

Publication Date: June 2, 2026

Reflection Date: June 7, 2026 - [The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ](#)

## We Are One Body, United in Solidarity

There is nothing more reassuring than the affirmation that each of us is never alone, but are dynamic members of the living community that *is* the Body and Blood of Christ.

Despite the efforts of many in our society to divide us, something that has only been intensified by social media and the algorithms that drive division for profits, we can rejoice that we are of one body, one community, living out the work of our Creator in this Beloved Creation.



Photo by Josh Applegate on Unsplash

From diverse backgrounds, this body cannot be divided by our differences in race, class, gender, political party, and or anything else. We are one.

God embraces all of us; even the birds of the air, the beasts of the forest, the microbes of the soil, and the fragrant wildflowers that rise from the earth to make our hearts leap with joy. To be Christian is to think inclusively about beloved cultures and creatures in this world that God loved so much.

God gave His only Son to be Flesh Incarnate *right here*, where we live, breathe, pray, and experience the Spirit every day. And so we are invited to share the Cup and the Loaf so that no one goes hungry or thirsty as they make their pilgrimage across the desert, defying artificial boundaries, to dwell and work with us.

That is what the [Franciscan Justice Circles](#) are about: to practice the ever-widening of the circles we live within, so that all are heard and all feel cared for. As each of us does that in our own locality, we demonstrate how universal our need for connection can be. And that, my dear friends, is at the root of religion: *religare*, to bind us together again.

## **Gary Paul Nabhan**

*Order of Ecumenical Franciscans*

**Suggested Action:** Reach out to someone you have ignored, dismissed, or feared. Remember the Ecstasy of St. Francis when he overcame his fear of lepers, proclaiming: "All which we once avoided will bring us great sweetness and exceeding joy!" Who are your "lepers"?

### **Suggested Petitions:**

*Our Creator, help us to be more welcoming and connected with others to engage in the widest embrace of Creation, going beyond our former comfort zone.*

*Our Beloved, let us be less inhibited when we go Dancing in the Streets of Humanity, moving as one Body, One Spirit.*

*Our Ultimate Guide, let us always ask out loud "Who is missing at this Table?" when we come together for the Cup and Loaf.*

### **Prayer**

**In the names of the Creator, expressed in every language of this Sacred Planet, let us join the Hallelujah Chorus that sings in harmony to cast out the divisiveness in our Society so we can live in the solemn and soothing dignity as One in the Body and Blood of Christ.**

**Amen.**

## **Just 2 Weeks Until FAN's Annual Benefit**

Please join us for FAN's most important fundraiser of the year, our annual online Benefit, **Dignity First: Nourishing Lives, Transforming Communities**, on **Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 7 pm Eastern Time on Zoom**. The Franciscan commitment to human dignity is seen in everything from FAN's advocacy to direct service of those in need. As we have done since 2023, guests are invited to sponsor or purchase a ticket,



with the option to “give away” their meal to someone in need, while joining a live online program rooted in Franciscan values. Join us and together, we can put dignity first. [Join us.](#)

## Check Out FAN's New Page & Take Action

### Take Action

May 27, 2026 | Uncategorized

The Franciscan Action Network is a **collective Franciscan voice** seeking to transform United States public policy related to justice, peace, creation, and human dignity. We welcome long-time and first-time advocates to join our Franciscan-hearted, intergenerational movement.

Please see below current advocacy opportunities; this page is updated regularly.

FAN's new **'Take Action' advocacy page** is officially live. It features our network's most critical current actions to promote justice, peace, creation, and human dignity. You can view the page [here](#).

To take action today:

**FAN is collecting signatures on a joint comment to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** in response to proposed amendments to the Coal Combustion Residuals Regulations that would loosen regulations on coal ash. You can [click here to sign this joint comment](#).

**Interfaith Action for Palestine, July 5-7** — [Fill out the interest form](#) to provide Christian witness/advocacy and counter the Christians United for Israel's (CUFI) Annual Lobby Summit in Washington DC.

## Webinar Series on Franciscan Eco-Spirituality

**The Long Story of Creation and the Work of Ecological Healing**, with Sr. Joan Brown, OSF, is the opening webinar in a four-part series in 2026: Franciscan Eco-Spirituality: Renewing Our Vision in a Jubilee Year. The webinar explored extractivism, integral ecology, and the spiritual worldview needed for this moment. You can watch it [here](#).

The second webinar, on July 9 at 7:00 PM ET, will be a reflection on AI using Franciscan values of poverty, minority and community to offer a new vision of Franciscan life in an age of artificial intelligence, featuring Sr. Ilia Delio, OSF, PhD. You can register [here](#).



## National Gun Violence Awareness Day: Wear Orange

Friday June 5 is National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Each year on the first Friday of June, gun violence prevention advocates around the country wear orange to remember Hadiya Pendleton and all victims of gun violence. All of our Franciscan advocates are invited to join FAN staff and people from across the country in [participating in](#) or hosting a local event, offering a [prayer](#) for an end to gun violence (including this new [novena](#)), and wearing orange. Here is this year's [toolkit](#).

Please send photos to [info@franciscanaction.org](mailto:info@franciscanaction.org) along with the names of those in the photos so we can share them with Nuns Against Gun Violence, who will feature your advocacy in their roundup of this annual campaign and on FAN's website. You can also tag FAN on social media if you would like us to share your content.

## Don't Miss Out on Early Bird Conference Price

Registration is open for the **2026 Franciscan Justice Leadership Conference: Ours to do** on **November 7-9, 2026** with early bird registration prices through **July 15**. Through Franciscan formation, inspiring speakers, hands-on training, and civic engagement on Capitol Hill, we'll explore how live out our Franciscan values and advocate for a more just and peaceful world. See highlights and hear from people who attended last year's conference [here](#). [Click here to register](#). Sponsorship information is available [here](#).



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## Franciscan Justice Circles

The **SE Wisconsin FJC** collaborated with a local center that provides services to people with disabilities to plan an intergenerational gathering with students from a local high school and members of the FJC and Franciscan family this May. Following the lead of the young people, the theme was *Accessibility Rights for People with Disabilities*. Together they prayed, learned about the history and services offered, shared a meal and



reflected together on the experience and how they might get involved.

The **Arizona FJC** invites all FJCs to a virtual prayer vigil for immigrants on Wed. June 10 directly after the national FJCs call at 2:15 pm PT / 3:15 pm MT / 4:15 pm CT / 5:15 pm ET. Link will be forthcoming.

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

**Kansas FJC:** Tue. June 2 at 7:00 pm CT via Zoom

**Ohio FJC:** Wed. June 3 at 7:00 pm ET via Zoom

**Virtual FJC (ltd. mobility):** Thur. June 4 at 11:00 am PT / 2:00 pm ET via Zoom

**Central Maryland FJC:** Thur. June 4 at 7:00 pm ET via Zoom

**SoCal FJC:** Thur. June 4 at 6:00 pm PT via Zoom

**Chicagoland FJC:** Sat. June 6 at 10:00 am CT via Zoom

**Richmond, VA FJC:** Mon. June 8 at 7:00 pm ET via Zoom

**Mid-Hudson Valley FJC:** Tue. June 8 at 12:00 pm ET via Zoom

**CT-RI FJC:** Tue. June 8 at 7:00 pm ET via Zoom

**Delaware Valley FJC:** Tue. June 8 at 7:00 pm ET via Zoom

**New Mexico FJC:** Tue. June 8 at 6:30 pm MT via Zoom

**National Monthly FJCs call:** Wed. June 10 at 1:00 pm PT / 4:00 pm ET via Zoom

**Prayer Vigil for Immigrants:** Wed. June 10 at 2:15 pm PT / 5:15 pm ET via Zoom

**Rochester FJC:** Thur. June 11 at 3:30 pm ET via Zoom

**SoCal FJC and Bay Area & Northern CA FJC:** Thur. June 11 at 7:00 pm PT via Zoom

**Central Indiana FJC:** Fri. June 12 at 1:00 pm ET via Zoom

**DC Metro Area FJC:** Sat. June 13 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](#).