Listed here, we offer some information, resources, and suggestions from several of our creation care partners and other organizations.



- An article from the OFM general office of justice, peace and integrity of creation offers an interesting connection between the climate crisis and coronavirus. [Read more.](#)
- The Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM) is hosting a **weekly prayer service** every Friday to be present with each other and the Spirit as we experience the new reality of the pandemic and continue to grow in love for the most vulnerable. The prayer service takes place every Friday at 12pm ET / 9am PT. [Register here.](#)
- GCCM has also put together some [suggested Laudato Si' activities](#) for the pandemic. These bring spiritual well-being and practical acts of compassion into your experience of the coronavirus.
- Our friends at Interfaith Power and Light who have been coordinating Faith Climate Action Week actions **have adjusted their toolkit** to provide ideas and messaging for those who may need to convert these actions to online virtual events in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. [Find more information here.](#)
- While we are still unsure how the celebration of [Laudato Si' Week](#) will be affected by the pandemic, the team is discussing ways to adapt activities due to the coronavirus and will share concrete plans on their website.
- Dianne Aid is a Third Order Society of St. Francis in Seattle, WA and active member of FAN who sent us some great resources for our Episcopal friends on preaching environmentally with the Revised Common Lectionary. [Find commentary on Lectionary Texts here.](#)

Good News Publication Features FAN's Sr. Maria Orlandini

The [Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia](#) are institutional members of the Franciscan Action Network and publish a magazine three times a year which highlights the community's mission and uplifts the sisters' commitments to justice, peace and integrity of creation.

Sr. Maria Orlandini, OSF was one of two sisters featured in the [Spring 2020](#) issue as someone who has “a passion for Gospel living and for sharing the message of the Good News.”

We are very proud of Sr. Maria and all her accomplishments, both with FAN and before she was on our staff. We invite you to read more about Maria's



journey [here](#).

Poverty Amidst Pandemic: Poor People's Campaign

Poor People's Campaign is [calling on Congress](#) to fulfill their moral and Constitutional responsibilities to the poor in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic.



Using a petition which highlights the connection between the current COVID-19 emergency to the deeper and longer term crisis of poverty in our country, they are urging signatures on a petition to Congress to enact their [Moral Agenda](#). They call for an urgent need to address underlying causes of poverty and inequality with policies such as universal health care, expanding social welfare programs like SNAP and LIHEAP, ensuring access to water and sanitation and more.

[Sign on to the petition here](#).

Support DACA-mented and Immigrant Brothers and Sisters

As a community facing the COVID-19 pandemic, everyone can take steps to make an impact. As we practice social distancing, we can still show support for immigrant communities online. Here are several stories and updates along with some ways to take action.



- Some difficult news from Raices was shared about the death of one of their clients at the Karnes Detention Center. An immigrant father detained there took his own life last week. We invite you to [sign the petition](#) to release all immigrants at risk of coronavirus.
- Congress is currently deliberating details on a third package of relief for Americans amid the coronavirus pandemic. Several immigration advocacy groups have developed Immigration-Related Requests for this package. [Read more here](#).
- The Supreme Court is currently deliberating on the future of DACA and DACA recipients like Zaid. Born in Mexico City, Zaid now runs an inclusive, affordable vegan restaurant in Kansas City, Missouri. He's a DACA recipient, a loving son, a small business owner, and — in his own words , “trying to be a better human.” Zaid's #HomelsHere. [Read more here](#).
- The USCCB's Migration and Refugee Services and Justice for Immigrants campaigns are continuing to work to protect immigrants and other vulnerable members of our communities. Their latest update can be accessed [here](#) and they will continue to update this [COVID-19 Resource page](#).