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**April 10, 2017 Holy Week**

**Calendar**

**April 10, 2017**continue praying the Hundred Day Prayer

**April 12, 2017** International Day for Street Children

**Taking Action**

**Holy Week**

As we enter this most sacred time of the liturgical year let us reflect on all the ways that the passion of Jesus continues. In the past few days images of those dying of chemical warfare appeared in the media. Look at a crucifix and picture those dying as they gasped for air just as Jesus must have done on the cross. Allow yourself to mourn for the inhumanity taking place. A photo appeared with an overlay of Christ carrying his cross, walking along the road with Syrian refugees exhausted and slightly bent with a bag or two tossed over their shoulders. A powerful image of how the body of Christ continues to suffer. See the Attached prayer of lamentation.

**Legislation to Repeal and Replace the Affordable Care Act**

The House continues to consider legislation to "repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The American Health Care Act proposes not only to make major changes to the insurance coverage provisions of the ACA—eliminating the individual and employer mandate, premium tax credits, and cost-sharing subsidies—but also to fundamentally restructure the Medicaid program.

**Take action:** <https://www.chausa.org/advocacy/contact-congress#/54>**.  Talking points and background materials, including a state-by-state estimate of the effects of a Medicaid Per Capita Cap are provided on this link.**

**US Bombing in Syria**

A petition for no military escalation in Syria is here:

<http://www.codepink.org/food_not_bombs_syria?utm_campaign=syria_bombing_3&utm_medium=email&utm_source=codepink#_=_>

**Protect Public Media**

The President’s budget proposes eliminating public media funding. Without this critical seed funding, our local stations may be forced to go off-air or cut the programs we love and the public services our community rely on. We could lose access to local programming, educational content for children, emergency communication services, trusted news, and more.

Join me and act now to save our local stations. Sign the petition urging Congress to continue essential funding for our stations at **<http://protectmypublicmedia.org/>**

**Information/Reflection**

***We are the women taking a stand***

***against violence to the universe,***

***to each other, to ourselves.***

***(Jeanne Cools, CSJ)***

**Good News!**  
SB 6, SB 31, and SB 54 all passed in the California Senate where we seriously doubted they could.  We would not have convinced the "worried middle" Senators had you not spoken out so clearly.All three of the bills upholding the protections and rights for immigrants have passed. YOU did this.  Your witness for Muslims, for all immigrants, for due process and legal assistance, all have passed.  
  
**Genetically Modified Foods Labeling**

The House of Representatives voted on Thursday to require the labeling of foods that contain genetically engineered ingredients, clearing the bill’s [final obstacle](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/07/business/gmo-labeling-bill-passes-first-hurdle-in-senate.html) before it heads to the White House, where President Obama is expected to sign it into law.

“Today’s vote is a resounding victory not only for consumers and common sense but also for the tremendous coalition of agricultural and food organizations that came together in unprecedented fashion to get this solution passed,” said Pamela G. Bailey, chief executive of the Grocery Manufacturers Association.

**Helping the Homeless in Hawaii**

In Hawai`i the goal is to assist families with children experiencing homelessness and helping them to transition into sustainable independence. Many churches and temples offer secure places to stay and meals a week at a time until families are placed in homes. Many of our Sisters and `Ohana members on O`ahu participate in Family Promise—setting up facilities, donating supplies, providing and serving meals, being with the families who are their guests for supper.

**Resources**

**An excellent resource on the military escalation in Syria by Ann Wright and Media Benjamin is here:**

<http://www.alternet.org/world/end-war-syria>

**The International Day for Street Children:**

Louder Together was launched on 12th April 2011, to give a louder voice to the millions of street children all around the world so their rights cannot be ignored.

All but two countries (those being the USA and South Sudan) have signed AND ratified the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx) and have a legal obligation to work towards ensuring that all children’s rights are integrated into national law. It is universally recognized that all children should have these rights realized; however many government policies and practices still do not include street children. Find out more about the Day, and the issues, from the [International Day for Street Children website](http://www.streetchildrenday.org/).