



JUST Love

APRIL 2023



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

The first word of the Risen Jesus is "Peace." His nonviolent love conquered death and opened for us the path to Shalom.

Unfortunately, the followers of Jesus have historically been mostly reluctant to walk the way of nonviolent love of enemy that Jesus taught us. One graphic indicator of that reluctance is the Doomsday Clock. The Doomsday Clock, developed by the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists* and published since 1947, is a design that warns the public about how close we are to destroying our world with dangerous technologies of our own making. It is a metaphor, a reminder of the perils we must address if we are to survive on the planet. The *Bulletin* has reset the minute hand on the Doomsday Clock 25 times since its debut in 1947, most recently in 2023 when we moved it from 100 seconds to midnight to 90 seconds to midnight. This is the closest we have been to nuclear omnicide. What can each of us do to act against the dangerous game of nuclear brinkmanship in which our governments are engaged? Here's a few suggestions:



-Learn about the Doomsday Clock and tell people about it <https://thebulletin.org/doomsday-clock/#post-heading>

-Gather a group of people to study and reflect on Santa Fe Archbishop John Wester's prophetic pastoral letter on nuclear weapons, *Living in the Light of Christ's Peace: A Conversation Toward Nuclear Disarmament* <https://archdiosf.org/living-in-the-light-of-christs-peace>

-Check out the resources of Pax Christi USA on nuclear disarmament <https://paxchristiusa.org/nuclear-disarmament/>. Join Pax Christi if you're not already a member. Start a Pax Christi group in your parish.

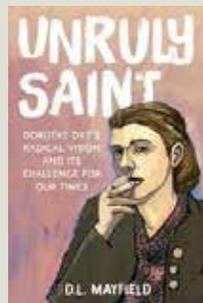
-Learn about the *Don't Bank on the Bomb Campaign* to withdraw investments by banks in the nuclear industry. Remember how apartheid in South Africa was brought down because of international pressure on banks? We can do the same with nukes! <https://www.dontbankonthebomb.com/>



April 22 is Earth Day. 2023 continues the theme of 2022 *Invest in Our Planet* <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2023/>. At this link find 52 ways you can invest in Earth <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-tips/>

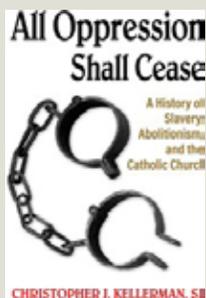
Take Up a Book for Easter

In the first extant letter of saint and Doctor of the Church Alphonsus Liguori, he responds to a convent of nuns who asked him to send them a box of instruments of penance. He replied by sending them a box of books, saying it would do them far more good. As Lenten season of “giving up” comes to an end, we invite you to “take up” something for the joyous season of Easter – reading a good book on peace, justice, Earth. Here are a few suggestions.



Mayfield’s beautiful biography is different from all its predecessors. It invites us to enter imaginatively into what Day’s life must have felt like and to be captivated by her unruly sanctity.

Taylor-Stinson tells the compelling story of Harriet Tubman as a “public mystic,” an African American woman whose experience of God empowered her to a life of incredible risk for justice.



In this meticulously researched book, Kellerman narrates the tragic history of the participation of the Catholic Church in slavery. You can get a flavor of Kellerman’s work by watching this webinar <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhiSJD4PBgo>



JPIC DATES TO REMEMBER IN APRIL

Continue to use our Lenten Calendar until April 9 https://www.scnj.org/_files/ugd/a2bb32_7399c39287694fcdbae3be73b2426484.pdf?index=true

14 The GLSEN Day of Silence is a national student-led demonstration where LGBTQ students and allies all around the country—and the world—take a vow of silence to protest the harmful effects of harassment and discrimination of LGBTQ+ people in schools. <https://www.glsen.org/>

15 World Art Day - Get some crayons and draw your Easter dream for a world of justice and peace.

22 Earth Day - Celebrate using the resources of the Catholic Climate Covenant <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/>

29 Feast of St. Catherine of Siena “Speak the truth in a million voices. It is silence that kills.”