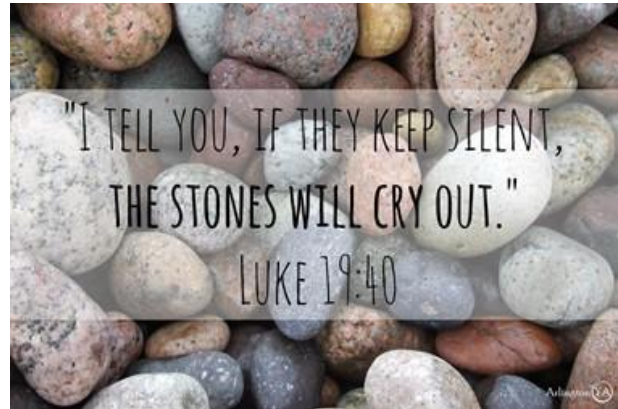


Cry Out for the Reign of God's Justice

The [readings for Palm Sunday](#) celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into the city of Jerusalem. It's as if the ancient echoes and cries of the crowd still resound, "Hosanna, Hosanna, to the Son of David!" What a scene that must have been. Yet, let us not forget those, the religious and Roman leaders, who gathered in secret to conspire to put an end to Jesus and his proclamation that the Reign of God was at hand.



One has to wonder if the anger and hostility of some of the religious leaders and the people were simply religious discord. It's apparent that the message that Jesus preached of God's kingdom, the concern for the poor, the marginalized and the unwanted was also a threat to the power, the identity and the social and economic status that they flaunted.

Jesus' message was a challenge to change, to let go of those surface and superficial concerns to which we so tightly cling. Change, true conversion and transformation is often difficult and unpleasant. Yet, the conviction that life is fragile and tenuous may give us the courageous faith to hear and open ourselves to the promise that Christ offers.

Have we become strongly rooted in our societal and cultural identity, our style of living and economic advantages? Do these hinder our ability to hear the gospel message of compassion, justice and equity for all people? In these final days of Lent, what continues to blind us, bind us and hold us back from truly hearing and living Christ's message of total and selfless love?

May our lives, our voices and our faith resound and cry out for the reign of God's love. May our Lenten journey and the celebration of Holy Week free us for continuous and ongoing conversion in God's love and the promise of abundant life and goodness for all people.

Margaret Magee OSF
FAN Board Member

Suggested action:

This week, consider how you see your identity, your style of living, your economic status. Honestly reflect if there is something holding you back from achieving "Jesus level" love and compassion.

Suggested petitions:

May we care for and love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We pray...
For all those who have been unjustly condemned for their faith. May the strength of the Cross inspire and remind them of God's everlasting Love and Presence. We pray...

Prayer

Bless us with Love, O Merciful God;
That we may love as you love.
Bestow on us the grace to demonstrate selfless love towards other people,
that we may show patience, tolerance, kindness, and caring to all.
Do not let us seek selfish gains,
but help us to care for your people with a compassionate heart.

Amen

Youth v Gov Movie Monday Screening

As Franciscan-hearted people of faith, we care about the integrity of creation and climate justice for future generations. The film [YOUTH v GOV](#) follows 21 young Americans suing the world's most powerful government to protect their constitutional rights to a stable climate. If they win, they will change the future. [Watch the trailer.](#)

In anticipation of Earth Day, join us for a special Movie Monday screening of the film, thanks to our friends at Interfaith Power & Light. **Choose the date and time that work best for you:**

April 11, 2022 at 4pm-6pm ET (1pm-3pm PT) Click here to [REGISTER](#)
OR

April 18, 2022 at 7pm-9pm ET (4pm-6pm PT) Click here to [REGISTER](#)

All are welcome to discuss the topics brought up in the film on **Wednesday, April 13 at 3pm Eastern / 12pm Pacific**, coinciding with the monthly national Franciscan Justice Circles zoom call. The discussion will be appropriate for those who watched the film already as well as those looking forward to doing so. We will send you the zoom link for the discussion after you register for one of the film screenings. We hope you can join us.



Holy Voices: Prayers of Liberation & Hope for Immigration Relief

As Ramadan, Passover, and Easter converge this month, let's channel the liberatory spirits of these holy days into our fight for citizenship.

Join us on **Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 12pm ET (9am PT)** for [Holy Voices: Prayers of Liberation & Hope for Immigration Relief](#). At this gathering you



will hear from Imam Saffet Catovic, Rabbi Joshua Aaronson, DACA recipient and advocate Juan Carlos Cerda, and Rev. Dr. Cheni Khonje who will share prayers, reflections, and opportunities to take action for immigration justice this spring. Click the links below to join and share on Facebook.

Zoom registration link: <https://bit.ly/IICHolyVoicesApril>

Facebook event page: <https://bit.ly/IICHolyVoicesAprilFB>

Join Us on an Encounter for Our Common Home

Please consider signing up for [Encounter for Our Common Home](#), a new national **weeks-long U.S. Catholic training and advocacy** campaign for climate solutions. Co-sponsored by FAN and led by Catholic Climate Covenant, the campaign is meant to urge our U.S. senators to support climate solutions now. Activities begin this week!



Encounter
FOR OUR COMMON HOME

When you [click to join today](#), you will be the first to hear of campaign events, including:

- Community-building events
- Webinars on our faith and climate action
- Young Adult materials and engagement
- Trainings
- Resources
- Action alerts

... All of this will culminate in several rounds of virtual or in-person meetings with U.S. senators beginning the week of May 2-6, 2022.

Several webinars to prepare for the congressional visits start next week. [We hope you will join us in this journey.](#)

Take Action: Tell Congress to Save Oak Flat

Oak Flat is a site [sacred](#) to the Apache and other tribal communities in Arizona. For centuries [Chi'chil Bıldagoteel has been central to the worship, prayer, and traditional ceremonies of local tribal communities](#). The site is integral to the culture and identity of the San Carlos Apache, Tonto Apache, White Mountain Apache, Yavapai Apache, Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe, the Gila River Indian Community, the Saltwater Pima Maricopa Indian Community, Pueblo of Zuni, Hopi Tribe, and more.



Because Oak Flat sits atop a copper deposit, the federal government plans to transfer the land to a mining company, Resolution Copper, unless Congress takes action. If copper mining moves forward, the land will be devastated.

Use this action from the Episcopal church to [urge your members of Congress](#) to sponsor

and pass the [Save Oak Flat Act \(H.R. 1884/S. 915\)](#) to protect the sacred land of Indigenous peoples.

Urge Your Senator to Support Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

Catholic Social Teaching prioritizes the good of the family, especially the unborn, as well as the rights of workers. There has been a dramatic demographic shift in the workforce. Not only do women now make up almost half of the workforce, but there are more pregnant workers than ever before and they are working later into their pregnancies.

The [Pregnant Workers Fairness Act](#) would require employers to provide reasonable, temporary accommodations to pregnant workers so that they can remain in the workforce throughout their pregnancies. The legislation has bipartisan support but is not considered a high priority in the Senate.



If you haven't yet taken action, please [click here to tell Congress to support and pass the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act](#).

FAN is Hiring! Come Work with Us

The Franciscan Action Network (FAN) is seeking a new [associate for campaigns and development](#). This is a full-time staff position, located in NE Washington DC, and is open immediately. FAN is a 501(c)3 organization and is committed to building a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community among staff, board, and our broader network.

The associate for campaigns and development will work with the executive director, the director of Franciscan Justice Circles, and other staff to expand and strengthen FAN's network of Franciscan-hearted people who seek to combine Gospel values and the Franciscan charism with effective advocacy for justice, peace, the integrity of creation, and human dignity.



For the full job description and application instructions, [click here](#). FAN will accept rolling applications until the position is filled with an end date no later than April 30, 2021. **Please forward this information to anyone you know who might be interested.**

Franciscan Justice Circle Updates

We are so proud of the progress we have made together on our [Franciscan Justice Circles](#)! In one year's time, the number of



Circles has multiplied five times thanks to your openness and collaborations. As a result of our rejuvenating campaign, we now have 15 Circles meeting in cities all over the country! Take a look:

New York City Area FJC | Tri-State FJC – Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky (Cincinnati, OH) | Southern California FJC | Boston FJC | Metro Washington DC FJC | Delaware Valley (DE, NJ, PA) FJC | Connecticut – Rhode Island FJC | Northern California FJC | Washington State – Louisiana FJC | Athens, Georgia FJC | Virtual Nationwide FJC, For those with limited accessibility | Mid-Hudson Valley, New York FJC | Milwaukee, WI FJC | Driftless Region FJC – Western WI / Southeastern MN | Kansas FJC

Do you not see your area represented yet? Please [contact us](#) so that we may work together to form a new Justice Circle near you.