



# JUST Love

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OFFICE OF PEACE, JUSTICE AND  
ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF SAINT ELIZABETH

Even though most of us have been out of school for a long time, September still has the feeling of beginnings for us. Just as we got ready for school with new clothes and supplies for our book bag, let's spend some time this September for equipping ourselves to the work of justice, peace, and ecological integrity with new energy. Check out these resources to jump start your commitment to each of the PJEI Priority Issues of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth:

**Homelessness:** Learn about Rep. Cori Bush's comprehensive plan to address the housing crisis in American and encourage your congressional representative to co-sponsor it. <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2021/07/28/formerly-homeless-rep-cori-bush-introduces-unhoused-bill-rights>

**Poverty:** There are so many misconceptions in American political discourse on who is poor and why. Check out these resources from NETWORK to find out the real story <https://networkadvocates.org/21stcenturypoverty/>

**Migrants and Refugees:** It's commonplace to talk about the "crisis at our borders. Read this interview with Harsha Walia who shows that the actual crises are capitalism, war and the climate emergency, which drive mass migration <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/apr/07/us-border-immigration-harsha-walia>. Even better, read her book *Border and Rule: Global Migration, Capitalism, and the Rise of Racist Nationalism* <https://www.haymarketbooks.org/books/1553-border-and-rule>



**Human Trafficking:** Make sure you're reading one of the best resources available on human trafficking, the newsletter of the organization *US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking* <https://sistersagainstrafficking.org/stop-trafficking-newsletter/> If you're a NJ resident, check out the new website of the NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking and join in one of their activities <https://www.safernj.org/>

**Women:** Become an advocate for the Equal Rights Amendment <https://www.equalrightsamendment.org/>

**Racism:** Investigate the resources, continually updated, of Dr. Tia Pratt's Black Catholic Syllabus. Think of ways that

you can incorporate anti-racist education in your parish's religious education programs both for children and adults. <https://tiapratt.com/blackcatholicssyllabus-2/>

**Peace and Nonviolence:** Listen to a podcast from Fr. John Dear's Beatitudes Center for the Nonviolent Jesus <https://beatitudescenter.org/podcasts/>

**Ecological Integrity:** If you missed the excellent conference of the Catholic Climate Covenant *Laudato Si' and the US Catholic Church*, you can find all the videos here. Besides inspiring keynotes, you can find breakout sessions about how to bring the message of *Laudato Si'* to parishes, schools, universities, youth ministries, catechesis, and communications media <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/2021-laudato-si-and-us-catholic-church-conference-recordings>

## SEASON OF CREATION 2021

Pope Francis has called for an annual Season of Creation, from September 1, the World Day of Prayer for Creation, to October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. We need to make the celebration of this season as much a part of people's consciousness as the seasons of Advent, Lent, and Easter. This year's theme is *A Home for All? Renewing the Oikos of God*. The strange word *oikos* is a Greek word that means household. Perhaps it's not so strange as it's the word at the root of our word "ecology." It reminds us that creation is a household designed by God for the flourishing of all beings, humankind and otherkind. The symbol for this year's Season of Creation is Abraham's tent. In Jewish tradition, the 4 flaps of Abraham's tent were always open so as to see and welcome visitors from every side. Consider placing a tent outside your place of worship or in the sanctuary as a reminder of the theme of generous hospitality. Since Abraham is the common ancestor in faith of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, perhaps you can reach out to members of those faiths in your community to plan a common prayer or creation care activity.

The open tent of Abraham reminds us of the particular obligation to offer hospitality to the excluded. What can you do during the Season of Creation to welcome



people who have been marginalized because of your community's racism, homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia, ableism? What can you do during the Season of Creation for the most endangered species-tigers, whooping cranes, blue whales, coral reefs? Find resources for celebrating the Season of Creation here <https://seasonofcreation.org/>. You can also find good resources at the new website of the Catholic Climate Covenant *We're All Part of God's Plan(et)* <https://godsplanet.us/>. The end of the Season of Creation, October 4, will also be the launch of the Vatican's Seven Year *Laudato Si' Action Platform* <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/>. Watch for the announcement of how the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth and Seton Associates plan to join in this exciting seven-year journey.



## Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Days to Remember in September

### 1-October 4 Season of Creation

<https://seasonofcreation.org/news/>

**6 Labor Day** "Every worker is the hand of Christ who continues to create and to do good." St. Ambrose of Milan

**7 Rosh Hashanah** "The blessing over the blowing of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah refers to the blessing as 'hearing the voice of the Shofar,' but since that voice speaks without words, the message that is heard depends a great deal on who is doing the listening."  
Douglas Aronin

**15 Our Lady of Sorrows** -What would you name as seven swords, seven evils of our world, that pierce Mary's heart today?

### September 15-October 15 Hispanic Heritage Month

<https://nationalcouncilhepm.org/>

**16 Yom Kippur** "Every Yom Kippur, Jewish tradition requires a strict spiritual inventory. You are not supposed to sit around feeling guilty, but act in the real world to right the situation." Naomi Wolf

**17 Feast of St. Hildegard of Bingen** "The truly holy person welcomes all that is earthly."

**21 International Day of Peace 2021** Theme: Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

**29 International Coffee Day**-Is your coffee Fair Trade? Good for Earth, good for workers.  
<https://www.fairtradeamerica.org/shop-fairtrade/fairtrade-products/coffee/>