

“Do you not have Faith?”

Image by [Free-Photos](#) from [Pixabay](#)

One of my memories from growing up in Boston was going with my father to fish off one of the piers near where we lived. I take a pause from saying “fondest memories” because fishing was something I could never relate to. We would get up early and spend the entire day fishing. Or to be truthful, we spent our entire day *trying* to catch a fish. There we sat with our one line off the pier for hours...or as I felt a “lifetime.” My father was never a big talker and to be honest I preferred to go digging for clams. Clam digging was easier and bore way more fruit, in my mind, since you know where they are and just dig them up. A fish, on the other hand, I had no faith we would ever catch. So, I kinda understand some possible themes for [this Sunday’s Gospel reading](#).



As many of us know, the seas, oceans and other bodies of water can and do have changes in weather. You can usually see them coming. So the apostles this week are on the water in the Sea of Galilee and Jesus is sleeping in the boat. Then, “A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up.” The disciples become fearful for their lives.

Then Jesus said “Do you not have Faith”? The life of a believer is challenged many times with that question. Too many times we face it in difficult moments. Perhaps we considered that question through our need for social distancing and all that was happening around us this past year.

We know that trusting someone is hard at times. Believing calls us to keep thinking of that question from Jesus, and to keep going and doing the best that we can, even through the difficult times. Isn’t that why we all are here today? Here at Church in spite of our failings, in spite of the failures of the Church. We are here to ask God to cure our unbelief.

May the Grace of God bless us all!

Br. Paul Crawford, OFM Cap.
Board Member

Suggested Actions:

Recall a time in your life where you did not have faith that things would turn out ok. Consider that memory while reading the Gospel.

Suggested Petitions:

For all fathers and father-figures in our lives. May they be blessed with abundant love and mercy. We pray...

For all those fathers and father-figures who have died. May their spirits dwell with the eternal light of Christ. We pray...

For all of us who have occasionally lost our faith. May we remember God is with us and turn to Jesus in grateful prayer. We pray...

Collect Prayer:

Grant, O Lord,
that we may always revere and love your holy name,
for you never deprive of your guidance
those you set firm on the foundation of your love.
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

Have You Registered for our Final *Fratelli Tutti* Discussion?

This Wednesday Franciscan Action Network will host our **fourth and final panel discussion** on the topic *Fratelli Tutti on Governance and Politics*. **Each event has its own separate registration link. Please note:** even if you attended a previous evening, you must [register separately for this event](#).

We hope you will join us **Wednesday, June 16th at 7pm ET (4pm PT)** to consider the current political system, how it is broken and what we can do to change it. Our speakers for this event are author of *Five Steps to Positive Political Dialogue*, **Amy Uelmen** and Associate Professor of Moral Theology at The Catholic University of America, **David Cloutier**. Read more about our speakers [here](#). The panel discussion will be moderated by our executive director, Stephen Schneck. **RSVP to attend *Fratelli Tutti on Governance and Politics* by [clicking here](#).**



Covid-19 Vaccine Updates from Catholic Cares Coalition

As a member of the [Catholic Cares Coalition](#), Franciscan Action Network continues to promote and educate on the Covid-19 Vaccine. Our organization signed onto [this letter to President Biden](#) thanking him for his leadership in promoting vaccine equity and we were happy to learn of the administration's [intent to donate](#) 500 million vaccines to countries in need.



Additionally, we are in the midst of a month-long mobilization effort of the Department of Health & Human Services' [We Can Do This](#) campaign to ensure as many people as possible receive at least one COVID-19 vaccine shot by July 4th. The [website](#) has a myriad of resources in multiple languages to help us promote factual information. We encourage our members and friends to advance this effort in your networks.

Finally, the staff at Franciscan Action Network is making plans to host a virtual webinar on June 30th to answer questions and address concerns with getting vaccinated. **Keep watching this space and our [website](#) for more information and to register.**

Fast for Freedom Launch in Washington, D.C.

Last week, the #WeAreEssential Fast for Freedom was launched in Washington, D.C. The first 11 fasters - faith leaders and impacted essential workers (*pictured, with white stoles*) - gathered to dedicate a week of their lives to prayer, meditation and sacrifice in the name of justice for 11 million undocumented siblings. Click here to [see some photos](#) from the launch.



As each day of the fast comes to a close, faith leaders will be supporting the efforts and fasters through a prayer service. FAN's own Sr. Marie Lucey and Sr. Maria Orlandini led the Thursday night prayer service, sharing a carnation with each of the initial fasters. [See photos by clicking here.](#)

Now is a critical time to escalate our voices, as the House is set soon to announce if and how it may use reconciliation as a vehicle to help create pathways to citizenship—and we will need the Senate to likewise provide opportunities for permanent protections that are so long overdue.

There are many ways you can support this effort. We invite you to look through this Fast for Freedom [Solidarity Action Toolkit](#) and consider your time and ability when choosing to take action.

TONIGHT: Join Virtual Prayer Vigil for World Refugee Day

[World Refugee Day](#) is coming up Sunday, June 20th and there is still so much work to be done in order to rebuild refugee resettlement and restore the asylum program. The Covid-19 pandemic has taught us that all of us have a role to play in order to bring about change. Everyone can make a difference.

Please join faith leaders, refugees and asylum seekers for a time to reflect, pray and listen to the powerful stories of those who have journeyed so far. The Interfaith Immigration Coalition, of which FAN is an active member, is hosting a [virtual vigil](#) **TONIGHT, Monday, June 14th at 7pm ET (4pm PT) for World Refugee Day 2021** to support refugees and asylees. Please



RSVP for the virtual faith vigil by [signing up here](#).

This is a critical time to expand welcome and together through prayer and action we can make a difference. Don't forget to download the [World Refugee Day 2021 Toolkit](#) from Justice for Immigrants.

Webinar on Faith, Farming & U.S Policy: How Proposed Agriculture Bills Address Climate Change

Photo source: Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA.

The NYC Franciscan Solidarity Table of the Franciscan Action Network invites you to a Zoom webinar **this Thursday, June 17 from 7p-8:15p ET (4p-5:15p PT)** about proposed agricultural legislation critical for food justice and environmental sustainability.



Speakers include: **Jillian Hishaw, Esq.**, an agricultural attorney, Founder and CEO of Family Agriculture Resource Management Services (FARMS), and author of “*Systemic Land Theft*”. **Matt Russell**, a fifth generation farmer and Executive Director of Iowa Interfaith Power and Light. **Adam Zipkin**, Counsel, Senator Cory Booker. A Guest Farmer will also participate in the discussion. Panelists will highlight the importance of five Congressional bills from a faith perspective and their impact on farmers, U.S. agricultural policy, and environmental justice while addressing climate change.

You must [register to attend by clicking here](#). Once you register, you will receive the link to join the event.

FAN Joins Interfaith Delegation in MN for Line 3 Rally

FAN Summer intern, Grace Von Lehman

Franciscan Action Network is blessed to have several hard working interns with us this summer. One, Grace Von Lehman, is a rising senior at Marian University in Indianapolis and has a passion for the environment. With support from family and friends, she was able to attend the three-day [Treaty People Gathering](#) to protest the ongoing expansion of the Enbridge Line 3 tar sands pipeline. The expansion would carry millions of additional gallons of fossil fuel into the US each day, and violates longstanding treaties with the Anishinaabe people.

“At the Gathering this week, I engaged in training and actions led by Indigenous Anishinaabe leaders. I was inspired by how, throughout the whole gathering, the frontline leaders held so much joy and hospitality even while fighting Enbridge’s egregious actions. Nearly 300 of us were able to join together in a prayer service led by



Indigenous, Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, and Christian faith leaders. Then, taking non-violent direct action, protestors gathered around equipment and construction access roads, halting construction with song and solidarity. While I thought I knew what was at stake, being able to actually stand with those most impacted, on the very ground whose water would be destroyed by this pipeline, showed me how much there truly is to lose--and how much to gain by continuing to put up a fight.”

[Take action by signing on to this petition to President Biden urging he #StopLine3.](#)

June Stop Trafficking Newsletter

Years ago, people believed that human trafficking was something that occurred in other countries. We now know that trafficking can and does occur everywhere and anyone can be a victim. Even with this increased awareness, people generally remain largely unaware of a population affected by trafficking at an alarming rate: people with disabilities.

The focus of the [June Stop Trafficking](#) newsletter is on these often-unrecognized victims of human trafficking. Victims with disabilities may be trafficked into sex or labor; however, many cases include one additional factor, the theft of Social Security and disability benefits.

Please [click here](#) to access the newsletter. You can find past issues of the Stop Trafficking Newsletter on [FAN's website](#).

