

the Common Good



Issue No 59, June 2022

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

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Franciscan Voice Canada acknowledges and thanks to 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.

**DOUBLE SPEAK
TRUTH or FALSEHOOD**

THE UKRAINIAN FLAG & PEACE SIGNS



A reader finds some of last month's content offensive. For those who may have thought the same Andrew offers some clarification. We continue to support what we have posted. [Read more at Andrew's Blog](#)

THE ROOT MEANING OF RELIGION AND RULE

Dan Horan OFM gives a definition of "religion" which leads us to think about our profession as OFS.

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

"UKRAINIAN GRAIN MUST NOT BE USED AS A WEAPON OF WAR"

"Of great concern," the Pope said, "is the blockade of grain exports from Ukraine, on which the lives of millions of people depend, especially in the poorest countries."

"I earnestly appeal for every effort to be made to resolve this issue and to guarantee the universal human right to food."

Read more at [Andrew's Blog](#) #4 and the [Vatican News](#)

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC PRELATE TO BE RECOGNIZED AS PATRIARCH?

There are six Eastern Catholic *patriarchates*: (1) the [Coptic Catholic Church](#), which is based in Egypt and is governed by the *patriarch* of Alexandria; (2, 3 & 4) three of Antioch, (one each for the Syrians, Maronites, and Greek Melkites); the [Chaldean Catholic Church](#), which is based in [Baghdad](#) and is governed by the *patriarch* of Babylon of the Chaldeans (5); and the [Armenian Catholic Church](#), which is based in Lebanon and is governed by the *katholikos* of Sis, or [Cilicia](#) (6).

But one Eastern Catholic Church, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church does not have a *Patriarch*. Instead it has a *Major Archbishop*. Why? So as not to offend the Russian Orthodox Church!

Read more at [Andrew's Blog #5](#)

PRAYER FOR THE AFFLICTED PEOPLE OF UKRAINE IN TIME OF WAR

“O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, we entreat You to hear the earnest prayer of **Your beloved Church of Kyivan Rus’ for her deeply afflicted children abiding in the land of Ukraine**. Behold their grave sorrow and grievous plight, and speedily come to their aid. Deliver Your vulnerable people from unjust aggressors, foreign invasion and the terror of war. **Strengthen courageous defenders of the nation to fight virtuously, inspired more by love of those they protect than hatred of the enemy. O compassionate Lord, shelter the displaced, heal the wounded, console the orphan, protect the widow, comfort those who mourn, and mercifully receive into Your Kingdom those who have nobly died guarding their homeland against every aggression. Quickly make cease the spilling of blood of friend and foe alike, yet stir many to bravely struggle for that true justice which alone can bring lasting peace. O kind-hearted Lord, as You are our peace, soften the hearts of the unmerciful and convert those who promote hostilities toward reconciliation, so that Your beloved children of the land of Ukraine, may abide in that tranquility, justice and freedom which reflects your Kingdom**, where You reign with Your eternal Father, and Your most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and forever and ever. Amen.”

SHIREEN ABU AKLEH
REPORTER KILLED BY ISRAELI FORCES



Photo source see [Al Jazeera](#)

Israeli forces shot Abu Akleh in the head while she was on assignment in Jenin in the occupied West Bank. Shireen Abu Akleh was a Palestinian American and a Greek-Melkite Catholic.

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

7. BIG TOBACCO: DID YOU KNOW?

As well as killing eight million people every year, the tobacco industry has a far bigger impact on the planet than many people realise. A new report from the World Health Organisation (WHO) released today [31 May 2022] details the destructive impact of this deadly industry on the environment and health of ordinary people.

Big tobacco is one of the biggest known polluters!

[Read more...](#)

8. FIRST NATIONS, INUIT & MÉTIS

B.C. FIRST NATIONS GROUPS URGE HALT TO NEW PIPELINES

In the middle of a climate emergency, and without the consent of the Secwépemc people, the federal government just approved a \$10 billion loan guarantee for TMX from the public purse.

The Liberal government is saying one thing, and doing another thing entirely. This news comes a mere two months after **they promised to put an end to fossil fuel subsidies and stop sinking taxpayer money into this climate-killing, Indigenous rights-trampling pipeline.**

[Read more](#) and [take action](#)

From Gospel to Life

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. (Matt 6:5 NRSV) “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.” (Matt 23:23 NRSV)

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” (Jas 1:22)



Photo by Rachel Strong on Unsplash



LS16: ...as the Encyclical unfolds... I will point to the intimate relationship between the poor and the fragility of the planet, the conviction that everything in the world

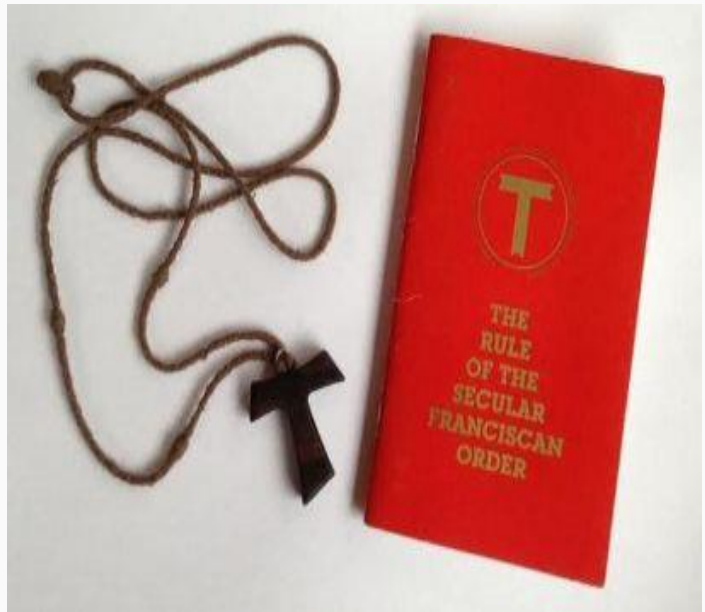
is connected, the critique of new paradigms and forms of power derived from technology, the call to seek other ways of understanding the economy and progress, the value proper to each creature, the human meaning of ecology, the need for forthright and honest debate, the serious responsibility of international and local policy, the throwaway culture and the proposal of a new lifestyle.

Action Taken: *One parish celebrated the 2022 Laudato Si' Week and Fair Trade Month by persuading the parish to (finally!) only use Fair Trade coffee, tea and sugar for its events, starting with after Mass coffee. Peace & joy, Andrew*

OFS Rule & GC

Rule 6.

They have been made living members of the Church by being buried and raised with Christ in baptism; they have been united more intimately with the Church by profession. Therefore, they should go forth as witnesses and instruments of her mission among all people, proclaiming Christ by their life and words.



Called like Saint Francis to rebuild the Church and inspired by his example, let them devote themselves energetically to living in full communion with the pope, bishops, and priests, fostering an open and trusting dialogue of apostolic effectiveness and creativity.

Guns: Promises Not Kept



Amid a rising gun homicide rate and a growing debate over what to do about it, The National's special series on gun violence takes a closer look at gun control laws. Some say they persecute, others say they protect, but in recent years the trend has been toward looser laws. - CBC National

Politicians are voted into power with the promise that they will act to reduce gun proliferation in Canada. As explained in the video, lawmakers move 5 steps forward then the next elected group retracts 6 steps and the current government is moving one step forward. The result is looser laws.

Our National Minister has recently written:

Dear Regional Ministers,

*You will have already received a copy of the letter that I sent to the Minister of Public Safety, the Honourable Marco Mendicino, regarding the strengthening of gun control laws in Canada. Attached is a template of this letter that I would invite you to circulate within your region and to ask local fraternities to also send a letter to Minister Mendicino to voice their support of this legislation. As bearers of peace, we can do no less. At a minimum, all that needs to be added to the letter is the **date**, along with the **name, position and signature of the sender**. Of course, you may wish to add or change the text to personalize the letter as needed. Clearly, more letters will have a greater impact on government officials than a single letter from the National Minister.*

Take action, send a letter to our leaders.

[Click here for a model letter to use.](#)

Pope's Prayer Intention for June 2022

For Families

We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

Reflection

For nearly two decades, we've said, 'make good choices!' to all six of our children on a regular basis. A counselor friend of mine once noted that sometimes even good people make bad choices, but the choice doesn't take away the worth of the person. Say, even when my tweens threw a ball in the house, minutes after I asked them not to, decapitating my Mary statue!

[Read more...](#)



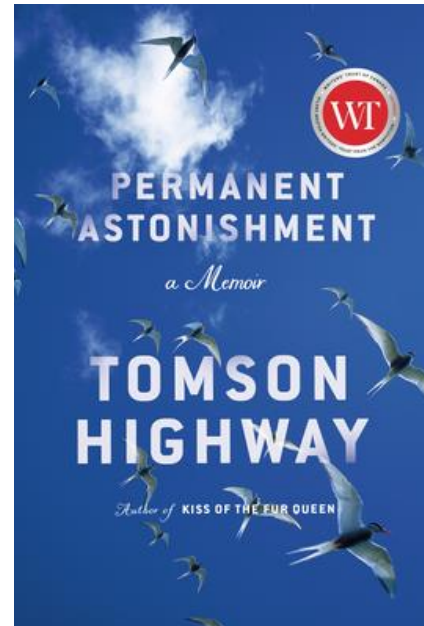
As Pope John Paul II reminds us, **“to maintain a joyful family requires much from both the parents and the children. Each member of the family has to become, in a special way, the servant of the others.”**

Book of the Month

Permanent Astonishment: A Memoir

by Tomson Highway

Tomson Highway was born in a snowbank on an island in the sub-Arctic, the eleventh of twelve children in a nomadic, caribou-hunting Cree family. Growing up in a land of ten thousand lakes and islands, Tomson relished being pulled by dogsled beneath a night sky alive with stars, sucking the juices from roasted muskrat tails, and singing country music songs with his impossibly beautiful older sister and her teenaged friends. Surrounded by the love of his family and the vast, mesmerizing landscape they called home, his was in many ways an idyllic far-north childhood. [See Andrew's Blog #10](#)



Father Maximilian Mary Dean - New Music



Father Maximilian Mary Dean is back with a brand new album, *Forgive*, in 2022. **This record, released in May, has some of the hottest Catholic songs of the year.** With a rich variety of genres, which change from song to song, the album is almost like a Catholic playlist, curated by a faithful hermit priest. [Hear more at Aleteia](#)

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE AN ARTICLE?

If you would like to contribute to *the Common Good* newsletter [contact us](#).

We appreciate different perspectives

Important Dates on the JPIC Calendar:

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

Other Recent Postings on *Franciscan Voice Canada*

- [The story of frei Luiz, friar and bishop in NE Brazil](#)
- [Islamophobia in Canada](#)
- [Holy Spirit Province Easter 2022](#)
- [Resilience: Death does not have the last word, life prevails - FI](#)
- [Easter Greetings from the Minister General OFM Conv](#)

Earlier Posts you may want to check:

- [Regulate Canadian mining companies operating overseas](#)
- ["The Franciscan Journey" JPIC Supplements - Formation](#)
- [Well4Africa Update - OFS Canada Rally - Action](#)

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

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