



JUST Love

JANUARY 2023



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

**Happy 10th
Anniversary**

With this issue, *JustLove* completes 10 years of publication! Not an issue missed, even with the COVID-19 shut down. Many thanks to our faithful readership, Sisters of Charity, Seton Associates, and hundreds of others. Special thanks to Donna Sartor, the Director of Communications for the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth and our layout editor, for 120 beautifully produced editions. Let us know what you like about *JustLove* and we'll share your comments in the next issue tmoran@scnj.org.

JustLove, in our first issue of 2023, shares with you some quotes on hope to carry us into the new year. They come from mystic/prophets who look at the world unflinchingly and who still move and act with hope.

“People say, what is the sense of our small effort? They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time. A pebble case into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words, and deeds is like that. No one has the right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much work to do.”

~ Dorothy Day

“Hope and optimism are different. Optimism tends to be based on the notion that there's enough evidence out there to believe things are gonna be better, much more rational, deeply secular, whereas hope looks at the evidence and says, "It doesn't look good at all. Doesn't look good at all. Gonna go beyond the evidence to create new possibilities based on visions that become contagious to allow people to engage in heroic actions always against the odds, no guarantee whatsoever." That's hope. I'm a prisoner of hope, though. Gonna die a prisoner of hope.”

~ Cornell West

“The gift we can offer others is so simple a thing as hope.”

~ Daniel Berrigan, SJ

“My ecofeminism is shot through with the staunch conviction that beauty is important in healing people. It might be the beauty of sounds, of colors, of words, of faces, of food and drink, or of embraces. Central to this is hope. The hope of the renewal of the world and the hope found in Jesus and his love of all creation.”

~ Ivone Gebara

“A flourishing humanity on a thriving earth in an evolving universe, all together filled with the glory of God: such



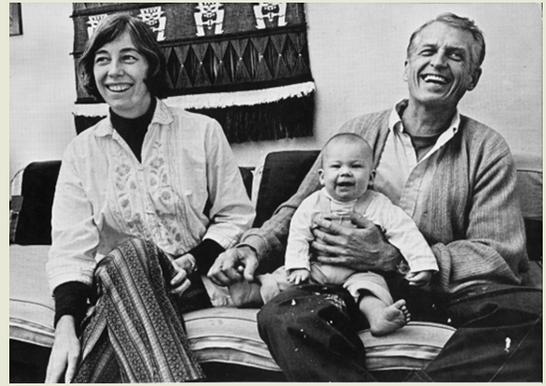
is the theological vision needed in this critical age of earth's distress.”

~ Elizabeth Johnson, CSJ

“I want to hold up Exile as an image that might enlighten us concerning the truth of our status anywhere, at any time elsewhere and "elsewhen," aliens, wanderers. If we stand opposed to the world's main pursuit, death, in all its guises, forms, enticements, and images that is our status. There is no hope in government; the hope is in exiles who recognize their geography together; the hope is in one another and whatever spirituality we can create to sustain a struggle that will last the rest of our lives and beyond if we are given that kind of time. In all our acts of resistance, the word we send out to this culture is spoken against the prevailing gales, in a world of cruelty and murder a word of conflict, tragedy, combat even. It is scarcely audible, rarely attended to amid the noise, misadventure, and distraction. But the word levels mountains (pride), fills in valleys (routine, fatalism, numbing). Thus the word clears a way for Return, a journey of the spirit to self-understanding, to sanity, to nonviolence, to reverence and rejoicing, to a mystical coherence of mind and heart with creation.”

~ Elizabeth McAlister

At this link https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RTr2a_ryrbaK9Azcef7faggCewmxiAIy/view find the liturgy celebrating the 20th anniversary of the death of legendary peacemaker Philip Berrigan.



Most of us try to save trees by using electronic communications and avoiding printing whenever possible. But have you ever heard of “dark data?” Dark data is basically the data we put in the Cloud (e.g. Google Drive, iCloud, Dropbox, OneDrive) and then never use again. This dark data has a significant carbon impact. To illustrate the magnitude of the dark data situation, data centers (responsible for 2.5% of all human-induced carbon dioxide) have a greater carbon footprint than the aviation industry (2.1%).

Some ways to reduce your dark data are:

- Deleting unneeded documents from cloud storage locations (this includes Google Drive, iCloud, Dropbox, OneDrive, etc.)
- Storing things in one place and linking to them (ex. If you're sharing a document in Google Drive, share the link to the document instead of sending it as an attachment)
- Making a conscious choice about what to put in Google Drive and iCloud accounts
- Deleting the duplicate photos on your computer/phone/tablet.

Read more about dark data here <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/10/dark-data-is-killing-the-planet-we-need-digital-decarbonisation>

JPIC Dates to Remember in January

1 International Day of Peace At this link you can buy the War Resisters League broken rifle pin <https://www.warresisters.org/store/broken-rifle-pin> Resolve to wear one in your lapel this year to invite conversations about peacemaking, nonviolence, and gun control.

4 Feast of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton “The nearer a soul is truly united to God, the more its sensibilities are increased to every being of creation.”

7 Birthday of Sadako Sasaki (1943-1955)
A Japanese girl who was 2 when the atomic bomb detonated over Hiroshima; later developed leukemia and folded 1000 origami cranes for peace. She is a symbol of the innocent victims of war.

11 National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
Check out the resources of US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking <https://sistersagainstrafficking.org/>

21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day "We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."

31 Birthday (1915) of Thomas Merton “Peace demands the most heroic labor and the most difficult sacrifice. It demands greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more perfect purity of conscience.”