

the
Common
Good



Issue No 47, June 2021

**Secular Franciscan JPIC Monthly Newsletter
from Franciscan Voice Canada**

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Laudato Si' Action Platform

to “become totally sustainable, in the spirit of integral ecology”



Caring for our brothers and sisters means caring for the home we share. This responsibility is “essential to a life of virtue” (LS 217).
Pope Francis introduces the **Laudato Si' Platform**

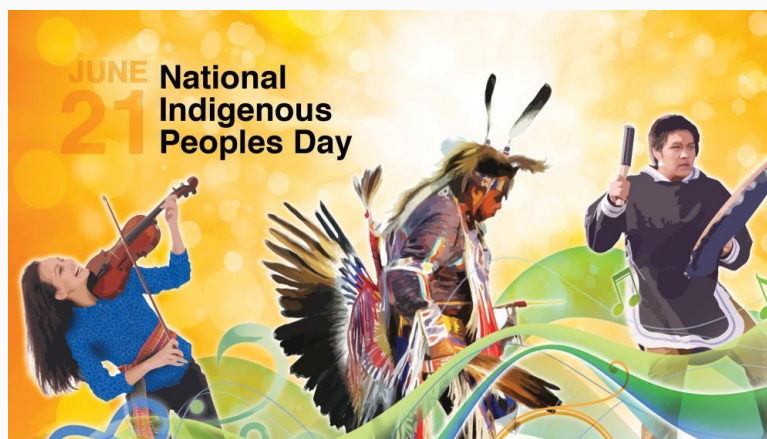
The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development’s Laudato Si’ Action Platform is a space for institutions, communities, and families to learn and grow together. You are warmly invited to join this community. Your unique “culture, experience, involvements, and talents” are needed on our journey towards greater love for our Creator, each other, and the home we share. (LS 14). ... [Learn more](#)

[PLEDGE AN OFS CANADA COMMITMENT](#)

Laudato Si' Plus

Everything, then, depends on our ability to see the need for a change of heart, attitudes and lifestyles. Otherwise, political propaganda, the media and the shapers of public opinion will continue to promote an individualistic and uncritical culture subservient to unregulated economic interests and societal institutions at the service of those who already enjoy too much power. – (Fratelli Tutti 166)

It is a time for all Canadians to learn & reflect on the history of First Nations, Inuit & Metis people.



When faced with 215 of the Kamloops Indian Residential School's children's remains being located in unmarked graves, we are saddened but should not be shocked. Dr. Peter Henderson Bryce became the first Chief Medical Officer of the Department of the Interior of the Government of Canada in 1904... He toured residential schools and [exposed](#) them as disease incubators and super-spreaders. He revealed the horror of these schools and demonstrated that they killed children. The Canadian government ignored his reports... [Learn more at Andrew's June Blog](#)

Canadian History and the Indian Residential School System



20 minute history of Canada and the Indian Residential School system. To provide historical context watch this video in honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day.

June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day! Don't miss the opportunity to learn more about the cultural diversity of the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples by taking part in the many activities happening across Canada! Visit [National Indigenous Peoples Day](#)

The process of reconciliation and healing requires that we, the settlers, need to learn the truth and reconcile with the Indigenous peoples. FVC

[Wawahte: Stories of Residential School Survivors - FULL DOCUMENTARY](#) (48:45) Review by *Carrie MacKenzie*

“Wawahte” premiered February 27, 2016 at the Kingston Canadian Film Festival. This moving and honest film examines the experiences of three residential school survivors, Elders Esther, Bunnie and Stanley. Their stories are told in voice-overs by actors using their own words. It is based on the book “Wawahte” by Robert P. Wells and is produced

and directed by John Sanfilippo ... To see this movie is to take a step towards reconciliation and healing the wounds that have devastated Indigenous society. [Read More...](#)

Apologies

Those who allege that the “Canadian Catholic Church” has never apologized simply do not understand how the Catholic Church is structured. Many apologies have been made. The Catholic community in Canada has a decentralized structure. The Catholic Church as a whole in Canada was not associated with the Residential Schools, nor was the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops or its forerunners...

[Learn more at Andrew's June Blog](#)

From Gospel to Life

Thus, when *you go with our accuser before a magistrate, on the way make an effort to settle the case, or you may be dragged before the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer throw you in prison.* Luke 12:58



[Kelly Sikkema](#)

Film of the Month

Where The Spirit Lives - Feature Film

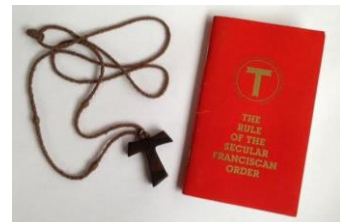


In 1937, a young First Nations (Canadian native) girl named Ashtecome is kidnapped along with several other children from a village as part of a deliberate Canadian policy to force First Nations children to abandon their culture in order to be assimilated into white Canadian/British society. She is taken to a boarding school where she is forced to adopt Western Euro-centric ways and learn English, often under brutal treatment. Only one sympathetic white teacher who is more and more repelled by this bigotry offers her any help from among the staff. That, with her force of will, Ashtecome (forced to take the name Amelia) is determined to hold on to her identity and that of her siblings, who were also abducted. — [Kenneth Chisholm](#)

OFS Rule & GC

Article 18

1. Secular Franciscans are called to make their own contribution, inspired by the person and message of Saint Francis of Assisi, towards a civilisation in which the dignity of the human person, shared responsibility, and love may be living realities.



2. (Rule 13) They should deepen the true foundations of universal kinship and create a spirit of welcome and an atmosphere of fraternity everywhere. They should firmly commit themselves to oppose every form of exploitation, discrimination, and marginalisation and against every attitude of indifference in relation to others.

3. (Rule 13) They should work together with movements which promote the building of fraternity among peoples. They should commit themselves to “create worthy conditions of life” for all and to work for the freedom of all people.

Pope's Prayer Intention for June

The beauty of marriage

Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience.

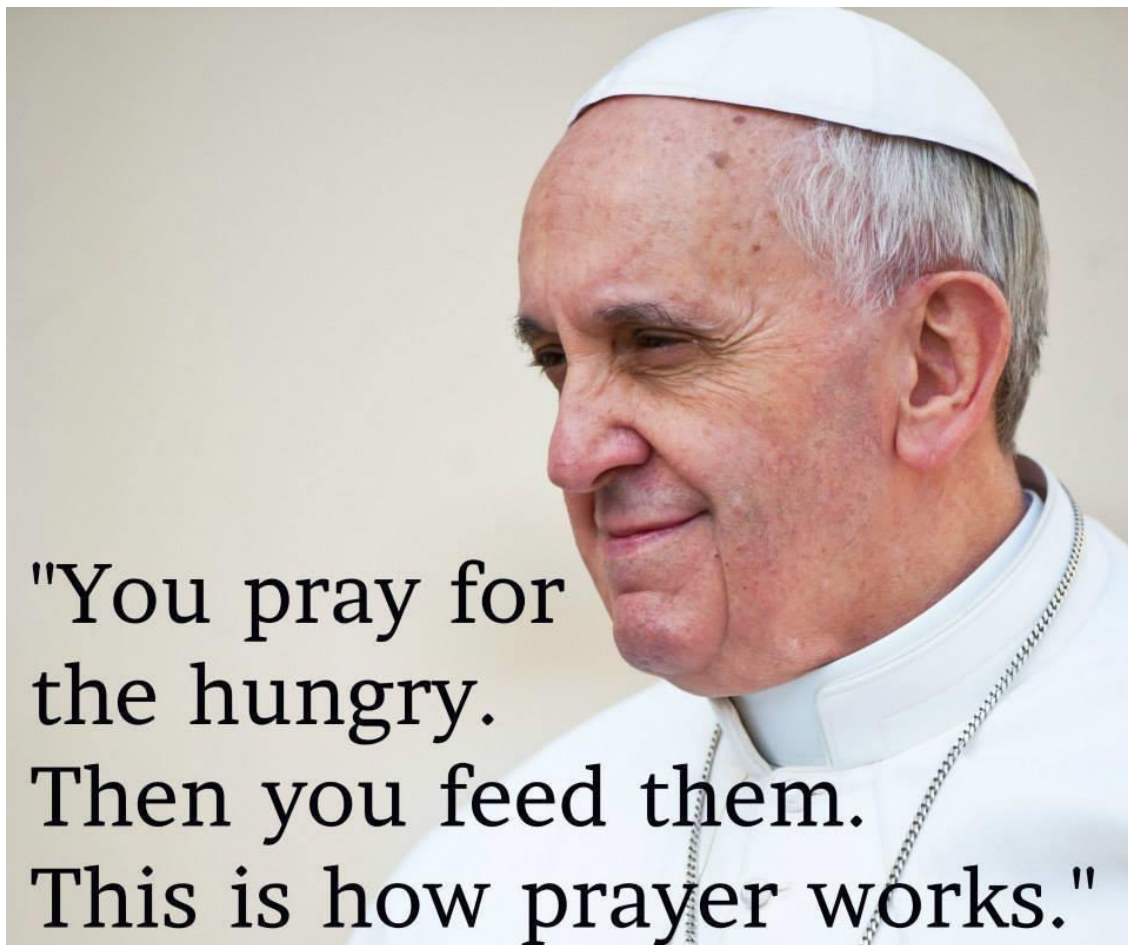


Some people say that marriage has gone out of style and that these days aren't the right time to undertake the adventure of getting married. And yes, it's an adventure. a great adventure—or, as Francis says, “a demanding iournev. at times

difficult, and at times complicated, but it's worth making the effort." [...READ MORE](#)

Reflection:

Marriage is a tremendously beautiful Christian vocation meant to reflect that eternal and infinite faithfulness that Christ has for His Church (Ephesians 5:32). It is also a vocation, like every vocation, made up of the concrete ups and downs, joys and struggles of every-day life. [... read more](#)



GOOD NEWS:

Spending on new oil and gas projects needs to end immediately to avert climate crisis, International Energy Agency Executive Director Fatih Birol warns.

Only an 'unprecedented transformation' of the world's energy system can achieve net zero emissions by 2050. The world has a choice — stop developing new oil, gas and coalfields today or face a dangerous rise in global temperatures. That's the bold assessment from the International Energy Agency, the organization that has spent four decades working to secure oil supplies for industrialized nations ...

[Learn more at Andrew's June Blog](#)

Un mot du SIAF



ECHO présente des nouvelles de plusieurs communautés de la famille franciscaine qui ont répondu à notre appel en tant que Franciscains.

Solidaires avec toutes les victimes des pensionnats autochtones

Déclaration du président de l'Assemblée des évêques catholiques du Québec

[\[...\]](#)

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no more plastic
Organization or movement
in your community

Important Dates on the JPIC Calendar:

- + June 8 - [World Oceans Day](#)
 - + June 18 - [Anniversary of Laudato Si'](#)
 - + June 21 - [National Indigenous Peoples Day](#)
-

Other Recent Postings on *Franciscan Voice Canada*

- [Kamloops Indian Residential School - Call for Urgent Action](#)
- [A moving statement from the BC Opposition - 9 min video](#)
- [June 2021 Issue of the JPIC Communique](#)
- [Bill C-15 - Your Support is Needed - Action](#)
- [Girls' Education around the World - Action](#)
- [Cross-Canada Prayer for Christian Unity - Action](#)
- [#SOSColombia: Stop the crackdown - Action](#)



Related Links

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[National Fraternity of Canada](#)
[Laudato Si'](#)
[Fratelli Tutti](#)

- [Guest Blog - Save our Forest + Cut Toilet Paper - Action](#)

Earlier Posts you may want to check:

- [Racism has a cost for everyone](#)
- [Fratelli Tutti Study Guide - Franciscan Media](#)

*Note the calls for
“Action”
in some of the postings*

Editors: Andrew Conradi, ofs, Laudato Si' Animator, Global Catholic Climate Movement; George Guimond, ofs, RFEC Dir of JPIC

[Fratelli Tutti Study Guide -](#)

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