



2019 Diocesan Social Ministry Conference Thursday May 2, 2019

Mass: 10:30am, Conference: 11:30am-5:00pm
Notre Dame Retreat House
5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua NY

Pastors, parish staff, parishioners, especially religious education teachers and social ministry volunteers: **you're invited to attend!**

Our keynote speaker at the conference will be Gaynelle Wethers, founding director of Multicultural Affairs at Nazareth College and a former pastoral associate. Gaynelle will break open for us some of the lessons of the US bishops' new document (you can find it at www.usccb.org) entitled:

"Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love, A Pastoral Letter Against Racism".

This letter on the evils of racism challenges all of us to renew our commitment to addressing not just our individual failings, but the ways that we as a whole society do not respect the dignity and holiness of everyone equally.

The workshops to be presented that day, on a variety of issues of Catholic Social Teaching—such as pro-life matters, immigration, care for creation—will also explore how this underlying sin of racism is at work throughout.

And we'll also have opportunities to hear about great social ministry efforts happening in parishes around the diocese. If **YOU** have a good story from your parish that you want to tell, please contact the Justice & Peace coordinator for your country.

\$20 registration fee includes lunch and materials.

Register by **Friday April 26** with Kathy at Kathy.Dubel@dor.org or 607-734-9784 ext. 2135.

Please join us for this day of renewal in mind and spirit for the work of building up Christ's reign of justice, peace and life.

"Through his Cross and Resurrection, Christ united the one human race to the Father. However, even though Christ's victory over sin and death is complete, we still live in a world affected by them.

As bishops of the Catholic Church in the United States, we want to address one particularly destructive and persistent form of evil.

Despite many promising strides made in our country, racism still infects our nation."

-Open Wide Our Hearts

"Racism can only end if we contend with the policies and institutional barriers that perpetuate and preserve the inequality—economic and social—that we still see all around us. With renewed vigor, we call on the members of the Body of Christ to join others in advocating and promoting policies at all levels that will combat racism and its effects in our civic and social institutions."

-Open Wide Our Hearts

Speak Up for our Sisters and Brothers Fleeing Violence and Oppression: Increase Admittance of Refugees

“In Fall 2018, the Administration issued a Presidential Determination (PD) setting the annual U.S. refugee admission level at 30,000 refugees, the **all-time-lowest number in the history of resettlement**. This record low comes when there are **over 25 million refugees worldwide** with 1.4 million needing resettlement. The average refugee admission goal over the nearly 40 years of the program has been 95,000...

At the midpoint of fiscal year 2019 [March 31, 2019]... the U.S. has only admitted 11,425 refugees. At this rate, our country is on pace to admit fewer than 23,000 refugees by the end of the year, far short of the annual goal of 30,000.” -USCCB



“Jesus was a refugee, he had to flee for his life to be saved”

Pope Francis

ASK YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPS TO DEMAND THAT OUR COUNTRY WELCOME MORE REFUGEES
<https://justiceforimmigrants.org/action-alerts/urge-our-government-to-resettle-30000-refugees-in-2019/>



**Catholics are
Still IN:**

**Get Your
Parish to Sign
the
Climate
Declaration**

**Click here
[catholicclimate-
covenant.org/](http://catholicclimate-covenant.org/)**

EARTH DAY: Easter Monday, APRIL 22, 2019

Start Easter Season with a celebration of God’s beautiful creation and a call for our country to protect it!

US Catholic Climate Declaration:

“In December 2015, the leaders of 195 nations adopted the Paris Agreement that established a framework for nations to reduce carbon emissions to limit the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels, and to avoid the most dangerous effects of climate change. The Holy See and the U.S. Bishops have repeatedly voiced their support for it.

On June 1, 2017, President Trump announced that the United States would withdraw from the Paris agreement, the only nation to do so. In response, the U.S. bishops declared, “The President’s decision not to honor the U.S. commitment to the Paris agreement is deeply troubling” (USCCB Statement on the President’s Withdrawal from Paris Agreement, June 1, 2017).

As Catholic communities, organizations, and institutions in the United States, we join with other institutions from across American society to ensure that the United States remains a global leader in reducing emissions. We call for the Administration to join the global community and return to the Paris Agreement.”

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