

Publication Date: June 3, 2025

Reflection Date: [June 8, 2025 - Pentecost Sunday](#)

Renewing the Face of the Earth

The [readings for Pentecost on June 8](#) remind us that the Spirit of God rushes in not to create uniformity, but to awaken a deeper unity. In the reading from Genesis (11:1-9), human pride leads to confusion and division. At Pentecost, the Spirit draws people together across languages and cultures, creating understanding and shared purpose. This is not a return to sameness but a movement toward solidarity alive with diversity and compassion.



We live in a troubled world. As St. Paul writes in his Letter to the Romans (8:22-27), all creation is groaning in labor pains. We feel it too—in the violence, war, greed, racism, injustice, and environmental harm around us. But Pentecost reminds us these are not solely groans of despair. They are the cries of something being born: a world renewed by justice, mercy, and peace.

Recently, the FAN staff visited the Church of St. Francis of Assisi in New York City and participated in their ministries. We served on the Breadline and spent time with Franciscans and volunteers whose quiet daily service is a part of ushering in that new creation. Their witness is a reminder that the Spirit moves through ordinary acts of love and care, as well as through the loving action that so many of you take through the advocacy opportunities offered by FAN. This connection between service and advocacy will be featured in our upcoming [Benefit program on June 11 at 7PM ET](#). I hope you'll join us and be inspired!

This Pentecost, we pray: Lord, send out your Spirit. Renew the face of the earth. Renew our hearts, and strengthen us to build a world where love has the final word.

Rosie Davila

Communications and Development Coordinator, FAN

Artist, Pace e Bene

Suggested Action: Consider [signing up](#) to attend the June 11 FAN Benefit on Zoom today. You'll hear from many inspiring Franciscan-hearted people and be part of a movement rooted in peace and justice.

Suggested Petitions: *For the grace to recognize the Spirit's presence in acts of service and to join in building a more just and compassionate world through advocacy, we pray...*

For all who feel the groaning of creation's pain, that they may be renewed in hope and strengthened to bring healing and peace, we pray...

Prayer

**Dear God,
renew our hearts and guide our hands,
that we may bring healing and hope to the world.**

Amen

Next week! FAN's Virtual Benefit

The FAN staff and board invite you to our most important fundraising event of the year, *"I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me: A Century of Franciscan Solidarity with Migrants,"* on **Wednesday June 11 at 7PM ET on Zoom.**

This special evening will feature a major announcement about FAN's work, the premiere of a short documentary highlighting our staff's recent visit to St. Francis of Assisi Parish in New York City, the presentation of the Franciscan Justice Circle Award, a panel discussion, and more. We hope to see you there!

[Register today!](#)



Tomorrow: Top 10 Nonviolent Actions to Meet This Moment

Wednesday, June 4 at 4 PM ET / 1 PM PT on Zoom

FAN and Pace e Bene are hosting a webinar tomorrow spotlighting the most effective nonviolent actions underway across the United States.

Nonviolence experts Maria Stephan and Rivera Sun will share insights on ten powerful campaigns in a discussion moderated by FAN Executive Director Michele Dunne. They'll explain how these efforts are driving real change and offer guidance on how you can get involved in your own community. Don't miss what promises to be an energizing and eye-opening one-hour event! As always, the event will be recorded and shared with all registrants.



[Click here to register](#)

June 18 – Pilgrimages of Hope for Creation: Franciscan Family Information Session

11 a.m. Pacific / 12 p.m. Mountain / 1 p.m. Central / 2 p.m. Eastern



As we celebrate the anniversaries of the Cantic of the Creatures, Laudato Si', and the Jubilee Year, Catholic communities across the United States will unite through **Pilgrimages of Hope for Creation** during the Season of Creation (September 1 – October 4, 2025). Together we will pray for the grace to encounter Christ in the natural world and restore our relationships with God, Creation, and one another.

As Franciscans we have an opportunity and responsibility to share the Cantic as part of these pilgrimages. Please join the OFM/Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe, OFM Conv/Province of Our Lady of the Angels, and Franciscan Action Network as we discuss what it means to participate in

this national effort.

The event will be recorded, and resources will be sent to all who [register](#).

[Click here to register](#)

Christians for Ceasefire and a Just Peace Updates

Solidarity Fast for Gaza (May 22–June 30)

Over 600 people have joined this fast to give witness to the children who have [died from starvation](#) and many others who are at severe risk of death in Gaza. [Click here](#) to sign up to fast in some form or to be an organizational sponsor. There will be a vigil on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, June 3 from 3:30pm-4:30pm in front of the Cannon House Office Building. [Click here](#) to register. **Email Congress [here](#).** *Theory of change:* If we mobilize over 500 people to take on some of the struggle through fasting to expose the injustice of hunger, etc.; then more key religious and political leaders will sense the horror of starvation in Gaza and work to ensure robust humanitarian aid, which will help us get to a permanent ceasefire.

Nonviolent Accompaniment Initiatives: Consider joining [delegations to Palestine this summer \(with FOSNA\)](#); or a mid-June 'March to Gaza' (contact: emccarthy@franciscanaction.org). Please [support](#) a new [Unarmed Civilian Protection Project](#) which launches this June in the West Bank. From June 20–22, join a caravan to the ICE detention center in Basile, LA, in solidarity with Palestinian rights detainees and local advocates. [Register here.](#)

Multi-Faith Nonviolent action in response to Christians United for Israel conference:

June 29th-July 1st: Learn more/sign up here: <https://www.interfaithforpalestine.com/interest>;

*June 9th community planning call: [register here](#).

Supreme Court Refuses to Hear Oak Flat Case

On May 27th, the Supreme Court, ruling 7-2, rejected the request to hear a case by Apache Stronghold – a coalition of Western Apache, other Native people, and non-Native allies – to prevent mining on Oak Flat, sacred Apache grounds east of Phoenix. The Court's decision removes a roadblock for the mining company Resolution Copper to move forward with a project that will turn Oak Flat into a two-mile wide and 1,100 foot-deep crater. Prior to this ruling, Oak Flat, known in Apache as Chi'chil Bı́dagoteel, had been protected from mining for seventy years. [Justice Neil Gorsuch dissented](#) from the decision, with Justice Clarence Thomas in agreement. Justice Gorsuch argued that "Before allowing the government to destroy the Apaches' sacred site, the Court should at least have troubled itself to hear their case...They may live far from Washington, D. C., and their history and religious practices may be unfamiliar to many. But that should make no difference."

Apache Stronghold intends to re-appeal to the Supreme Court. An [action and letter writing toolkit](#) is available for those who want to take action, including prayer. TONIGHT—**Tuesday, June 3, at 7:00 p.m. EDT**— join FAN's partners, *Mennonite Central*

Committee and Creation Justice Ministries, for a [Save Oak Flat Webinar](#) to learn how you can help protect Oak Flat from destruction.

Franciscan Justice Circle Updates

The **Boston FJC** has been focusing on creation care, reading both *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Tutti*, and ways to support the transition to clean energy locally. This month they also explored fair trade and its impacts.

Members of the **Mid-Hudson Valley FJC** continue contacting their national legislators regarding the protection of health and food programs for our most vulnerable community members in the national budget.

Upcoming [Franciscan Justice Circle](#) (FJC) gatherings:

Mid-Hudson Valley FJC: Tues. June 3 at 12:00 pm ET over Zoom

Kansas FJC: Tues. June 3 at 7:00 pm CT over Zoom

Ohio FJC: Wed. June 4 at 7:00 pm ET over Zoom

Virtual FJC (ltd. mobility): Thurs. June 5 at 11:00 am PT / 2:00 pm ET over Zoom

Chicagoland FJC: Sat. June 7 at 10:00 am CT over Zoom

Richmond, VA FJC: Mon. June 9 at 7:00 pm ET over Zoom

DE Valley FJC: Tues. June 10 at 7:00 pm ET over Zoom

New Mexico FJC: Tues. June 10 at 7:00 pm MT over Zoom

Rochester FJC: Thur. June 12 at 3:30 pm ET over Zoom

To find out more about any of the [FJC](#) gatherings coming up or for information about joining or forming a Circle, please contact Nora Pfeiffer at FJCinfo@franciscanaction.org.