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# THE OFFICE FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

Of the Archdiocese of Hartford

**March 2019**

Para español haga [clic aqui](#)

*Advancing Catholic social teaching by educating and preparing parishes  
to work for social justice*

## CALENDAR

### MARCH

**March 31st 3:00 pm  
Prayer Service to End  
Human Trafficking**

Our Lady of Victory 600  
Jones Hill Rd., W. Haven

### April

**April 11th 7:00-8:30pm  
Changing of the Heart:  
Building Safe  
Communities in the  
Face of Violence**

Holy Family Retreat  
Center, 303 Tunxis Rd.,  
West Hartford.

**April 27th 9-2pm  
Environmental Justice  
Conference, "The  
Power of Positive  
Change: Bringing  
Laudato Si' to Life,"**

St. James Church, Rocky  
Hill. [Register here](#)

### MAY

**May 11th 1:30-4:00 pm  
The Collaborative  
Center for Justice 20th  
Anniversary  
Celebration.**

Holy Family Retreat  
Center, 303 Tunxis Rd.,  
West Hartford

## From the Director

Dear Friends,

March is such a busy month legislatively. Action alerts are continuously coming across our laptops and phones. We hear news of all kinds of proposed bills - from assisted suicide - to defunding of social services. It is challenging to figure out where we should stand on all of them.

Fortunately the Catholic Church offers us the lens of Catholic Social Teaching. Through this lens we can respond to current events, proposed bills, and the political realm by applying the following principles:

1. Dignity of the Human Person - does this bill support the sacredness of all human life from conception to natural death?
2. Subsidiarity - is it letting those closest to the issue take ownership in addressing the issue?
3. The Common Good - is it allowing conditions in which we all flourish? Be careful of individualism!
4. Solidarity - Does it see the other - person/nation/people - as our neighbor and helper?

More on the themes of Catholic Social Teaching can be found on [our website](#).

Wishing you a blessed Lenten season,

Lynn

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Join Our Mailing List!

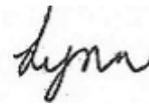
## QUICK LINKS

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[WEBSITE](#)



Lynn Campbell, Executive Director

## Lenten Blessings



## Meet New Board Member Linda Roberto



Linda is a past staff member of OCSJM and is now with Vibrant Faith Ministries. Previously she was with the Center for Ministry Development for over 30 years. Linda's passion for Social Justice can be seen in the amount of volunteer work she has been involved in.

Linda and her husband John live in Cheshire and are members of St. Bridget of Sweden Church where she is a Lector. They have 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

**WELCOME Linda!**

## Bi-Lingual Prayer Service to End Human Trafficking

**Our Lady of Victory Church**  
600 Jones Hill Rd., West Haven  
**Sunday March 31, 2019 - 3:00 pm**

Join us to learn, love and pray to break the chains of slavery. The bilingual service will provide an opportunity to learn about this ongoing abusive practice and pray for an end to human bondage. Discussion and light refreshments will follow in the the Church hall. If you need further information please contact Joan Reynolds, Chair of the Social Justice Committee at 203-676-1425.



Presented by Our Lady of Victory and St. John XXIII Social Justice Committee

## Human Trafficking Task Force



*Encouragement Cards written by students at St. George Church in Guilford bring hope and comfort to children in CT identified as vulnerable to trafficking.*

Our Human Trafficking Task Force has been very busy this month, bringing awareness and action opportunities to the Catholic community. In addition to our presentations, parishes are participating in Stations of the Cross for victims of human trafficking, collecting items for backpacks, and writing encouragement cards.

Check [our website](#) for a list of upcoming presentations. The Task Force is always looking for new members. [Contact Lynn Campbell](#) if you would like to host a presentation or get involved with this ministry.

On March 23, we will join The Underground at New Life Church, Wethersfield, 9:00 am for their Berlin Turnpike Outreach, to distribute Human Trafficking Hotline posters to businesses. For more information visit their [Facebook page](#). To register email: [theundergroundct@gmail.com](mailto:theundergroundct@gmail.com)

## Action Alert! Support Asylum Seekers!

### Please take action now!

Ask the Department of Homeland Security to Rescind the "Remain in Mexico" Policy and Support Asylum Seekers by Following Existing Law.



Under the Remain in Mexico policy, certain asylum seekers, including families, are sent back to Mexico to wait throughout the duration of their immigration court proceedings in the U.S, which could take months in which people are living in dangerous and inadequate conditions. As Catholics, we affirm the inherent dignity of every person and the ability of families to seek security and safety for themselves and family members.

You can learn more about the Remain in Mexico policy by reviewing our backgrounder in [English](#) or in [Spanish](#).

Please click [here](#) to contact the Department of Homeland Security and ask they rescind the Remain in Mexico policy and instead support asylum seekers

## Public Health Committee to consider legalizing Assisted Suicide



The Public Health Committee of the CT General Assembly held a public hearing this Monday, March 18, 2019 regarding physician-assisted suicide (Bill number: HB

5898 An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients).

The CT Catholic Conferences strongly opposes HB 5898; and is asking others to do the same in the following ways:

Let your legislators know that you want them to vote NO on H.B. 5898.

<http://ctcatholicpac.org/action-center/>

Starting today (thru next Fri., 3/22), please call the Public Health Committee at 860-240-0560 to "express opposition to HB 5898."

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/ph/>

Please also email and call your state legislators directly to express opposition to HB 5898. Legislator contact information can be located using the [ctcatholic.org](http://ctcatholic.org) website.

**Building Safe Communities in the Face of Violence**

Join members of the Holy Family *JustFaith* Ministry and

The  
Hartford Catholic Worker

## Changing of the Heart:

Building Safe Communities in the Face of Violence

**Thursday, April 11, 2019**

Holy Family Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford, CT

**7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

Refreshments will be available

*A free will offering accepted to support the mission of  
the Hartford Catholic Worker and the Peace Center of Connecticut*

Our keynote speaker will be Iran Nazario, Founder of the Peace Center of Connecticut.

Iran grew up in the custody of DCF and immersed himself in to the violent street culture of gang membership and prison through his twenties. In 1990 he began to repurpose himself to helping youth avoid his childhood path. He has since worked in the gang prevention, youth outreach, youth engagement and support field for 29 years. In 2016 he founded the Peace Center of Connecticut.



Panel discussion to include:

- Deacon Art Miller St. Mary's Church, Simsbury, CT
- Chris Doucot Hartford Catholic Worker, Hartford, CT

What are the causes and effects of community violence?  
What is our role to affect positive change?  
How do we live out works of mercy?

For more information, contact Betty Ann Grady at [bettyanngrady@comcast.net](mailto:bettyanngrady@comcast.net) or 860-521-1409.

**Save the Dates**



**THE OFFICE FOR CATHOLIC  
SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY**  
Of the Archdiocese of Hartford

**Tenth Annual Bishop Peter Rosazza**





Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center  
303 Tunxis Road  
West Hartford, CT 06107

**Keynote Speaker: Sister Simone Campbell, SSS**

Executive Director, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice. Sister Simone Campbell is a religious leader and noted speaker with extensive experience in public policy and advocacy for systemic change. She is noted for organizing six cross-country "Nuns on the Bus" trips.

This event is open to the public and  
**All are welcome.**

Seating is limited! RSVP is requested either by calling 860-692-3066 or [on-line](#). Free will offering will benefit the Collaborative Center for Justice

**Video Review - Trafficked in the U.S.**

'Trafficked in the U.S' exposes the cruel reality of Sex Trafficking in the U.S. through the stark yet determined stories of two women, bold survivors. While the prevalence of Sex trafficking in the U.S is a known thing, not many are aware that most victims are not girls brought in from some third world country, but are girls born and brought up in America. Stories of Susan Munsey and Amanda Long, with the insights of Lt. Andre Dawson (LAPD) reveal the fact that anyone could be victims of this terrible crime, and sensitization is the way to fight it.



This DVD has been used by the National Council of Catholic Women throughout the country, as human trafficking is one of their key priorities. It is segmented into 3 sections: Part one - True Stories of Human Trafficking in the U.S., Part 2, what parents need to know about human trafficking, and Part 3 Faith Communities against human trafficking.

It is a Liguori Publications and is available on Amazon. It can also be borrowed from our office. Contact us at 860-242-5573.

**Engaging College Students to Advocacy for Worker Rights**



Did you know that there are over 42,000 domestic care workers in the State of Connecticut? They are in an unregulated industry that was intentionally excluded from coverage by federal labor laws.

Patrick Laorden and Barbara Carpenter, a board member of our office, joined fifty students at St. Thomas More Chapel at Yale University on February 24th to talk about the current legislative efforts with the CT Domestic Worker Justice Campaign. Barbara explained the historical development of the increased nationwide legislative efforts to include domestic workers as part of the employee labor practices while Patrick spoke on the current legislative efforts of the campaign. We have been focusing on spreading awareness to different colleges in the Archdiocese as a means of engaging young adults on this issue. We invite you to join us at the next public opportunity at University of St. Joseph, West Hartford:

- Domestic Worker Photo Exhibit: March 18th - 25th (McGovern Lounge)
- Presentation: Monday, March 25th 4-5:30pm (Mercy Hall, Crystal Room)

## Building Discipleship

On Sunday, March 3rd over thirty young adults from around the state gathered at Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford for a Lenten retreat, a collaboration between our office and the Office for Education, Evangelization, and Catechesis. Patrick gave a talk on discipleship, grounding the concept through one-on-one relationship building, an essential skill that is used within community organizing and is hallmark to parish social ministry. Young adults commented on the current challenge of engaging their faith with others and the need for community, to which Patrick emphasized how one-on-ones can be used to increase capacity for building leaders and ministries. Time was allotted for young adults to engage in one-on-ones and learned how to answer some key questions:



- Who is this person?
- What does this person want to see changed?
- What role does this person want to take to make change happen?

Young adults were invited to think about how discipleship is also a call to seek out and build new leaders. They came away enthused, learning a new skill that they could use within their communities to build discipleship!

## Current Parish Social Ministry Resources

### Human Trafficking

We updated our resource of [books and videos](#). The Archdiocese of New Orleans provided us with "Sorrowful Mysteries for Victims, Survivors, and Perpetrators of Human Trafficking", which is to be used with the Rosary. It can be found on [our website](#).

### CRS RiceBowl

We created a twenty minute training resource. It provides a general overview of Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl, ways of fostering a deeper encounter and select resources to effectively promote Rice Bowl at your parish. We've created a self-paced guide that includes links to prayers, three short videos, and resources. These materials can be found on our website on the [Programs/Catholic Relief Services page](#).

### Poverty

Check out our [list of local outreach](#) opportunities for Hartford, Waterbury, and New Haven vicariates.

### Grant Resources

We offer grants to parishes working to alleviate hunger and poverty within the Archdiocese. Grants are made possible through Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl, where 25% of the funds collected are to remain in the Archdiocese. Applications are available on [our website](#) and are accepted on a rolling basis.

### Prayer Resources

Start your meeting or gathering with prayer! [Catholic Relief Services](#) offers a free Pope Francis Quote book, prayers and general intercessions relating to current events and emergencies, and a host of other ministry tools for prayer, formation and action.