

Jesus Keeps His Promise

Image by [Holger Schué](#) from [Pixabay](#)

The Easter story is not complete without [Pentecost](#) which we will celebrate this weekend. For just a few years, Jesus was on Earth physically. He taught, healed, suffered, died, rose from the dead, hung around with his friends for 40 days, and ascended into the heavens. But he did not leave us to fend for ourselves. He gave us Eucharist to nourish us and **promised** to send the Holy Spirit to inspire, challenge, and comfort us. On that first Pentecost the disciples gathered in fear and uncertainty. Their beloved leader had left them for the second time. They knew that they were commissioned to continue his mission, but how in such a hostile environment? Then the wind blew, the house shook, tongues of fire hovered over them as they were filled with the promised Holy Spirit who transformed their anxious uncertainty into courage, strength, trust, and joy to keep Christ's mission alive. They threw open the doors and spoke to the diverse multitude "in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim."



On Pentecost 2022 we could make a long list of daunting challenges we face locally, nationally, globally, in society and in the Church. It is tempting to huddle together in fear and lock the doors as the first disciples did. Do we have the desire to cry "Come, Holy Spirit!"? Come and renew the face of the Earth; renew our country; renew the Church; renew me, because renewal today depends on how we, how I, collaborate with the Spirit. Come as a strong wind, or as a breath, or as fire. Be our Advocate, and enable us to be advocates with and for your suffering people and suffering Earth. We need your gifts of wisdom, understanding, prudence, strength, knowledge, piety, and Godly fear.

May June 18th be a Pentecost moment as thousands of advocates meet in Washington, DC or gather locally or virtually, to participate in the Poor People's Campaign moral march to demand justice, compassion, inclusion for all God's people and protection for God's sacred creation.

Sr. Marie Lucey, OSF
FAN Associate Director

Suggested Actions:

Which image of the Holy Spirit speaks to you today, and which gift of the Spirit do you have to offer? Consider joining FAN and many other faith organizations in the [Poor People's Moral March](#) on Washington and to the Polls on June 18th.

Suggested Petitions:

For our hearts to be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray...

For all those who are made poor by unequal societal structures. May we act as advocates and raise our voices for equity for all. We pray...

Prayer: St. Bonaventure

Send upon us, O God, from your treasure-house the Spirit of sevenfold grace:
the spirit of Wisdom, enabling us to relish the fruit of the tree of life, which is indeed
yourself;
the gift of Understanding, to enlighten our perceptions;
the gift of Prudence, enabling us to follow in your footsteps;
the gift of Strength, to withstand our adversary's onslaught;
the gift of Knowledge, to distinguish good from evil by the light of your holy teaching;
the gift of Piety, to clothe ourselves with charity and mercy;
the gift of Fear, to withdraw from all ill-doing and live in awe of your eternal majesty.
These are the things for which we ask. Grant them for the honor of your holy name.

Amen.

Work on Asylum Protection Continues

On May 20, a U.S. District Court in Lafayette, Louisiana issued a preliminary injunction preventing the CDC from ending Title 42 on May 23 as planned. The Justice Department rightfully filed a swift appeal and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has indicated it will continue to plan for the lifting of Title 42 while the appeal proceeds.



Disappointed as we are, we continue to work toward a welcoming society. We hosted an [issue briefing and exchange](#) last week where we heard from Franciscans working at the border who shared the genuine struggles of real people seeking comfort in our country. This [Messaging Guidance](#) document is from our friends at Welcome with Dignity. It is lengthy but worth reading for a deep understanding of the issue. It walks you through the background and current status of the legislation along with general talking points and resources.

This is a pivotal moment in our fight to end Title 42 and restore asylum and we urge you to [take action](#) by calling on President Biden and Congress to halt inhumane expulsions and reject anti-asylum policies at the border. Thank you!

Another Mass Shooting Bolsters Gun Violence Prevention Efforts

This week, we are heartbroken and weary from another mass shooting, this time at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, TX, so soon after the shooting at a supermarket in Buffalo. The frustration at a lack of governmental action is palpable within our offices and homes. Read our [statement here](#).



As a way to look forward in hope, we offer several

resources to educate yourself and take action.

- Senator Dianne Feinstein has introduced legislation to increase the age to buy assault weapons to 21. Click here to [read the press release about the Age 21 Act](#).
- Urge Congress to pass bipartisan gun violence prevention policies with [this action](#)
- The good people at [Newtown Action Alliance](#) are hosting an emergency #EndGunViolence Lunch & Lobby session TOMORROW, **Tuesday, May 31st from 12p-2pm Eastern time (10a-12p Pacific time)** to urge all Senators to pass a set of comprehensive laws to end this crisis. [RSVP to join here](#).
- Brady United has many useful resources and we call attention to this [list of Senators who take the most money from the NRA](#) for their campaign finance.
- The Center for American Progress released this [article on ways to take action at the state level](#).
- March for our Lives has begun planning another nationwide mobilization for June 11th. [Find out more by clicking here](#).

We urge our members and friends to continue to [contact your elected officials](#) about this issue and call for passage of meaningful gun violence prevention legislation.

Climate Can't Wait: Take Action Today

Climate change is devastating Earth's life support systems, harming our communities, and putting future generations at risk. We must continue to call on our elected officials to prioritize the climate in policies to ensure a livable future for us all, especially for those in vulnerable and underserved communities.

Members of Congress often tell us that messages from constituents do make a difference. Today, we offer several actions to take:

- [Food & Water Watch](#) urges us to tell the Army Corps to stop fast-track authorization of dangerous fossil fuel pipelines.
- [Interfaith Power and Light](#) urges us tell the Securities and Exchange Commission that investors deserve to know about climate risks.
- [EarthJustice](#) urges us to tell the Army Corps to revoke and not reissue the wetlands destruction permit for the PolyMet mine in Minnesota.



In addition to these very specific actions, we encourage you to continue to [contact your members of Congress](#) and call on them to **support the \$555 billion in climate provisions of the budget reconciliation bill** that will protect our world and secure a more just and prosperous future for all people.

Efforts to Reconcile and Heal with Indigenous Peoples

The U.S. Department of Interior recently released [Volume 1 of an investigative report](#) called for as part of the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative, a comprehensive effort to address the troubled legacy of federal Indian boarding school policies. This is a significant step by the federal government to comprehensively address the facts and consequences



of its federal Indian boarding school policies. The report presents the opportunity for the U.S. government to reorient federal policies to support the revitalization of Tribal languages and cultural practices.

In Canada, the Catholic Native Boarding School Accountability and Healing Project in collaboration with the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops are presenting a webinar on **Monday, June 6 from 7-9pm ET (4-6pm PT)**. Click to [RSVP to join “Indigenous Peoples and the Church”](#) to hear from Canadian bishops and members of Canada’s Indigenous Delegation on their process of walking together toward healing and reconciliation. Find [more information here](#).

May Edition of Stop Trafficking Newsletter Highlights the Dirty Dozen

No corporation or organization should profit from or facilitate sexual exploitation. Yet, unfortunately, many well-established brands, companies, and organizations profit as significant contributors to sexual exploitation.



The Dirty Dozen List is an annual campaign of the [National Center on Sexual Exploitation](#) (NCOSE) calling out twelve mainstream entities for facilitating or profiting from sexual abuse and exploitation. The [May edition of the Stop Trafficking Newsletter](#) highlights the 12 corporations or organizations which are the focus of this year’s Dirty Dozen List. Included in the “Action” section of the newsletter are numerous ways you may add your Franciscan voice to those advocating for change.

To view an archive list of the Stop Trafficking Newsletter, [visit our website](#).

Franciscan Justice Circle Updates

Have you been thinking about getting involved in a [Franciscan Justice Circle](#), but not sure if there are others in your area who could join you? Please reach out and [let us know you are interested](#)! We will gladly connect you with an existing geographic-based or virtual circle, or support you in forming one.

Inspired by the charism of Saints Francis and Clare, circles are forming nationwide to [take action](#) together.

