

Publication Date: October 28, 2025

Reflection Date: [November 2, 2025 - The Feast of All Souls](#)

Learning Faith Through Loving Witness

For Día de los Muertos, at the time of writing this reflection, I'm gathering old pictures of family members who have passed on. Their black-and-white photos mingle with the scraggly, free marigolds I picked up on my way to work at the Monastery. I'm lighting candles and thinking especially of those I've lost. The reading from the Book of Wisdom (Wisdom 3:1-9) for the [Feast of All Souls](#) reminds us that their souls are in God's care, beyond suffering, "proved as gold in the furnace" and taken into peace.

When I prayed over the readings for All Souls, I was reminded of my great-grandmother Evelyn. When she was in the hospital, we read Psalm 23 to her, reminding ourselves that God is always with us, even in the scariest of times. My great-grandmother was a strong, loving person—a potato farmer who found joy in small things like operating a tractor; mom to nine kids and someone who gave the best hugs. Most of all, she was deeply faith-filled. She loved the earth, loved the land, and worked for justice each day of her life. She made the world more beautiful, called for the dignity of immigrants and for peace, and made her small town in Wisconsin a more loving place. She taught me about faith not by telling me what to do, but by living it fully.



God's love, poured into our hearts through Christ, continues even through struggle and loss. My great grandmother's life reminds me that living faithfully means caring for creation, standing with the marginalized, and working for peace and justice. This is the same spirit that guides the work of the Franciscan Action Network: acting out of love and mercy, even when change is slow. Our work for justice shines in the world, guided by God's will.

As I reflect on these readings and my own traditions, I am inspired to honor the people who have shaped and touched my life, and to let their example guide my faith and actions. Día de los Muertos and All Souls Day is a time to remember those who have inspired us and consider how we can carry forward their love, courage, and commitment to justice in our own lives.

Rosie Davila

Advocacy Strategist, Franciscan Action Network

Suggested Action: At Franciscan Action Network's recent Franciscan Justice Leadership Conference, we advocated for a step toward reformation of our immigration system by creating a clear pathway to citizenship. Please take action with us by clicking [here](#).

Suggested Petitions:

For the grace to honor and learn from those who have inspired us, we pray.

For those who are marginalized or suffering, that we may stand with them in love and solidarity, we pray.

Prayer

**Loving God,
we thank you for the lives of those who have gone before us,
for their love, their courage, and their example of faith.**

**Bless the work of our hands and hearts,
that our acts of justice and mercy
may shine in the world.**

Amen.

The Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment



**THE RIGHT TO A
CLEAN & HEALTHY
ENVIRONMENT**

Webinar: A Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment

Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025

Time: 7pm ET / 6pm CT / 5pm MT / 4pm PT

Sign up today: [here](#)

Please join us! Learn about the global community's resolve to tackle the climate crisis and preserve our human right to a clean and healthy environment on

November 6, 2025, 7pm ET (6pm CT / 5pm MT / 4pm PT) in a webinar cosponsored by Franciscans International.

Br. Jim Donegan OFM Cap, FI Liaison Officer, will present on the profound need for deep change and how the Franciscan-hearted are uniquely called to act with urgency. **Marya Farah**, FI Representative at the U.N. in New York, will share how FI is preparing for COP30, the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Brazil (Nov. 10-21), and about the global community's resolve to tackle the climate crisis to preserve our rights and health.

FAN's network is invited to consider joining efforts to enshrine this right in U.S. state constitutions via the Green Amendments Movement. This first webinar in a series of three (December 2, 2025 and January 2026 events will follow) will focus on the right as defined by the United Nations, upheld by the International Court of Justice, and uplifted by Franciscan communities across the globe.

Take Action to Protect our National Forests

After Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins cancelled the **Roadless Rule**—a 2001 regulation that protects 45 million acres of National Forest from road construction—members of the U.S. House and Senate have proposed legislation to reinstate the rule.

Please consider asking your representatives in Congress to support these bills, which are essential to protect our National Forests and the precious and irreplaceable wildlife, water sources, Native American sacred places, and recreational opportunities they contain. Allowing road construction is likely to lead to logging and mineral extraction.

FAN created an Action Alert for the participants at the Center for Action and Contemplation's recent conference; join hundreds of them by taking action to support the Roadless Rule today [here](#).



Imminent SNAP Cuts Put Families at Risk



Amidst the government shutdown, all SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits, which provide low-income families with vital access to food and nutrition, will be paused starting on Saturday, November 1. If states choose to continue providing funding, the US

Department of Agriculture will not issue reimbursements.

This was announced despite the explicit statement in the USDA's 2025 Lapse of Funding Plan that in the event of an extended shutdown, SNAP operations should continue. You can act [here](#), encouraging the USDA to deploy contingency funding. We are proud to collaborate with MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger on this critical issue.

We also invite you to join us in prayer:

Lord God, we know that Your will is for every mouth to be fed. We pray that You continue to give ALL Your people their daily bread. Help us to feed those who are hungry, and sustain our hunger for justice. Amen.

Continue Conference Advocacy Today

As we seek to continue the momentum generated by 41 congressional meetings during our Oct 18-20 conference, we invite you to join the advocacy efforts that were our central focus: immigration and Israel/Palestine. Conference participants voted to choose these issues.

Immigration:

Please ask Congress to act with urgency, after returning from this prolonged shutdown, to advance the Renewing Immigration Provisions bills (S. 2468/ H.R. 4696) out of the Judiciary Committees in the House and Senate for a vote.



This bill would create a streamlined path to citizenship for DACA recipients, TPS holders, farmworkers, and undocumented essential workers by amending the Immigration and National Act (INA) which governs the “registry” process (a path to legal status for certain long-term residents). If passed, the bill would update the registry process, giving long-term residents who have lived in the U.S. for at least seven years an opportunity to apply for legal status.

You can act now: [here](#).

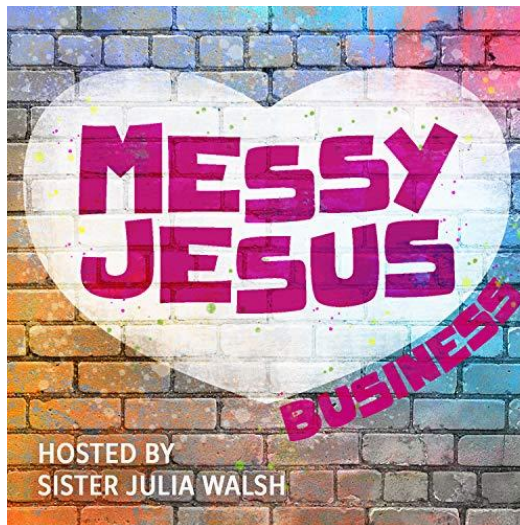
Israel/Palestine

Despite the recent ceasefire, Gaza is far from being on a path to a sustainable and just peace. Since taking office, the present Administration has continued the pattern of recent Administrations and approved a series of arms sales to Israel totaling over \$12.5 billion. Independent investigations have found that U.S. weapons have been used in unlawful attacks that killed dozens of Palestinian civilians, including children.

Please join FAN in urging the House of Representative to advance the Block the Bombs Act, H.R. 3565, introduced by Representative Delia Ramirez (IL-3), which would prohibit the President from selling, transferring, or exporting certain defense articles or services, including heavy bombs, to Israel except in specified circumstances.

You can act now: [here](#).

Michele Dunne, OFS on 'Messy Jesus Business'



In the most recent episode of the **Messy Jesus Business** podcast, Sister Julia Walsh, FSPA spoke with Michele Dunne, OFS, executive director of the Franciscan Action Network (FAN). They explored a range of topics, including secular Franciscanism, activism, the interests of government vs. the interests of the gospel, Franciscan discernment, kinship, interior conversion, and much more. You can listen to the podcast [here](#) or anywhere you find your favorite podcasts.

Franciscan Justice Circles

The **St. Louis FJC** continues to focus on affordable housing as they progress through the JustFaith program, Just Action! How to Advocate and Mobilize for Justice, noting it has been a very educational experience and motivated members to meet with state legislators. Tornado relief has played a big role in the Circle's consideration of how to respond to housing needs in their community.

The **Phoenix - area FJC** is involved with both immigration and creation-related concerns in their region. Members are also active in prayer gatherings and public witness events calling attention to upholding tenets of democracy and human dignity, while exploring the idea of starting and building a peaceful prayer movement/vigil for migrants.

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

CT-RI FJC: Tues. Oct. 28 at 7:00 pm ET via Zoom

Texas FJC: Tues. Oct. 28 at 7:15 pm CT / 6:15 pm MT via Zoom

W. Pennsylvania FJC: Thur. Oct. 30 at 7:30 pm ET via Zoom

SoCal FJC: Thur. Oct. 30 at 6:00 pm PT via Zoom

Chicagoland FJC: Sat. Nov. 1 at 10:00 am CT via Zoom

St. Louis FJC: Sun. Nov. 2 at 4:00 pm CT In Person

Mid-Hudson Valley FJC: Tues. Nov. 4 at 12:00 pm ET via Zoom

Kansas FJC: Tues. Nov. 4 at 7:00 pm CT via Zoom

Ohio FJC: Wed. Nov. 5 at 7:00 pm ET via Zoom

Virtual FJC (ltd. mobility): Thur. Nov. 6 at 11:00 am PT / 2:00 pm ET via Zoom
DC-area FJC: Sat. Nov. 8 at 10:00 am ET In Person

To find out more about any of the [FJC](#) gatherings coming up or for information about joining or forming a Circle, please sign up [HERE](#).