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Reflection Date: April 24, 2022 - Second Sunday of Easter

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## Peace Be with You. Receive the Holy Spirit

Image by [Jeff Jacobs](#) from [Pixabay](#)

They were gathered in a locked house because of their fear of what might happen to them. “Do not be afraid.”

The readings for the [Second Sunday of Easter](#) lead up to Jesus appearing and saying “Peace be with you,” and more importantly, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”



Words that are still true today. Especially in light of the war against Ukraine and a fear of an escalated war going forward with the threats of a nuclear option. We need to hear these words that God has a plan. And I know I want to be part of it.

It's far easier to believe in God's divine plan when times seem safe and we are where we belong with our sisters and brothers. But Jesus needed to ensure the future of the Church by pointing out that only with the power of the Holy Spirit will the Church thrive.

So in this promise of Jesus, we should work signs and wonders! The signs and wonders of the Holy Spirit are being hopeful, welcoming the stranger, feeding the hungry and promoting the idea that all life must be respected.

Br. Paul Crawford, OFM Cap.  
FAN Board President

### **Suggested Action:**

This week, recall your Confirmation and revisit how your faith calls you to action using the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Throughout the weeks of Easter, prepare for Pentecost using this [guide](#).

### **Suggested Petitions:**

May we recognize the “the first and the last, the one who lives” in everyone we meet. We pray to the Lord...

For all victims of violence - violence of war; gun violence; verbal and physical violence. May they be comforted by the assurance that the Risen Lord will grant them healing, peace, and heavenly joy. We pray to the Lord...

### **Collect Prayer:**

**God of everlasting mercy,  
who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast  
kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,  
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,  
that all may grasp and rightly understand**

on what font they have been washed,  
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,  
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

Amen

## Join Us for a Final Re-humanize Follow-Up Listening Session

In February, we hosted "[RE-humanize this Lent](#)", an hour of scripture, reflection, discussion, and prayer to discuss how we could use the weeks of Lent to become re-humanizers. We followed up with weekly emails containing thought-provoking questions, giving the opportunity for personal reflection and [sharing](#).

As we have come to the end of our Lenten journey, let us reflect on everything we have learned through the RE-humanize campaign. Please [sign up for our listening session](#) on **Wednesday, April 20 at 7pm Eastern (4pm Pacific)** to share your thoughts and questions about this process and how to take it forward.



## Urge Congress to Reject Anti-Asylum Policies and Invest in Humane Welcome

There are efforts underway to undermine the Biden administration's decision to end Title 42, currently scheduled for May 23rd. We must [act now for humane welcome](#).

Since the announcement to end the policy, new anti-asylum measures have been introduced in an attempt to keep Title 42 in place, including the *Public Health and Border Security Act of 2022*. This bill would make it difficult or impossible to rescind Title 42 and would force the CDC and DHS to keep border expulsions in place.

It is vital that we ensure the safety and dignity of migrants and halt all expulsions of asylum seekers. Our partners at Church World Service have developed this [email action alert](#) to urge members of Congress to reject any anti-asylum proposal that would keep Title 42 in place.



## Doctrine of Discovery Virtual Workshop

The Providence Justice Collective is offering a one-hour virtual workshop on the [Doctrine of Discovery](#) on **May 11 at 7pm ET (4pm PT)**. [Click here to register](#).

The Doctrine of Discovery was and continues to this day to be foundational for legal and cultural racism. It gave the Church's blessing to colonialism that ultimately wreaked havoc on existing (non-European) communities in the Americas. Questions or requests for more information may be directed to S. Barbara McMullen at [bmcmullencdp@gmail.com](mailto:bmcmullencdp@gmail.com)



## Save Oak Flat Advocacy Resources & Sign-On Letter

Last week in [this newsletter](#), we made you aware of the sacred Apache site in Arizona called Oak Flat that is threatened by copper mining. With Earth Day being celebrated this Friday, April 22, we take the opportunity to promote an issue with profound implications for the environmental, native peoples and religious freedom communities.

Our friends at [BJC](#) have created a [toolkit packed](#) with one-page explainers, social media graphics and posts to raise awareness and support for protecting this part of Tonto National Forest from new mining. We urge you to use as much of this material as possible within your networks.



Additionally, all religious organizations are urged to join us in signing on to this [Oak Flat Letter to Congress](#). **Deadline for signatures is this Wednesday, April 20.**

Finally, to help communicate the size of the sacred Chi'chil Bildagoteel (Oak Flat) and get others involved, check out the [Oak Flat Challenge](#). The post has several social media graphics for use in helping to convey how large 1.8 miles of land is and to remind us of the value the Apache and other Native tribes assign to their connection to the earth.

## Spirit Moving: Interfaith Panel on Climate Action

[Santa Clara University tUrn](#) is hosting a hybrid in-person and virtual event on the various motivations behind faith-rooted creation care advocacy.

[Spirit Moving: Interfaith Panel on Climate Action](#) will be presented tomorrow, **Tuesday, April 19th at 10:30am PT (1:30pm ET)**.

Representatives from Muslim, Jewish and Christian environmental networks will explore how a grounding in contemporary social problems and scientific realities comes together with compassion and a vibrant spiritual life to inspire their work. [Click here for more information on speakers and to register](#).



## Franciscan Justice Circle Updates

Have you seen our video [Circles of Change](#) about FAN's unique effort to help Franciscan-hearted people form local affinity groups that join spirituality and action for justice and peace? We invite you to [watch it](#) and see if God might be calling you to join a Franciscan Justice Circle.



This week 5 Circles will be meeting in the following areas: Boston, Cincinnati Tri-State, Driftless Region (WI-N), Connecticut-Rhode Island, and Southern California. Please [contact us](#) to find out more about a Circle near you.