



## Prophetic Civil Disobedience, Part 1



Despite the best efforts to advocate in the spirit of St. Francis on caring for our common home, our partners in the Franciscan Action Network (FAN) were attacked in a recent article by *Church Militant* which took issue with a Passionist priest in England for exercising his right to perform civil disobedience during the recent worldwide climate strikes.

The efforts of **Fr. Martin Newell CP** and FAN were labeled as “alarmist activism over climate change”, but we know they are following Pope Francis’ example in *Laudato*

Si to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. Attacking our prophets and even the teachings of Pope Francis on integral ecology is acting in bad faith.

## Prophetic Civil Disobedience, Part 2



The Washington DC Catholic Coalition's 3 month nonviolent campaign finished on Nov. 2nd. These actions focused on immigrant families, particularly the children separated and detained. Eli McCarthy from the CMSM worked with more than 50 Catholic leaders risking arrest in three witnesses:

- July 18: Washington DC- [71 arrested and 200 hundred plus participants gathered](#) for prayer and protest on the grounds of the capitol with a procession to the Rotunda of the Russell Senate office building.
- September 4: Newark, New Jersey- [Over 400 people gathered for prayer at St. Mary's Abbey](#) followed by a procession to ICE offices, Cardinal Tobin's remarks and blessing, speakers from the community, risk-taking witness of 50 plus persons in the street of Newark.
- October 11-13: El Paso, TX- [Joined the Latinx Catholic Leadership Coalition and Hope Border Institute Teach](#) -In, pilgrimage, and accompaniment. Over 400 people gathered. Two hundred crossed the Paso Del Norte bridge from El Paso to Ciudad Juarez to meet with legal advisers and immigrant families living on the streets while they wait to be allowed to apply for asylum in the U.S. As they crossed back, each blessed the bridge and prayed for those forced to "Remain in Mexico." After the blessing, three immigrant families were accompanied by some participants and were surprisingly, but justly, permitted to enter the U.S.

Read more about the positive results of these actions and explore other [resources on this website](#). These include

- Prayer for All Saints and All Souls Day to conclude this campaign
- Prayer Cards and Poster Cards of children who have died in detention

- Prayer for use during the month of November
  - On-Going Action Opportunities and Resources (ex. Types of Strategic Risks)
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## "Night Will be no More"



Read this powerful pastoral letter from Mark Joseph Seitz, Bishop of El Paso on the **August 3rd, 2019: Matanza en El Paso**. This prayerful reflection on the killings at the El Paso Walmart connects the dots between racism, white nationalism and immigrant justice. It highlights the emerging Latinx Catholic Leadership Coalition.

<https://www.hopeborder.org/nightwillbenomore-eng>

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## National JPIC Gathering at the Border

[REGISTER NOW to save your spot!](#)

The **Passionist Solidarity Network** is supporting and attending a **2020 Convergence** on March 16-18, 2020. Coordinated by the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM), it will include JPIC promoters (religious and laity who run JPIC offices, sit on JPIC committees, and are otherwise involved in this work). We will gather for three days near the southern border, at the Holy Cross Retreat Center in Las Cruces, NM. Using the lens of immigration to **Identify, Build, and Witness**, we will explore what JPIC promoters are doing to create systemic change, while building our national network for strategic collaborative action. There will be opportunities to discuss and learn about other Solidarity Network issues as well.

Topics could include pastoral accompaniment and solidarity, role of religious, engagement with dioceses, spiritual vision of migration, strategic collaborative efforts, and issues that affect migration and migrants (climate change, economic justice, racism, and militarization). If you have ideas or requests, contact [Eli McCarthy at the CMSM](#).

Registration, housing, and meals will cost \$295. Discount for shared lodging option.

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[Faiths for Forests](#) is a relatively new global campaign and call to action by the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative to support religious leaders, faith communities and places of worship around the world to get involved in efforts to protect, restore and sustainably manage tropical forests and advocate for the rights of the indigenous peoples and forest communities that are on the front lines of the fight to halt and reverse tropical deforestation. The Campaign was officially launched as a contribution to the UN Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit. [The website of the Campaign](#) contains a new library of educational materials. It provides faith-based organizations, networks and places of worship around the world a space to endorse the Faiths for Forests Declaration and access educational materials (issue primers, country fact sheets, and faith toolkits) for religious leaders and faith communities on forests. (Thanks to the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale)

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## The Creation of the U.S. Detention Complex



A timely article was recently published by [DHS Watch](#) just as hearings were held in the U.S. House of Representatives examining the growing use of immigration detention, as well as reports of inhumane conditions in those detentions, and poor accountability structures, among other topics. The article points to a [series of videos](#) with former immigration officials, legal advocates, and victims of the current family separation policy that provides a thorough explanation of how our country went from detaining fewer than 3,000 immigrants on any given day in the 1970s to more than 50,000 today. The series, called [Detained: How the U.S. built the World's Largest Immigration Detention System](#) was jointly produced by The Guardian and The Marshall Project.

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## Planetary Health = Shared Values

Sam Myers and others provide a short and pointed message in this video: **The Future in Now**. Sam is the Director of Planetary Health Alliance working with the Harvard University School of Public Health.



Planetary Health

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## Worth a Look!



*Photo: Joe Grant*

***Emergence Magazine*** continues to offer beautiful and well crafted resources. In its own words, "It has always been a radical act to share stories during dark times. They are a regenerative space of creation and renewal. As we experience the desecration of our lands and waters, the extinguishing of species, and a loss of sacred connection to the earth, we look to emerging stories. In them we find the timeless



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