



MISSION MATTERS

monthly



No. 3 Vol. 7 | April 3, 2023 | Student Edition

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

"Look after the land and the land will look after you, destroy the land and the land will destroy you."

Aboriginal Proverb



CATHOLIC Q&A

What does Pope Francis say about the environment?
click [here](#) to hear more



INTERFAITH CALENDAR

click [here](#) for more information

- 04/02: Palm Sunday - Christianity
- 04/04: Mahavir Jayanti - Jainism
- 04/5-13: Passover - Judaism
- 04/09: Easter - Christianity
- 04/17-18: Yom HaSho'ah - Judaism
- 04/14: Vaisakhi - Sikhism
- 04/16: Feast of Divine Mercy - Christianity
- 04/21-22: Eid al-Fitr - Islam
- 04/21: Ridvan - Baha'i



AN EASTER REFLECTION: Meeting Jesus, The Resurrected One

If you read the gospels carefully (John 20: 1-2, 11-17), you will see that each one tells a different story of Jesus' resurrection. The Gospels are not Jesus' biography; they are descriptions of the disciples' experience of Jesus – and each person, depending on their personal experience and the audience for whom they are writing, tells the story of their relationship with Jesus in a different way. We each live the story of the Resurrected Jesus in our lives – and the life of the congregation – as well, but again, because of our different experiences in life and in our relationship with Jesus, we would tell the story differently.

In John, Easter time is a time of absence and presence, of learning to accept and experience Jesus in a new way. This mirrors the hills and valleys of our lives; we do not live always of the mountain top, basking in God's love for us. Often, we struggle to recognize Jesus in the circumstances around us, but he is always there.

John 20 begins with the words, "On the first day of the week..." This signifies a new time, Christian time, a new way of relating with God.

Click [here](#) to read full article.



HOW TO GET YOUR PRIORITIES STRAIGHT

By Lauren McKeithen

How do you figure out what's important to you so you can get your priorities in order? The process starts with you. It would be best if you committed you making time for yourself. Getting caught up in life's details can cloud your vision of what's important to you. Taking time to relax, breathe, process, and plan will help you reduce the clutter and see what you've been missing more clearly.

Before you can get your priorities straight, you have to figure out what your priorities are. How do you expect to kill it in the real world if you don't know your goals? You have limited energy and time, so you need to ascertain your top two priorities at any moment. For example, one might be to get a new apartment, while the other is to get a new job. Those are substantial tasks that require laser-tight focus, so the best scenario may be to find a new job first. Once you get the job, you can look for an apartment nearby.

Now that you have your priorities, it's time to put your thoughts into action. Take some time to formulate a plan of where you want to see yourself in the next six months or years. Align your dreams with your priorities to help you focus on making your dreams come true. Write down what you want in a new job with specific salary terms, location, and the kind of role. You could also write down your strengths and what you want to learn in the next year. Then, create a plan by refreshing your resume, setting up job alerts, and networking.

Your priority may not be getting a new job, but you could apply the same steps to your situation. When getting your priorities straight, think about how you want to live your life. If the life you want doesn't align with the one you have now, it may be time to start setting up that action plan and getting to work.

Click [here](#) for full article.

OUR CORE VALUES

Solidarity with People in Need



Transformation



COMPASSION



Respect for Human Dignity



Justice and Peace

2022-2023 Focus

PUTTING *COMPASSION* INTO ACTION!

STOP FAMILY DETENTION

Tell the Biden Administration Family Detention is Immoral!

Recent reports revealed the Biden administration is considering re initiating family detention as a strategy to deter migrants from seeking refuge. We have been through this before and we know family detention is inhumane and ineffective and it causes harmful and toxic stress on children, regardless of the duration of stay. The impacts of detention can last a lifetime.

The conditions in detention facilities are abusive, meager, and beyond inappropriate for the healthy development of children and adults. Migrants seeking refuge deserve protection and opportunities. Instead, the administration is considering meeting them with cruelty.

President Biden ran on the promise to deliver humane immigration policies. This is far from it!

Join us in telling the White House family detention is not the way!

Tell the White House migrant families deserve to be together and free!

Click [here](#) to sign petition!

SOJOURNERS

faith in action for social justice

PRAYERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT: EARTH DAY, APRIL 22, 2023

from religionsforpeace.org

Buddhism: Even as a mother protects with her life, her child, her only child, so with a boundless heart Should one cherish all living beings, Radiating kindness over the entire world, Spreading upwards to the skies, And downwards to the depths. ~ Metta Sutta

Christianity: Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ~ Matthew 6:28

Hinduism: Even if there is only one tree full of flowers and fruit in a village, that place becomes worthy of worship and respect. ~ Mahabharata, Adiparra, 138:25

Indigenous Native American: Earth teach me stillness as the grasses are stilled with light. Earth teach me suffering as old stones suffer with memory. Earth teach me humility as blossoms are humble with beginning. Earth teach me caring as the mother who secures her young. ~ Ute Prayer

Islam: Do not cut down a tree, do not abuse a river, do not harm animals, and be always kind and humane to God's creation, even to your enemies. ~ Abu-Baker

Jainism: One who disregards the existence of earth, air, fire, water, and vegetation Disregards his or her own existence which is entwined with them. ~ Mahavir

Judaism: But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; In the Lord's hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all humankind. ~ Job 12:7-10

Sikhism: God created night and day, seasons, time, and occasions. So also, air, water, fire, and nether regions. Amidst these has God fixed the earth, the place for Righteous Activities. ~ Guru Granth Sahib

Taoism: Heaven cannot but be high. Earth cannot but be broad. The sun and moon cannot but revolve. All creation cannot but flourish. To do so is their Tao. ~ Chuang Tze

Shintoism: Our gratitude, love, and responsibility within a living nature should not be avoided. Seeing a forest as merely an object of economic activity is a kind of trafficking in flesh, an injustice, a crime. ~ Shoroku Shinto Yamatoyama

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