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**April 24, 2017**

**Calendar**

**Save the date**

**April 28, 2017** Arbor Day

**April 29, 2017** People’s Climate March

**April 30, 2019 Last 100 Days Prayer**

**Taking Action**

**Make Everyday Earth Day**

Although Earth Day in official celebrated each year on a specific day in April it is time to make every day a day to care for the earth. Ask yourself: *How does this decision/action affect the Earth Community?[[1]](#footnote-1)* In the words of Pope Francis: “*Creation is a gift, it is the marvelous gift that God has given us, so that we will take care of it and harness it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude.”*

This Friday is Arbor Day. Walk outside or in a park and spend time with a tree or trees and marvel at the beauty. Touch the bark and feel the texture, observe the shades of color. Give thanks to the Creator for the gift of trees.

**Advocating to protect our Planet and Our Health**

Commemorate Earth Day this week by advocating to protect our planet and our health – stand up for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Contact your representatives and tell them to reject any cuts to the EPA.

<https://secure2.edf.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&id=2923&page=UserAction&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=edf_transition_upd_dmt&utm_medium=social-media&utm_id=1489585062&cg=true>

Learn about HR861- a bill introduced to terminate the EPA by December, 2018  <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/861>

Tell your representative to oppose HR 861 <https://www.addup.org/campaigns/tell-congress-to-defend-the-epa>

**Eroding of Overtime Protections**
The “Working Families Flexibility Act” (HR 1180)―also referred to as the comp time bill―would erode basic overtime protections for working people. The bill would allow employers to delay paying any wages for overtime work for as long as 13 months.

Most low- or moderate-wage working people whose paychecks are not enough, would always prefer to work extra hours to receive extra pay. **Under comp time, these employees give up their right to overtime earnings in exchange for the promise of future time off (but with no guarantee of taking leave when they need it).**

If you click on this link you can email your letter to your representative.
[**Write or call (202 224-3121) your Representative today and tell them to reject the “Working Families Flexibility Act,” which steals overtime from working people and erodes basic worker protections.**](http://epi.us4.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=ec2361f981a14ee1d45cccaa9&id=b6047925dd&e=d20c84e935)

**Information/Reflection**

**Women of Today**

**We are the essential piece**

 **of the pattern, yet remain on**

**the underside**

**(Jeanne Cools, CSJ)**

**People’s Climate March**

On April 29th, in Washington, DC, and in “sister marches” around the country, the church will go out to the streets and pray with our feet for creation and the poor in the [People’s Climate March](https://catholicclimatemovement.global/april-29/). Will you join us “sister marches”? Click here “[sister march](https://peoplesclimate.org/#map)” to find a march near you!

**U.S. Coal Companies Ask Trump to Stick With Paris Climate Deal**

Some big American coal companies have advised President Donald Trump's administration to break his promise to pull the United States out of the Paris Climate Agreement - arguing that the accord could provide their best forum for protecting their global interests.   Read more:<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-coal-idUSKBN1762YY>

**A Matter of Wildlife and Death**
Two weeks ago, President Trump signed a House/Senate resolution that overturns a Fish and Wildlife Service rule banning "predator control" on or near federal wildlife refuges in Alaska. Activities now allowed on those refuges include shooting or trapping wolves while in their dens with pups, killing bear cubs or mothers with cubs, and hunting for grizzly bears from airplanes.

To get more information and to take action click below.
[The Trump administration's policies will hurt a lot of people, but it isn't just humans who will suffer.](http://click.emails.sierraclub.org/?qs=072bf421142af6f29fa87990eeba881519f1e2b19d008cb34cc134b1407ce9008f5c9cb05a31dddf88ac32922d4cba6aeeac62e021a4201d)

**Resources**

**Resources for Celebrating Arbor Day**

[Celebration Ideas at arborday.org](https://www.arborday.org/celebrate/celebration-ideas.cfm)

**Justice for Immigrants Partners and Friends,**

 “Faces of Migration” stories at this link <http://justiceforimmigrants.org/faces-of-migration/stories-of-migration/> with your networks.

**10 Myths About Immigration in the United States**

Some resources:
 <<http://www.tolerance.org/article/sources-ten-myths-about-immigration>>

<http://www.truthdig.com/images/reportuploads/Immigration_Myths_590.jpg>

1. Quote from the St. Joseph of Carondelet’s 2013 Congregational Acts of Chapter [↑](#footnote-ref-1)