

the
Common Good

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



Issue No 55, February 2022

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Franciscan Voice Canada acknowledges and thanks the First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples in Turtle Island for allowing us to live, pray, work, and play on their lands.

We are deeply sorry for the injustices inflicted upon them by the complicity of settlers from racism in the colonialism inherent especially in the Indian Act and Residential Schools, including physical, sexual, emotional and all other forms of abuse resulting in cultural genocide. We commit to work for truth, healing and reconciliation.

*The turtle: The Artist is Bernice Gordon (Walking with A'nó:wara, 2011) Turtle Island Conservation, Miskwaadesi and A'nó:wara. Curriculum Based Activities Guide, OISE, U of T. We believe they want the materials used by teachers and that includes us! Part of raising awareness and Truth & Reconciliation. **Check it out yourself [here](#). It is a wonderful resource for ongoing formation.***

Pro-life is pro-social justice!



A reminder from James Martin, SJ, thanks to Diane LeBrun:

I AM PRO-LIFE.

That means that I'm also pro-social justice.

"That means that I am not only for the dignity of the human being from the moment of conception, but I am also for the dignity of the human being until the natural end of life. For life does not end with birth. A person who is truly pro life is pro-all life, pro every stage of life, pro every stage of life for every person. For all life is sacred, because all life is created by God.

That means that I support anything that helps a person live a full, healthy, and satisfying life, in every part of the world. So I am for care for the poor, for a living wage, for affordable health care, for adequate housing, for a humane work environment, for equal pay for women, for generous child care, for the support of the aged and the infirm.

That means I support caring for the marginalized among us: the refugee and migrant, the homeless, the person with disabilities, the single mother, women who are abused, minorities of every kind who are persecuted, and all who feel left out, lonely, ignored."

Learn more at [Andrew's Blog #1](#)

BILLIONAIRES

Ten richest men double their fortunes in pandemic while incomes of 99 percent of humanity fall. (17th January 2022). *New billionaire minted every 26 hours, as inequality contributes to the death of one person every four seconds. [Pro-lifers take note] ...* “If these ten men were to lose 99.999 percent of their wealth tomorrow, they would still be richer than 99 percent of all the people on this planet,”

Learn more at [Andrew's Blog #2](#)

MORE ON RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

While the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's records name 16 children who died at St. Joseph's, a preliminary investigation by the National Centre released [25 Jan 2022] indicates those numbers are likely much higher. ...31 January 2022: The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops ([CCCCB](#)) the Assembly of First Nations, the Métis National Council, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami say the Holy Father is scheduled to meet with individual Indigenous delegations the week of 28 March 2022. The Pope will have a final audience with all participants on Friday, 1 April. The CCCB is expected to shoulder the costs of the trip.

Learn more at [Andrew's Blog #3](#)

Canada chooses oil Companies over Indigenous Peoples

The contradictions couldn't be more glaring.

While recent laws passed by the federal and the British Columbia governments pledge to transform relationships with Indigenous peoples, their actions indicate otherwise.

The RCMP has invaded the camps of the hereditary chiefs three times in three years, the most recent in November 2021. Twenty-nine people, including two accredited journalists, were arrested in a multiday invasion last month. When

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the arrest footage was eventually released, it showed RCMP officers pointing assault rifles at unarmed Indigenous people. ...a court granted Coastal GasLink's request for an injunction against blockades, the police are simply upholding the rule of law. They portray the hereditary chiefs as a small band of dissident troublemakers defying a court order.

But hereditary chiefs are not protesters—they are land defenders.

Learn more at [Andrew's Blog #4](#)

Petition: [Stop fuel subsidies](#)

Also see: [Calls for the federal government to regulate Canadian mining companies operating overseas](#)

Plastics

Plastic crisis needs binding treaty, [report says](#):

Pollution from plastics is a global emergency in need of a robust UN treaty, according to a report. The Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) says there's a cascade of evidence of harm from plastics. It argues that the plastic pollution threat is almost equivalent to climate change. The air we breathe now contains plastic micro particles, [there's plastic in Arctic snow](#), plastic in soils and plastic in our food.

Read more at [Andrew's Blog #6](#)

Also see [Environmental Journal](#)

Laudato Si' and the Synod

Carl Hétu, summarizes it perfectly: "My dear friends, our [Caritas Canada] roadmap has been laid out by Pope Francis, who invites us to journey with him in implementing *Laudato Si'* and in participating in the ongoing synod on Synodality. This is a crucial time for us Catholics to be part of the solution."



Calling for a new way of thinking, feeling, understanding and living
*The Laudato Si' Action Platform empowers
the universal Church and all people of good will to respond
to [Laudato Si'](#), Pope Francis' encyclical on caring for our common home.*

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE-TOGETHER

You are warmly invited to review the Planning Guide to find more information on reflecting on your values, strengthening your decision-making process, and creating your Laudato Si' Plan. As a first step in your journey to integral ecology, you are invited to complete your first annual self-assessment.

Go to <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/dashboard/> to take this step.

You will have to register

The Synod

Have you heard anything in your diocese or parish? In BC, The Diocese of Victoria, has just [posted](#) the Bishop's Pastoral Letter and a video (2 min 30 secs) and questionnaire.



The Archdiocese of Vancouver has a questionnaire that individuals can submit with the 5 questions listed below:

- 1: What helps or prevents you from being active in the Church's mission?
- 2: What areas of the Church's mission are we missing or neglecting?
- 3: What particular issues in the Church do we need to pay more attention to?
- 4: What particular issues in society do we need to pay more attention to?
- 5: How can we, the local Church, journey with our Indigenous sisters and brothers in a process of healing and reconciliation?

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(I suggest all OFS Fraternities discuss and submit their own diocese's questionnaire or one of the above. Also we are not bound by their questions and can pose/answer our own!).

Learn more at [Andrew's Blog #7](#)

Laudato Si'

“Mary, the Mother who cared for Jesus, now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world.” (Laudato Si’, 241, Pope Francis)



From Gospel to Life

And again I say to you: It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of heaven. - Matthew 19:24

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. - Psalm 96



**Photo by: Rachel Strong
on Unsplash**

OFS Rule & GC



Rule 5: Secular Franciscans, therefore, should seek to encounter the living and active person of Christ in their brothers and sisters, in Sacred Scripture, in the Church, and in liturgical activity. The faith of St. Francis, who often said, "I see nothing bodily of the Most High Son of God in this world except His most holy body and blood," should be the inspiration and pattern of their Eucharistic life.

Pope's Prayer Intention for February 2022

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For religious sisters and consecrated women

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

2022/02
FOR
RELIGIOUS
SISTERS AND
CONSECRATED
WOMEN

 Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network 



...the Pope asks them to continue finding new answers to the challenges of today and he thanks them “for what you are, for what you do, and for how you do it.”

... I can only imagine what it must have felt like for her in those tender moments when she first caressed the Son of God in her own arms, drinking in the fragrance of His presence.

In their own way, religious sisters and consecrated women continue to carry the sweet fragrance of Christ into the world. Walking in the footsteps of Mary, they are called to reveal the love and mercy of God to a broken world...

[READ MORE](#)

Prayer

Hail Mary, Mother of Mercy

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Hail Mary, Mother of Mercy,
our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To you, we cry, as children of God,
joined as one with our wounded world,
with hearts full of hope for a home transformed.
Mother of Creation,
look upon us we pray,
so we may come to see God's earthly garden
through the radiant light of wisdom.
Holy Mary, Mother of all,
make us worthy we pray,
to treasure the earth our common home,
and show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Amen.

This prayer is inspired by the Salve Regina. [CAFOD](#)

Film of the Month

Do Not Look Up



The threat of climate change itself is no longer a quiet threat. Maybe a blockbuster film will finally penetrate?

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“At the approach of danger there are always two voices that speak with equal power in the human soul: one very reasonably tells a man to consider the nature of the danger and the means of escaping it; the other, still more reasonably, says that it is too depressing and painful to think of the danger, since it is not in man’s power to foresee everything and avert the general course of events, and it is therefore better to disregard what is painful till it comes, and to think about what is pleasant. In solitude a man generally listens to the first voice, but in society to the second.” [Read the review](#) from *The Tyee*

A novena based on the Canticle



Novena to Saint Francis - For a world under threat

[CAFOD](#) has given us this novena series of videos (54 sec each). This novena is a song of penitence and praise, guiding us to care for the earth and for our most vulnerable sisters and brothers, especially the Amazon peoples. Use these video prayers for personal prayer. Each has four phases: Canticle; Amazon voice; penitential prayer; a plea for intercession.

The World Blessing 2022

from [Regeneration International](#)

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**154 Nations Sing in 257 Languages!
Hope & Unity in our divided world**



Echo #117

*« Les arbres des forêts dansent de joie
devant la face du Seigneur, car il vient,
pour gouverner le monde avec justice. »*

Psaume 95



Important Dates on the JPIC Calendar:

- + February 8 - [Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking](#)
- + February 20 - [World Day of Social Justice](#)
- + March 3 - [World Wildlife Day](#)
- + March 8 - [International Women's Day](#)
- + March 21 - [International Day of Forests](#)

**Other Recent Postings on
*Franciscan Voice Canada***

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- [Well4Africa Update - OFS Canada Rally](#) - Action
- [An Advent of resilience: the story of the hardy houses](#) (D&P)
- [Regulate Canadian mining companies operating overseas](#)
- [Big foreign oil intervenes in Canadian politics](#)
- [Guest Blog - Homily by Friar Ed Debono, OFM Conv.](#) - Action

Earlier Posts you may want to check:

- [Empowering Haitian Farmers - Investment in Local Food Systems](#)

Note the calls for "Action" in some of the postings

Editors: Andrew Conradi, ofs, Laudato Si' Animator, Laudato Si' Movement;
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Related Links

<u>About OFS</u>	<u>Fratelli Tutti</u>
<u>About JPIC</u>	<u>Fratelli Tutti Study Guide - Franciscan Media</u>
<u>FI & OFM JPIC</u>	<u>Joy of the Gospel</u>
<u>Development & Peace</u>	<u>Understanding JPIC - a Primer</u>
<u>CIOFS</u>	<u>The Franciscan Journey - JPIC Supplements</u>
<u>National Fraternity of Canada</u>	<u>Prayers</u>
<u>Laudato Si'</u>	

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