



MISSION MATTERS

monthly



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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Compassion urges us to move out of our comfortable niches of security. Compassion stretches us and asks us to let go of apathy and indifference. Compassion refuses to accept excuses of busyness, ignorance or helplessness. Compassion invites us to reach out to those who suffer."

-Joyce Rupp THE CUP OF LIFE

CATHOLIC Q&A

A Catholics view on gun violence and the sadness of our teens...

Click [here](#) to hear more

INTERFAITH CALENDAR

Click [here](#) for more information

09/01: New Year - Orthodox Christians
09/08: Nativity of Virgin Mary - Christian
09/11: New Year - Rastafarian
09/14: Elevation of the Holy Cross - Christian
09/23: Fall Equinox - Neo-Pagan
09/25: Rosh Hashanah - Jewish
09/26: Navaratri begins - Hindu
09/29: St. Michael and all Angels - Christian



MAKE A FRESH START AT WORK WITHOUT CHANGING JOBS

by Patricia Mish

As Christians, we can turn to the Lord in prayer to find inspiration as we start each day. Your workday may seem like a grind right now, but you own the dawn! Set up your coffee, tea or favorite morning beverage the night before and consider waking 10 minutes earlier for prayer time.

Start with gratitude, thanking the Lord for the new day. In your own words, share whatever weighs on you and ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you as you move into the workday. End on a positive note with an Our Father or this simple psalm: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad." (Ps 118:24)

Make three lists, taking a cue from decluttering tips that encourage setting aside things to keep, things to give away and things to toss. For your job, the lists may look like this: 1. Tasks I enjoy (be specific); 2. Tasks I put off because I don't like doing them; 3. Tasks I dread. Your list may look different depending on your occupation (for example it may have to do with parts of your day rather than specific tasks), but the idea here is to zero in on what offers you fulfillment.

Set realistic goals. Not every minute of every day will give you joy. In the workplace, however, what makes you happy often makes your employer happy too – after all, you not only bring enthusiasm to these tasks, but also excel at them. Shoot for spending more than half your time in your wheelhouse.

Communicate. Extrovert? Introvert? Either way, difficult conversations can be ... difficult. But your boss will appreciate your candor if you come clean. Your manager is not a mind reader and can't be expected to know how you feel. Ask if you can modify your job description to spend more time on what you love and less time on tasks that don't align with your strengths or interests. And remember, we are more than what we do. Whether on the job

or at home, we will experience seasons in life where we feel under-appreciated, in a rut or in search of inspiration.

Our faith reminds us to bring God into all we do, from the mundane to the momentous: "Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma." (Eph 5:1-2)

see more here:

<https://faithmag.com/make-fresh-start-work-without-changing-jobs-0>

Join us for:



Mass of the Holy Spirit, Thursday, September 8th at 11:15am in college chapel.



Interfaith Peace Prayer Service to commemorate the 9/11 attacks, Friday, September 9th at 11:15 am in front of staircase of the Main Building



OUR CORE VALUES

Solidarity with
People in Need



Transformation



COMPASSION



Respect for
Human Dignity



Justice
and Peace

2022-2023 Focus

PUTTING COMPASSION INTO ACTION!

Urge Congress to Increase the Federal Minimum Wage!

Justice, justice shall you pursue. Today the call for justice must focus on fairness and respect for working men and women in jobs across the country who do not earn enough to support themselves and their families. The situation confronting not only fast-food workers but also home health care aides, adjunct professors, airport baggage handlers and other low-wage workers is simply untenable in one of the richest societies in human history.

We call on our elected officials to raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour, linked to cost-of-living increases so that the lowest-paid among us are able to earn a living wage.

The current federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour is nothing close to a living wage. If someone earning the minimum wage is fortunate enough to be able to work full-time hours (and many are not), she or he would earn only \$15,080 / year, which is under the poverty line for a family of two. At the current minimum wage, workers struggle paycheck-to-paycheck, and if they are able to pay all their bills at the end of the month, they are not able to save anything for an emergency, let alone for their retirement, or additional education.

Today's rock-bottom federal minimum wage is holding millions of Americans back from being able to reach their highest potential. Sadly, many people who have started community college or career education programs have to drop out after getting their hours cut at work or when an unforeseen emergency made tuition impossible to afford. With a \$15 per hour minimum wage, many would be able to finally afford to advance their educations.

Rising wages will allow millions of people across the country to lift their heads up and look towards the future with hope. But it will also benefit our economy at-large. A \$15 per hour minimum wage will inject billions of dollars into local economies as many are finally able to buy basic necessities they couldn't afford before. It will also ease state budgets, as millions who currently rely on state assistance will finally be able to afford groceries and rent without public assistance.

While a number of communities across the USA have passed ordinances to raise their minimum wages to \$15, and more cities and states have passed smaller minimum wage increases that are an important first step for improving workers' lives, our obligation is not over until every working person has the ability to support their family without undue burden.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO SIGN PETITION!

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period. Click [here](#) to learn more.

ROSH HASHANAH AND YOM KIPPUR

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, together referred to as "The High Holy Days," are the two most important holidays of the Jewish year, the former celebrating the coming of the New Year and the creation of the world, the latter (ten days later) beginning the new year with a Day of Atonement for one's wrongdoings. Synagogue services on these days are the most well attended of the year; they involve the blowing of the shofar (a ram's horn), and, on Yom Kippur, a day of fasting.

The High Holy Days stand alongside the three festivals of Sukkot, Passover, and Shavuot as the five major festivals of the Jewish year during which one is commanded to lay aside work completely. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur fall in the lunar month called Tishrei. On the first and second days of the month, Rosh Hashanah celebrates the new year and the birthday of the world. Ten days later, Yom Kippur begins the new year with a Day of Atonement for one's wrongdoings. The stretch between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is called "The Days of Awe," a period of judgment and repentance, forgiveness, and spiritual renewal, of standing in awe before God. Click [here](#) to learn more.



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Villa Maria College is a Felician Sponsored Ministry

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