



JUST Love

DECEMBER 2023



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

As is our custom, December JustLove offers some
Advent/Christmas art and poetry for your contemplation.



Read this poem by Sr. Iliia Delio
and then gaze contemplatively at
the icon Kelly Latimore painted
inspired by it. The icon is called
“Mary: Love Ever Being Born.”

"What do the stars say?
The light that meets our eyes after millions of years summons us to look beyond.
The dark that hovers over us is filled with light.
That underneath the appearance of the stable heavens is the bubbling energy of the
universe.
We are forming, forming, forming and nothing can stop us.
There is a palpable power of attraction, pulling us toward we-know-not-where.
Love alone is the guide of the universe and the whole universe is in the human
heart.
Tend to the heart and the power of love will name itself as God."



Please use our 2023 Advent Calendar “A Pilgrimage of
Reconciliation with the World that is Our Home:
Advent 2023 with Laudate Deum.”

[https://www.scnj.org/_files/ugd/a2bb32_980d29994af248d3
9d4109c2a007af21.pdf](https://www.scnj.org/_files/ugd/a2bb32_980d29994af248d39d4109c2a007af21.pdf)

“Made Flesh” by Juniper LaNunziata
Advent means emergence.
The one who made the entire cosmos is made flesh,
A deity newly made of meat,
not popping into and out of existence in an outpouring of power,
but cropping up in unexpected places like
dandelions in the cracks of the sidewalk.
A single cell,
a zygote,
a blastocyst,
an embryo.
and then, In and Out of Time, a baby,
emerging from the womb of the God-bearer
in a shower of blood and water.
I have read that the length of a fallopian tube
is only four to five inches.
I looked at my hand, and I got out a ruler and
measured the pilgrimage my Lord took.
I imagined what that trip must have looked like to a cluster of cells.
It must be like white water rapids.
It must be like interstellar travel.
Deep calls unto deep. As far as the east is from the west.
I’m on my own journey, and you are too,
and it may be five inches, and it may be five miles,
and it may be five light years,
but, if you want, we can travel it together,
pilgrims on the Way, emerging into new light.



José y María by Everett Paterson



**The Office of Peace, Justice,
and Ecological Integrity of
the Sisters of Charity of Saint
Elizabeth wishes you and your
family a blessed Christmas and
a New Year filled with hope
against hope.**