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**November 20, 2017**

**CALENDAR**

**Save the date**

**November 20** Universal Children’s Day

**November 23**  Thanksgiving Day

**December 2** Anniversary of the El Salvadorian Martyrs

**December 6-17** National Events to End Gun Violence

**2018**

**January 8-17** National Migration Week

**January 23** Walk for Life

***Be a Voice for the voiceless***

***by***

**TAKING ACTION**

**Yesterday was the World Day of the Poor**

World Day of the Poor is celebrated on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, observed by Roman Catholics since 2017. It was established by Pope Francis in his Apostolic Letter Misericordia et Misera issued on 20 November 2016 to celebrate the end of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. See attached his message.

**Tell Your Senators to Oppose Repeal of the Individual Mandate**

The Senate Finance Committee will soon release tax legislation that includes a repeal of the individual mandate under the Affordable Care Act. As you know, the individual mandate is a vital factor in the ACA to help broaden the individual insurance market and spread costs among various populations, as well as helping to lower the rate of nonelderly uninsured from 44 million in 2013 to 28 million last year.

A vote on the Senate floor could come as soon as the last week of November, and Senate leadership hopes to pass a bill by early December. Read an analysis from the [Congregational Budget Office](https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/115th-congress-2017-2018/reports/53300-individualmandate.pdf)

**Take Action:** *Contact your Senators and urge them to* ***oppose any legislation that includes a repeal of the individual mandate under the ACA.*** **By email** click [here](https://www.chausa.org/advocacy/contact-congress#/), or **Call the Congressional Switchboard at 202-224-3121** and ask to be connected to your Senators

**Tell Congress: Oppose the Israel Anti-Boycott Act**

Earlier this month leaders representing 17 Christian organizations sent a [letter](http://capwiz.com/pcusa/utr/1/OOTPBAOTYSX/JQCBBAPAHDJ/11596183051) to all members of Congress calling on them to oppose the Israel Anti-Boycott Act which was introduced in both the House and the Senate in March. The bills ([H.R. 1697](http://capwiz.com/pcusa/utr/1/OOTPBAOTYSX/LCGVBAPAHDK/11596183051) and [S.720](http://capwiz.com/pcusa/utr/1/OOTPBAOTYSX/DVSSBAPAHDL/11596183051)) are part of a larger effort to outlaw or penalize the use of boycotts, divestment, and sanctions aimed at unjust Israeli policies.

“As U.S. Christian churches and organizations committed to justice and peace in the Middle East,” the leaders wrote, “we are deeply concerned by the introduction of the “Israel Anti-Boycott Act” in the Senate (S.720) and in the House (H.R.1697). This legislation, if adopted, would put legal obstacles in the way of nonviolent peaceful action meant to bring about social change, and would legislate against the freedom to make choices in the stewardship of our financial resources. The bills also conflate Israel and the settlements, erasing the important distinction between Israel and its illegal settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.”

**Click** [**here**](http://capwiz.com/pcusa/utr/1/OOTPBAOTYSX/MVROBAPAHDM/11596183051) **to contact your members of congress today!**

**Equitable Food Initiative.**

During this season of harvest and gratitude, we are reflecting on all that we have to be thankful for. From the farmworkers engaged in producing the food we'll share in our Thanksgiving meals to the amazing partners that have joined us in transforming agriculture, we've got a bounty of thanks to give! Thank you for being part of the movement to improve the lives of farmworkers.

Consumer demand is a critical part of the equation in the EFI Program.

Please help us thank our two participating retailers, Costco Wholesale and Whole Foods Market, by shopping at their stores. While in the store, take a moment to thank the store manager or produce manager for his or her commitment to programs like EFI (Equitable Food Initiative.)

**INFORMATION/REFLECTION**

**Whenever we set out to love Jesus, we have to take the Lord as our example, especially when it comes to loving the poor.**

**Pope Francis First World Day of the Poor 33rd sunday**

**Senators Introduce Assault Weapons Ban**(November 8, 2017) from Senator Feinstein

“We’re introducing an updated Assault Weapons Ban for one reason: so that after every mass **shooting with a military-style assault weapon, the American people will know that a tool to** reduce these massacres is sitting in the Senate, ready for debate and a vote.” **To read the full press release,** [**CLICK HERE**](https://outreach.senate.gov/iqextranet/iqClickTrk.aspx?&cid=SenFeinstein&crop=19958.222475206.158191038.9778396&report_id=&redirect=https%3a%2f%2fwww.feinstein.senate.gov%2fpublic%2findex.cfm%2fpress-releases%3fID%3d8B3E8400-766E-4B5E-B59B-C800BB52A973&redir_log=603282579218630)

**Political leaders make the case for stronger action on climate**

During the first day of the 8th Sustainable Innovation Forum, international energy and environment ministers have urged the global community to act faster and stronger to make the transition to a low-carbon economy.

**RESOURCES**

**Prom Pax Christi**

Good resources on the Vatican conference and the Nuclear Ban Treaty:

[Pope condemns possession of nuclear weapons in shift from church's acceptance of deterrence](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zP1_PNsVKb1gSd-JOvtQ_z1DundZeumvHc6DV183xHLeF__8WA_1phweBtsDe4WiW5Yehtk4fdg9Pqm88B8H2nbyIwb_kmVjARYpvyNAn7uK1H5sjWEVEyLlXOHvI3pmavf5s7OulPlHQYotyrMgCVIId0CK9ltjgqfbSwtTQMs2Y336-xUqqXRIkfLqHXW8EomlZPFxw-jLx2fl74go7J0J9JNwTBc0qaVhstbZeya0kJqSzz2YKbWcWpcUrlBhKyS0_VjjRllxRlqwFC_lLESOmI9stJvkdza8rcg0Kzg=&c=nfsR6c3MdaiRHFPFK0ImfRd08OjnvSKU75RzgAtz_2Cb2WxyxKfkoQ==&ch=mM8HsT6itXKAf2AOfop4ejWZtX3sNorlw-ZUetMlDUv2Cgee2QzDtQ==), National Catholic Reporter, 11-10-17

[Full text - U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zP1_PNsVKb1gSd-JOvtQ_z1DundZeumvHc6DV183xHLeF__8WA_1phweBtsDe4WiWi5_rd8XjB7aL1xnBwn-WSYGfFchTVndQ73KHy5ilb4XX9eGzdmUbLPS-ua3VLmv5mdl5Uguu1jG_OFqbchTjbmCQjiNLsh1NPP_wGqjeLVytn6NOi0YjSqEPW6Di62LzOdX4p6P_IQMQY-Jfyah7Ncm6NADl79AMdYeuWhS9gU=&c=nfsR6c3MdaiRHFPFK0ImfRd08OjnvSKU75RzgAtz_2Cb2WxyxKfkoQ==&ch=mM8HsT6itXKAf2AOfop4ejWZtX3sNorlw-ZUetMlDUv2Cgee2QzDtQ==)

[Pax Christi International info sheet on the Vatican conference](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zP1_PNsVKb1gSd-JOvtQ_z1DundZeumvHc6DV183xHLeF__8WA_1phweBtsDe4WidzbPfq7fnzChLS1RFM0jplVVcb_qTruFE5zfw529_umSzd145HFlbkXItVR5zZYMcSYuv2eONixu3kRtp7vDxVBM9zo_NVFx5eO3D6D9P9Cvzvz3JRh_Fh1aKTI6itzAli94EkOdbt5YROXIq30Xa3w7N9MB60bp3VMYJUkxw24jHuYt3_rnhw==&c=nfsR6c3MdaiRHFPFK0ImfRd08OjnvSKU75RzgAtz_2Cb2WxyxKfkoQ==&ch=mM8HsT6itXKAf2AOfop4ejWZtX3sNorlw-ZUetMlDUv2Cgee2QzDtQ==)

**Two Articles from NCR worth reading**

[**Bishop McElroy sees 'a cultural crisis in our body politic'**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NjiVHqbkpxBoey3KXnVMG63kSqXIUoKgZuFSQMI88Rkg4DHzUwS3e1WYwZRISIwiDpNJtfl3vWY5TGiRlMQiRhM29elIbwuQ2DZAJBmye2dbNlC-TSy0yQ-CByoY2bq8SghwDtUAbYqQNbMWpxKHUa4zV3YB4xa65DJ8LYezwUVJ1Y5-M1OkkKpyLIj9dZiAiXP4eCtPDUViAheNoth3pZzwXXuhjRaz1irpkRTFkAY633-cZwxVcXZUPiHold-wnk3ufuSnZLBVoFvuNLgcoHIQEU9tT29KRdWSlacMOzajUW2TwbQefQ==&c=zfaCMZ8dTN2pgS9OWAnWBJ4Ck4eiPIeaP7_kX2_zw3toub0H71px6A==&ch=WM1ZH0TG40XQaW8qf1rc6Pt_Slku7E8Yqd3sRSKHMH-9gfsCHjVYoA==)

[**Editorial: To stop gun violence, get organized and get vocal**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001N_PKECSKi22bq0Kahm-2LnIK51Jfz3kMe-CYsDgCG5b0BT33PXt_MOd9m7-vYNVefw1w5Hi0PDe7ANei7ES1rfgYzCL4AOrjgGW3bABig2j4c55EWqLWgpzgoy8U6aJH-bJZD-qTGykCOEet9kF2Oe9R-6a3P-zfbvwbpYV4Vb2is2m1LLZ1tM3Q6kDG-AXRgKgjNAbDZPGUOQP2Rn5Kd6JRF88MlY0AW3KPRMXpOQaS7nCCV67cZQMwCxRsISZtN3HXJG5uDq5ktnuj6Ig8QPrpXKfCYlnKOR8RvCxOtwWfL73ac9LdTKgW9gLlDBRPEsyZEcjSouOyvZJHupZyHg==&c=UjmQITb-HbJyaAxs_NoO6x--9oVxWH8ycZvIBzfeUC_IyteYP2Va-w==&ch=6bMXBHXZtE6DQaXoPpfnUT_0uzKsolgYvp3VmNLEHWSlTl2aLTDxnQ==)

**How to transform apocalypse fatigue into action on global warming**

15:00 minutes · TEDGlobal>NYC

The biggest obstacle to dealing with climate disruptions lies between your ears, says psychologist and economist Per Espen Stokes. He's spent years studying the defenses we use to avoid thinking about the demise of our planet -- and figuring out a new way of talking about global warming that keeps us from shutting down. Step away from the doomsday narratives and learn how to make caring for the earth feel personable, do-able and empowering with this fun, informative talk.

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| [Watch now »](https://ted.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=07487d1456302a286cf9c4ccc&id=dfb65e589c&e=21df47c728) |