

Compassion

Faith doing justice in the Central and Southern Province...and beyond

March 2020

Justice Resources for Lent

The Lenten Season is now upon us. While there are certainly many Lenten resources available for prayer and reflection, here are a few that focus on the faith that does justice:

- **Radical Hope:** The Ignatian Solidarity Network sponsors this Lenten series with contributions from more than 40 Jesuit priests, religious sisters, students and alumni of Jesuit institutions, community advocates, grassroots organizers, professors, authors and social ministry leaders.



Daily reflections from the authors will explore a response to systemic injustices – including immigration, racial equality, criminal justice, environmental justice, and poverty – from a Catholic perspective. Sign up to receive the daily reflections in your email inbox at [Radical Hope](#).

- **2020 Lenten Racial Justice Journey:** The Racism and Reconciliation Committee of St. Francis Xavier College Church in St. Louis is again sponsoring a reflection series on racial justice. A variety of materials – including articles, videos, and prayers – are offered for daily reflection and study. If you cannot participate daily, choosing to participate a few times a week is a great option. To sign up for weekly Racial Justice Journey emails, email Christine Dragonette at christine@sfxstl.org.
- **Care for Creation 2020 Lenten Calendar:** The Environment Ministry of St. Francis Xavier Parish in New York City offers a reflection guide with different themes for each day of the week: Sustenance Sundays, Meatless Mondays, Talk Energy Tuesdays, Wisdom Wednesdays, Turnaround Thursdays, Fish and Footprint Fridays, and Sustainability Saturdays. The calendars are in English and Spanish and can be downloaded or printed at <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/season-lent>

- **Repenting of Ecological Sin and Cultivating Ecological Virtues:** The Global Catholic Climate Movement presents a Lenten calendar that explores how the seven deadly sins (pride, greed, lust, wrath, gluttony, envy and sloth) can be a way to examine where we have turned away from our Creator and creation. Each sin is examined through the lens of creation and is paired with an ecological virtue that can help us to restore our relationship to creation. “Healing Actions” are also suggested. The calendars are available in English and Spanish at <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/season-lent>. (Scroll down the landing page to the section entitled “From Global Catholic Climate Movement.”)



Catholic Climate Project Sponsors Events and Resources

The Catholic Climate Project is part of a movement led by Catholic youth and young adults making the moral call for climate action. In 2020, the project aims to gather Catholics across the Church to organize, mobilize and inspire communities during the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day (April 22) and 5th Anniversary of Pope Francis’ encyclical, *Laudato Si’* (June 18). The project hopes to collaborate with U.S. Catholic dioceses, parishes, schools, universities, religious orders and other

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institutions to provide and support an array of activities that can be used in a variety of settings with different groups. Their activities include:

- services and programs centered in prayer, liturgy, bridge-building and spiritual resilience;
- events, service projects, demonstrations, classroom instruction; and
- advocacy and dialogue with church and political leaders on the need to care for creation and our vulnerable neighbors, and address climate change

[Get more details on activities, resources, and how to guides.](#)

Homily Helps and Liturgy Resources on Care for Our Common Home

The Catholic Climate Covenant and the Integral Faith Team has put together [an online set of resources](#) for homilists and liturgy and prayer service coordinators to help integrate the insights of *Laudato Si'* and care for creation into Sunday Mass. These include highlights from scriptures, readings of the day, relevant quotations from *Laudato Si'*, brief commentary, illustrations and anecdotes, sample applications, prayers of the faithful and bulletin notes. Integral Faith is a working group of the Association of United States Catholic Priests.

2020 Social Grants Applications Due March 30

Each year the Jesuits of the UCS Province offer *small* social grants for projects that directly engage UCS Jesuits or organizations that they support in serving the poor or working for social justice. The primary purpose of a Social Grant is to encourage Jesuit solidarity with poor and marginalized people in the UCS province. Grant guidelines and applications can be found [online](#). The provincial will consider grants that meet the following criteria:

- The Jesuit has inaugurated or is directly involved in programs that benefit poor and marginalized people.
- The Jesuit is directly involved as a leader, volunteer or staff person in a social ministry organization or program.
- The Jesuit is working for social change on behalf of poor and marginalized people.
- The project has a high likelihood of increasing Jesuit concern for poor and marginalized people.

Every grant application must be sponsored and signed by a Jesuit of the UCS province. Grants will be modest, most often ranging from \$1,000 - \$5,000. The deadline for applications for Social Grants for the UCS province is **March 30, 2020**. If you have ANY questions about eligible projects or difficulty accessing the online social grants materials, please call or e-mail Mary Baudouin mbaudouin@jesuits.org or 504-655-6574.

Prayer for Social Justice and Peace

Almighty God, source of true justice and peace,
in you there is no distinction of persons,
for in you we are equally loved.
Reconcile us that we may live and work
with each other and with you
to establish your Kingdom on earth
where there is no poverty, war, or any oppression,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

