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THE OFFICE FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

Of the Archdiocese of Hartford

October 2018

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

CALENDAR

October

October 23-5:00pm
**50th Anniversary Social
Justice Dinner and
Awards**

Aqua Turf Country Club
Plantsville CT
[Purchase Ticket Here](#)

October 26 - 6:30 pm
**Hartford Catholic
Worker 25th
Anniversary Celebration**
Holy Family Retreat
Center

November

November 28th
World Day of the Poor

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From the Director

It happened in 1968

The formation of our office, happened in 1968 in part because of what was going on in our country and the Church. It was a perfect storm:

- Martin Luther King Jr assassination
- Robert F. Kennedy assassination
- 2nd General Conference of Latin American Bishops in Medellin, Colombia
- Release of USCCB Statement on the National Race Crisis
- Release of Kerner Commission report

The Kerner Commission report was a search for answers after years of deadly unrest in the nation's inner cities. The report famously noted: "Our nation is moving toward two societies, one black, one white - separate and unequal". It can be said that only minimal progress has been made for most Black Americans, and that a Black-White divide remains.

Last month I was able to attend a presentation by Bishop Shelton Fabre on Racism. The event was held in anticipation of the new pastoral letter on racism coming to a vote by the U. S. Bishops. He suggested that if we are to change the current lack of passion regarding racism, we will need a conversion of heart.

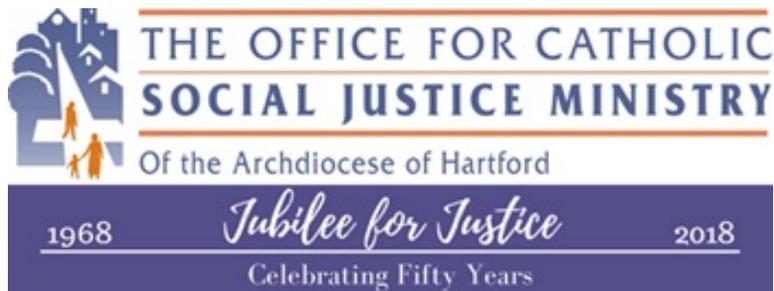
Let us pray for this conversion. It is past due.

Peace,



Lynn Campbell, Executive Director

Join the Celebration!



Join Us as we Celebrate our 50th Anniversary

Tuesday, October 23rd
5:00 Reception
6:00 Dinner and Program
Aqua Turf Country Club, Planstville CT

Our Keynote Speaker is Timothy P. Shriver, Ph.D., Chairman of the Board of Directors for Special Olympics International, and in that capacity, he serves with over 5.6 million Special Olympics athletes in 172 countries, all working to promote health, education, and a more unified world through the joy of sports.

Mr. Shriver address is titled **"The Revolution is Inclusion: Rebuilding the heart of the nation in a time of fear, anxiety and possibility "**

In the summer of 1968, wedged between war, urban violence, race riots, and political assassinations, The Special Olympics movement was born in Chicago. Little noticed, it was nonetheless a super-nova-a dazzling display of the light energy of healing and love. What we thought was impossible created a new possible. Those we thought were hopeless defined a new hope. Lives we thought were shameful destroyed shame. Rising as it were, from the arms and legs, the smiles and dreams of the forgotten came a new world. Human first. The possibility that we can indeed cross every boundary. Politics, gender, race, religion, ability- none of them mattered. It was a moment of unity, revealed in the play of a few hundred people with intellectual challenges but destined to bring joy and healing to the hearts of millions. Fifty years later the Special Olympics movement is celebrating an anniversary, but celebrating more than disability rights, more than sports and fitness, more than games and heroes. We are creating a call for people all over the world to join together in a celebration of inclusion, of justice, of joy, and of most of all unity. The times demand unity. The urgency cannot be overstated. The possibilities are real. The time is now.

Before joining Special Olympics in 1996, Shriver was and remains a leading educator focusing on the social and emotional factors in learning. He co-founded and currently chairs the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), the leading school reform organization in the field of social and emotional learning. He is Co-Chair of the National Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development, President of the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, member of the Board of Directors for the WPP Group, LLC, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and is a co-founder of Lovin' Scoopful Ice Cream Company.

Shriver earned his undergraduate degree from Yale University, a Master's degree from Catholic University, and a Doctorate in Education from the University of Connecticut. He has produced 4 films, is the author of the New York Times Best Selling book Fully Alive - Discovering What Matters Most, written numerous published articles, and has been rewarded with degrees and honors which he happily accepted on behalf of others.

Shriver and his wife, Linda Potter, reside in the Washington, D.C. area and have five adult children.

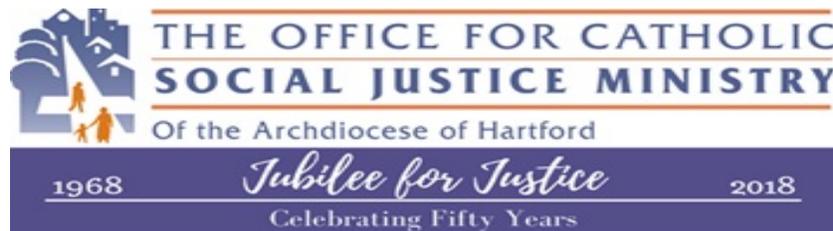
You can visit our website where you can purchase a ticket and get a bulletin announcement, Event Poster or Sponsorship Form. For more information, please email Agnes Dann at Agnes.Dann@aohct.org or call 860-242-5573 Ext. 2688.

[Register Here](#)

Many Thanks to our Jubilee Sponsor:



Jubilee for Justice



This month, for the Jubilee of Justice, we are featuring Sr. Mary Ellen Burns, ACSJ who is a religious sister of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and a practicing immigration lawyer. Sr. Mary Ellen shares her experience working for Apostle Immigrant Services, an organization that provides legal assistance and educational services to the immigrant community. She shares how that organization's work complements similar efforts with Arturo Iriarté, and the OCSJM Hispanic ministry team. Watch her reflection [here](#) .

Non-partisan Parish Voter Registration Drives

Yes, you can, and are encouraged to offer parish based voter registration drives. Parishes are among the few institutions that can reach groups notably under-registered or under-represented in the political process: Low-income people, racial and ethnic minorities, new citizens, and the youth all vote at a low rate compared to the rest of the adult population.

Follow [this link](#) for ideas and suggestions to help parishes promote civic responsibility by offering non-partisan voter education rooted in the values of the Scriptures and Catholic Teaching.



"In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation." *USCCB, Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, No. 13.*

World Day of the Poor & CCHD Collection Resources

The [Second World Day of the Poor](#) will be observed on Sunday, November 18, 2018, the same weekend as the national collection to support the work of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the U.S. bishops' domestic anti-poverty program. [A pastoral aid](#) (also in [Spanish](#)) is available for this day and includes a homily help, Prayers of the Faithful, a sample bulletin announcement, and more. This new resource supplements the other [available](#)

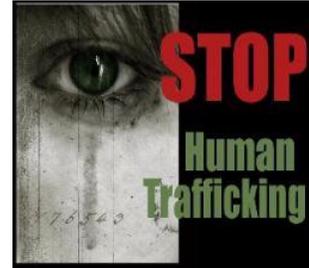


[materials](#) to ensure a successful CCHD collection. The collection is the only annual opportunity to raise essential funds to support the work of over 200 anti-poverty organizations around the country.

Human Trafficking - YOU can make a difference!

Here are 5 things you can do to help survivors and stop human trafficking.

1. Incorporate anti-human trafficking prayers into your personal and communal prayer life. Prayers can be found on [our website](#).
2. Help bring a Safe Home to CT. For the past two years, we have been working with the Underground to bring a safe home to CT. We are blessed to find an organization already doing this great work, willing to expand in CT. Help raise funds to bring this vision to life. Check out [Amirah's website](#) to find out more information.
3. Spread awareness. Contact [Lynn](#) to arrange a presentation in your parish or set-up an exhibit at your church fair.
4. Put up posters. Gather a group of people and drop off posters at area businesses. CT law requires several types of business to post a notice about services for human trafficking victims. Call Annmarie Boulay at the Underground for training and coordination (860-242-8996)
5. Buy ethically made products from companies which vet for exploitation of workers. [Catholic Relief Services](#) has a global marketplace.



Cooperative Parish Sharing Grant Applications



Eligible parishes are invited to participate in the Cooperative Parish (CPS) grant program for the 2019-2020 grant cycle. CPS provides funding to foster development of social justice projects. A list of eligible parishes and all application materials are found on the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry [website](#). Applications are due December 1, 2018.

V Encuentro - Missionary Disciples: Witnesses to the God's Love

Submitted by: *Arturo Iriarte, Parish Social Justice Ministry Coordinator*

I was honored to be part of the diocesan delegation which met on September 20-23, 2018 in Grapevine, TX for the V National Encuentro, the culmination of a four-year process to form leaders, evangelize the community and shape the future vision for Hispanic Ministry in the Church.

V Encuentro is a consultation process initiated by USCCB commissioning and accompanying missionary disciples in their visit to the peripheries of their communities. Through the visits, the participants in the V Encuentro gained valuable insights into the lives, hopes, dreams, obstacles, and needs of Hispanic/Latino people who in many cases have lost touch with the pastoral care of the Church. Their voices and concerns were collected, summarized, reported at the parish, diocesan, and



regional levels through their respective working document.

Over 3,500 Catholic leaders - youth and adults - attended the V National Encuentro to pray, reflect and give due consideration to what was said and what was heard, discerning in spirit of pastoral conversation (Evangelii Gaudium, n. 25-33). What a rich experience! A total 14 leaders from our Archdiocese were present at the event. I humbly appreciate the trust of the Archdiocese to allow me to represent the regional team as a "Listener" for this process.

Justice and Peace was a major focus in the V Encuentro process, especially in the areas of immigration, youth, and access to basic services. Resources (in Spanish) are available to help Hispanic Catholics [put faith in action](#). You can see Pope Francis' message to the V Encuentro and check out more about the [Encuentro process here](#).

Catholic Relief Services Responds to Devastating Earthquake and Tsunami in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia



Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is responding to an earthquake that struck Sept. 28 just off the coast of Donggala in central Sulawesi, Indonesia. The 7.5 magnitude quake triggered an unexpected tsunami, which hit the city of Palu, destroying homes and businesses in its path. While the scope of destruction is unclear, initial government reports indicate the death toll nears 2000 as more bodies are found. The local

CRS team is working closely with our Caritas partner and additional teams have been deployed from around the world to assist with pipeline logistics, temporary shelter and relief supplies.

You are invited to pray for the people of Palu. Click here for the [English](#) and [Spanish](#) versions.

Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. The agency alleviates suffering and provides assistance to people in need in more than 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality. CRS' relief and development work is accomplished through programs of emergency response, HIV, health, agriculture, education, microfinance and peacebuilding. Thank you for your contribution to the collection each spring.

Share the Journey - Walking a Mile in Solidarity

On Sunday, September 30th, around 550 youth took part in a "Share the Journey" event that we facilitated. They participated in a prayer pilgrimage highlighting the migrant and refugee crisis. The youth walked one mile around the school track, visiting four different stations where they learned about different aspects of the migrant and refugee journey: countries where they've fled, belongings they would take on their journey, how migration calls us to global solidarity, and how the journey of the migrant and refugee is linked to Christ's own journey. They also engaged in different acts of solidarity at each station, such as walking with gravel in their shoes to experience the discomfort of journeying, creating collages featuring pictures of their families with photos of families from across the globe, and praying together as a community.



50 Acts of Justice



St. Thomas the Apostle Church in West Hartford is starting a refugee outreach ministry and held an informational session on September 17th. The session featured Mary Oo, a medical case manager with Catholic Charities Hartford. Mary shared her story as a refugee from Burma, to then studying social work at the University of St. Joseph in Hartford and then working with the refugee community. Mary Lou Connors, a parishioner of The Church of St. Anne in Avon, who has

known Mary Oo for more than ten years, shared some practical ways people can reach out to refugees such as teaching them how to read and speak English and how to drive a car.

In commemoration of our 50th Anniversary in the Archdiocese, we are collecting stories and photos of parishes involved in various forms of social justice ministries as part of a campaign called 50 Acts of Justice. If you would like to submit a story and picture, please send them to Patrick Laorden at Patrick.Laorden@aohct.org.

Parish Social Ministry Focus Group

We want to thank All Saints Church in Waterbury for hosting our parish social ministry focus group on Wednesday, September 19th. This was a great opportunity to connect with parish leaders, representing parishes from Rocky Hill, Watertown, Collinsville, Waterbury, and West Haven. Attendees had the opportunity to; revisit the model for parish social ministry through *Communities of Salt and Light*, learn the one-on-one relationship building skill, see our key priorities in social ministry and made it a priority for us to meet with their social justice committees in the future.



Thanks to the support of our Associates for Justice, we are able to provide local, individualized support to parishes.

If you would like an opportunity to connect with parish leaders in neighboring parishes, contact Patrick Laorden, Patrick.Laorden@aohct.org for more info.

More News on the Farm Bill

State of Play: The Farm Bill conference committee has been working all summer to come to a compromise between both chambers. Although they were close to proposing a final bill for the rest of Congress to review and vote on, they were not able to finalize it before the current Farm Bill expired on September 30.



What does that mean? While expiration of these authorizations will not have immediate consequences pertaining to the areas we've been discussing, the longer U.S. international food security programs operate without express Congressional approval, the more likely they will be targeted for funding cuts by the Administration. Similarly for domestic hunger and nutrition programs, it is extremely important that we get a new Farm Bill finalized by Congress.

Unfortunately, we will not see a final Farm Bill until after the election and during 'lame-duck,' at the earliest. Lame-duck is a period of time where the current Congress is still in office before the new Congress that was just elected comes in (post-election in November until January).

What does this mean for our advocacy? Just because the deadline of September 30 has passed and the election is coming ... doesn't mean our advocacy stops, in fact it continues to be very important. As the conference committee continues to iron out a final bill, we'll need your action over the next couple of months. The House has adjourned for the month of October, so it's the perfect opportunity to share your concerns with your Representative. There are no changes to the 'asks' that we've been communicating. If you have not already done so, please forward the "action alert" that can be found on this [website](#).

Many thanks for all that you have done thus far in promoting this important piece of legislation.

Hartford Catholic Worker 25th Anniversary

Hartford Catholic Worker

25th Anniversary Celebration

Join us as we celebrate the last 25 years with a cocktail hour, dinner, dessert, drinks and dancing!
All funds will be used to continue service in the North End of Hartford, CT



CAN'T JOIN US?
DONATE YOUR
TICKETS TO
SOMEONE IN THE
COMMUNITY.

Date | Time | Location

Friday, October 26th | 6:30

Holy Family Retreat Center

303 Tunxis Rd. West Hartford, CT 06107
Entrance # 3

\$75 per plate

For Prepaid Reservations Contact:
Sr. Elaine Betoncourt
35 Freeman St.
Hartford CT 06114
sebcjsj@hotmail.com
860-575- 3877

Checks payable to: Hartford Catholic Worker

Current Parish Social Ministry Resources

The USCCB has a new video and we are featured in it! Look for the photo of the immigration pilgrimage! As missionary disciples, we are called to respond to God's love through both Charitable Works and Social Justice. [This brand new video on the Two Feet of Love in Action](#) includes narration in English and Spanish, is perfect for sharing on social media.

Below are some Migration and Refugee Resources to help you understand the complicated systems that are in place.

JustFaith Ministries' 8-week program [Exploring Migration: A Faith Journey](#) invites participants to formulate a personal response to the migration inspired by their Christian beliefs. The program was developed in partnership with Maryknoll.

[Jesus Was a Migrant](#) by Deirdre Cornell provides a moving and spiritually grounded presentation of the value of migrants, immigrants and refugees to the United States.

Migration and Refugee Services of the USCCB is charged with assisting the bishops in the development and promotion of migration [policy positions](#) within the context of the Church's social teaching. To this end MRS works with grassroots Catholic networks across the US to promote fair immigration and refugee policies, advocates for the passage of [immigration reform](#), engages in the fight against [human trafficking](#), develops initiatives aimed at educating Catholics on the Church's teaching on migration, and assists the U.S. Catholic

bishops in carrying the voice of the Church to Congress and the Administration.