

Publication Date: July 8, 2025

Reflection Date: July 13, 2025 - [The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

Do this and you will live

The reading from the Gospel of Luke for the [Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time](#), the story of the good Samaritan, needs no embellishment to a follower of the gospel. None of us wishes to be the priest or the Levite who crossed the road to walk by on the other side, the ones who looked away. We have to love our neighbor in the guise of the most vulnerable. “Do this,” Jesus said, “and you will live.”

St. Francis showed the way to love his neighbor in his embrace of the outcast with leprosy. And in our time, St. Teresa of Calcutta set a vivid example of lifting people off the street. These saints' lives pointed to a way of loving God “with all your heart and all your mind” through prayer and contemplation combined with direct service to the poor and marginalized.



Our media today bring us face to face with the displaced people of the world, who are deprived of safety or legal protection and often mercilessly preyed upon. To try to walk closely in sincere accompaniment with so many, we have to engage with today's innkeepers: with partners, agencies, and governments, for instance, to oppose the current legislative proposals and executive actions that harm them further.

This kind of advocacy is not just for activists. It is a duty in justice for all people of goodwill, especially Franciscans. A wise friend once reminded me, “One who works with the poor and generally avoids politics may bring the voice that is the most impactful to a legislative hearing.” We all have a role in helping to build this Franciscan network of love in action, and the Franciscan Action Network can help us connect with that action.

Joe Makley, OFS

*Animator, Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Commission
Secular Franciscan Order USA*

Suggested Action: Arrange a letter writing event with your faith community to oppose one of the many legislative proposals or executive actions that are unjust toward refugees and asylum seekers.

Suggested Petitions:

May every faith community offer its members meaningful opportunities for prayer and service to refugees and asylum seekers.

May every heart be moved by the stories of those who journey in search of safety, and respond with open hands and open doors.

Prayer

**Lord,
When families must flee war and violence and do not know where or how they will live,
When mothers cry out to you in their suffering and receive no answer,
Help us to understand how we are to be the answer.
Give to us the knowledge of the actions we must take in your name
To reveal your light in this darkness.**

Amen.

Thank You for Advocating for a Moral Budget



The Franciscan Action Network staff extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you who took action over the past several months in response to H.R.1, the big spending bill passed by the U.S. Congress on July 3. Through letter-writing, phone calls, action alerts, and in-person visits, you raised your voices for a federal budget rooted in the Franciscan values of compassion and care for the vulnerable. While the final bill fell far short of those values, your advocacy made a clear and persistent moral witness. Your actions demonstrated that people of faith will continue to show up, speak out, and work for a budget that prioritizes peace, creation, and human dignity.

We are deeply grateful for your faithful engagement. Click below to hear more from FAN Executive Director Michele Dunne, OFS.

[\[Click here to hear more from Michele\]](#)

July 13 is Green Amendment Day!

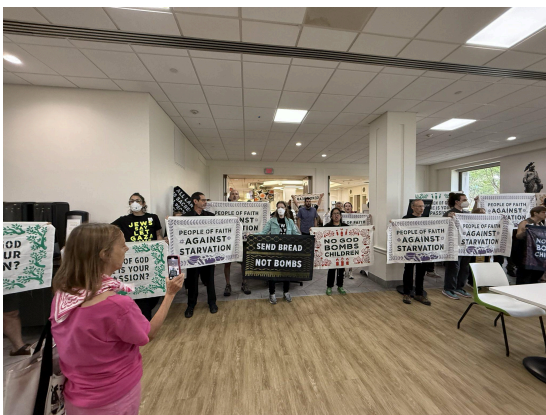
Is there a Green Amendment in your state constitution that guarantees the right to a healthy sustainable environment? **Over the next months, FAN will offer educational and advocacy efforts regarding the Green Amendment movement**, which seeks the passage of an enforceable environmental rights amendment in every state constitution. Advocating for the addition of a Green Amendment in your state constitution can be a key element in protecting our water, air, soils, environment, wildlife and climate.



Join Green Amendments Movement founder Maya van Rossum as she talks with state constitution expert and Rutgers Law Professor Robert Williams about the history and key elements of state constitutions that make them so powerful for addressing the right to a healthy, sustainable environment.

[Register now for this webinar](#), which will be broadcast on **July 15 (2 days after National Green Amendment Day on July 13) at 3 PM PT / 4 MT / 5 CT / 6 ET**. The event will include a live presentation and Q&A with Maya van Rossum and a pre-recorded conversation with Professor Robert Williams.

Interfaith Action for Palestine



800+ faith leaders from 30+ organizations held in person and online multifaith prayer actions (vigil, political education, banner drops, march, lobbying, civil disobedience) for a Just Peace and to challenge Christians United for Israel's (CUFI) Annual Conference in Washington DC (June 30-July 1). Instead of lunch, songs and prayers were served at the Senate Dirksen and House Rayburn Cafeterias at Capitol Hill on Tuesday, July 1, as over 150 clergy and members of Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, and Christian communities shut down food service. Prayer

leaders drew attention to the role of Christians United for Israel (CUFI), that support ethnic cleansing in Gaza, settler violence and annexation of the West Bank and further violent escalation against Iran. The makeshift multiracial congregation held banners

reading “send food, not bombs” and “No God Bombs Children.” More than 60 people were arrested for nonviolent civil disobedience. See videos and pics [here](#). See [fuller video of Rayburn Cafe](#) action.

Sign up for updates on upcoming strategic actions with [Christians for Ceasefire and Just Peace](#). Consider joining an [accompaniment delegation](#) to the West Bank with FOSNA.

Nuns Against Gun Violence Webinar - July 8

FAN will cosponsor *Making Connections & Building Hope*, a virtual event with Nuns Against Gun Violence on **Tuesday, July 8 at 7 p.m. ET / 6 p.m. CT**. This webinar will highlight state-level advocacy in Missouri, where faith-based leaders and community coalitions are working for change in one of the states most impacted by gun violence. Attendees will hear from a panel including local organizers and Missouri State Senator Maggie Nurrenbern. They will share stories, strategies for prevention, and ways to build momentum across communities. [Click here to learn more and register.](#)

.....

Making Connections
and Building Hope:

Gun Violence Prevention
in **Missouri**

.....

The third webinar in our series highlighting state-level efforts in gun violence prevention will focus on deep red Missouri. Hear from a panel of speakers representing statewide and community advocates, a parish gun violence advocacy group and a state legislator. More details coming soon.

Tuesday, July 8
7 - 8 p.m. Eastern
6 - 7 p.m. Central

NUNS
AGAINST GUN
VIOLENCE

Pilgrimage to Assisi, April 2026



Consider joining FAN and Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service for a transformative one-week pilgrimage to **Assisi, Italy from April 22-29, 2026**. The pilgrimage will be led by Dr. Ken Butigan, Friar Michael Lasky, OFM Conv., and FAN Executive Director Michele Dunne, OFS.

Together, we'll walk in the footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare, deepening our commitment to gospel nonviolence through prayer, study, and community. [Click here to learn more and register now](#) while space is still available.

Franciscan Justice Circles

With a concern of supporting vulnerable community members in the region, members of the **Rochester, NY FJC** are reaching out to various school districts to inquire about preparedness plans if immigration enforcement agents seek entrance. Members are also contacting their elected officials and submitting articles for the local Catholic paper. Members are contacting local churches to propose showing a documentary about immigration “[Running to](#)



[Stand Still— Migrants Search For Hope In The Promised Land](#)” as a way of humanizing the narrative and raising awareness and acts of solidarity.

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

CT - RI FJC: Tues. July 8 at 7:00 pm ET over Zoom

DE Valley FJC: Tues. July 8 at 7:00 pm ET over Zoom

New Mexico FJC: Tues. July 8 at 6:30 pm MT over Zoom

SoCal FJC: Thurs. July 10 at 6:00 pm PT over Zoom

Central Indiana FJC: Fri. July 11 at 1:00 pm ET over Zoom

DC-Area FJC: Sat. July 12 at 10:00 am ET In Person

Richmond VA FJC: Mon. July 14 at 7:00 pm ET over Zoom

Boston FJC: Wed. July 16 at 7:00 pm ET over Zoom

Virtual FJC (ltd. mobility): Thur. July 17 at 2:00 pm ET / 11:00 am PT over Zoom

Phoenix FJC: Thur. July 17 at 5:00 pm MST 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.