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**March 18, 2019**

 ***“Today I would like to ask that St Joseph grant all of us the ability to dream because when we dream great things, good things, we draw near to God’s dream, what God dreams about us. That he might give to those who are young people — because he was young — the ability to dream, to take risks and to take on the difficult tasks seen in their dreams. And that he might give to all the fidelity that generally matures in upright behavior, since he was just, which grows in silence—in few words--and grows in that tenderness which is capable of safeguarding one’s own weaknesses and those of others”.*** (Pope Francis 20 March 2017: Morning homily, Casa Santa Marta)

**CALENDAR**

***March***

***Women’s History Month***

**March 19 St. Joseph’s Day**

**March 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

***April***

**April 22 Earth Day**

**TAKING ACTION**

***Death Penalty S22uspended In California***

Gov. Gavin Newsom suspended the death penalty in California, calling it discriminatory and immoral, and is granting reprieves to the 737 condemned inmates on the nation’s largest Death Row.

“I do not believe that a civilized society can claim to be a leader in the world as long as its government continues to sanction the premeditated and discriminatory execution of its people,” Newsom said in a statement accompanying an executive order, declaring a moratorium on capital punishment in the state. “The death penalty is inconsistent with our bedrock values and strikes at the very heart of what it means to be a Californian.”

Please write or call to thank him:

Governor Gavin Newsom

1303 10th Street, Suite 1173

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (916) 445-2841

Fax: (916) 558-3160

***Support Muslim Families in New Zealand***

I just signed the campaign: Send Love & Solidarity to the Muslim Families of New Zealand: Pledge to Fight White Nationalism . Each of us can help build the momentum we need to bring about a more just world.

Will you join me by taking action on this campaign?

<https://action.groundswell-mvmt.org/petitions/send-a-message-of-love-solidarity-to-the-muslim-families-of-christchurch>

***Dream Act***

Immigrant youth from United We Dream went to the US Capitol for the introduction of the Dream & Promise Act - a bill which would protect over 2 million immigrant youth and people who were protected by the TPS and DED programs.

The Dream & Promise Act builds upon the Dream Act legacy of helping people without hurting people. This bill would protect millions of people, including youth who moved to the United States before they turned 18 and adults with TPS and DED who’ve called this country their home for decades. Right now, we need everyone and their moms, their aunties, their cousins and their neighbors to demand that their Representatives support for the Dream & Promise Act!

[**Call Now**](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/mpss/c/CQE/ni0YAA/t.2pu/xjYY_7iSRnuK3048GuPEgQ/h0/kJ-2FqaMIXSaXVOQuFQVtJvNT7o2ee1OG2ycLWC1oC-2Fpdsmc-2BXaEgicL-2B6MxrK1g70r3MKFCeCUIhymk6CNEPIERMHwl9Zqbx9WJyyikjGHZ8mtuh163V-2B2xbRlts-2Fg3MrFLWh-2BoZ6yjTawFDU8KofzoMIxFL-2F2OpTJEO9obwJTtM1PViAvhbW9X-2BuiKDrSreaw1Vs4jthJXF6JLNbgs9BO6l4R7jFK-2FvJYH4oqfqw0-2BuC6AH32lbgN27-2BrJUnBZw7822-2BMBHILdTxRZ-2BgHpPXbmlroEKtgDyvku5X-2BrV1SUZtsDK-2BlPrbD9ssaHa6aV1wnQRB6oTRvyWEcamvOXvuog-3D-3D)

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| ***Ask the Department of Homeland Security to Rescind the "Remain in Mexico" Policy and Support Asylum Seekers by Following Existing Law***In January 2019, the Department of Homeland Security issued new [policy](http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/utr/1/FWICBBWCUVW/BUFVBBWCUWQ/11822329446) guidance for "Migrant Protection Protocols." On March 4, 2019, the Texas and Mexico Border bishops issued a [statement](http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/utr/1/FWICBBWCUVW/MQPOBBWCUWR/11822329446) voicing disagreement with the recent "Remain in Mexico" policy. Expressing their deep concern over the policy, the bishops noted: "We appeal to governments, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that they not adopt policies that have the effect of increasing the suffering of the most vulnerable." On March 13th, Bishop Joe Vasquez of Austin, Texas, Chairman of USCCB Committee on Migration along with Sean Callahan CEO of Catholic Relief Services released a [statement of solidarity](http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/utr/1/FWICBBWCUVW/JSPMBBWCUWS/11822329446) with the Texas-Mexico Border bishops regarding the human consequences of this policy.Under the Remain in Mexico policy, certain asylum seekers, including families, are sent back to Mexico to wait throughout the duration of their immigration court proceedings in the U.S, which could take months in which people are living in dangerous and inadequate conditions.  As Catholics, we affirm the inherent dignity of every person and the ability of families to seek security and safety for themselves and family members. For this reason, the U.S. Catholic Bishops oppose the Remain in Mexico policy and ask that the Department of Homeland Security act now to revoke the policy and provide immediate protection and the authorization to remain in the United States to asylum seekers while they apply for adjudication of their asylum claims.TAKE ACTION! Please click [here](http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/utr/1/FWICBBWCUVW/NHKZBBWCUWV/11822329446) to contact the Department of Homeland Security and ask they rescind the Remain in Mexico policy and instead support asylum seekers by sending the following message: |

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**INFORMATION**

***DUBLIN* —**Weekly strikes by schoolchildren protesting over the threat posed by climate change are set to escalate March 15 in Ireland. Thousands of students are expected to assemble outside the Dáil Éireann, the Irish house of parliament, as part of a global day of action aimed at pressuring governments to act to save the planet before it is too late.

Since last December, a steady flow of students, as well as some teachers, parents and grandparents, have kept a weekly vigil in the center of Dublin as part of Swedish student Greta Thunberg's #FridaysForFuture movement. The 16-year-old staged the very first strike in August 2018 outside the Parliament House in Stockholm. The last week of February, a group of more than 200 students showed up in Dublin chanting, "We are unstoppable — another world is possible."

[***Importance of legislation highlighted at gender equality event***](http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/lnmSCCjbkDDhdcoPCieHdeCicNUrQX?format=multipart)

Representatives from a number of countries this week highlighted the importance of legal and social protections for women and girls at the 63rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Participants spoke about new legislation their countries were passing on gender discrimination, maternity leave and social protections for women.

***According to a UN report*** countries will not meet the internationally agreed goal to minimise the adverse impacts of chemicals and waste by 2020.

The second Global Chemicals Outlook, presented at the UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, has revealed that the current chemical production capacity of 2.3 billion tonnes, valued at US$5 trillion annually, is expected to double by 2030.

The UN recognise the importance of chemicals in the 21st century, being found across a wide array of industries. However, unless sound management of chemicals and waste is achieved worldwide, the predicted increase in chemical production will have negative effects on human health and economies.

**RESOURCES**

***A Resource from NETWORK***

[**The Origins of the Racial Wealth and Income Gap**](http://cqrcengage.com/networklobby/app/thru?ep=AAAAC2Flc0NpcGhlcjAxg_tdSnbbjJdXjXjpq8jpijtchIcCaFVNCj4-o1UtSCaNvvtcPJ4oDKCKJsjVBgcFYQrhUwku3IPBKT2N3UHOlBD4AXa6_jP9fJd-wFc1VXnRsBygarkXTsP0Ioa7Cg3shV5LEeQyNafiKtDQf94ZkA0eSWSW6ZM1LXoPbPc9Z3wZR-8pBcmOIEWzsIaIjHk5&lp=0)
Click here to [*download a PDF*](http://cqrcengage.com/networklobby/app/thru?ep=AAAAC2Flc0NpcGhlcjAx-ExmwNiSAEBIJEGqI64EalKBVqpV5vs-sNhvHpbn9_kuC34A0WOPHTvKGSF-vABCblQFu0Bzcf1hD474CGF3MmWzs5VZmXwxPGJuMRIF-twDMc7YUdx5frv5U4WJlyw7vwAwUmOuQekSxoDrTkb34FtkN-J0PSMx31TaUpt60y23NLkgornowKWvKU3zUJLZqPpd1KAk913WsH1e06CbglOsFg0VP_HeU8K62mZ_GSI-VYT-3iiO8shyna9yEcQ-&lp=0)

***Where did the Moon come from? A new theory***

The Earth and Moon are like identical twins, made up of the exact same materials -- which is really strange, since no other celestial bodies we know of share this kind of chemical relationship. What's responsible for this special connection? Looking for an answer, planetary scientist and MacArthur "Genius" Sarah T. Stewart discovered a new kind of astronomical object -- a synestia -- and a new way to solve the mystery of the Moon's origin.

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| [Watch now »](https://ted.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=07487d1456302a286cf9c4ccc&id=083691c5d2&e=21df47c728) |

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| [***What Can Make Displaced People More Vulnerable to Extremism?***](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=7665cfe2f6f8738d55a99d5066b2735f240e7f87028056f8a3508a2732b0b136215f758031f5ec93fdeb86e07cd54a4f5d14f8ab2c1b5c3b)As the international community works to prevent new generations of extremism in war-torn regions, a new USIP study from Afghanistan notes the importance of specific conditions faced by displaced people—and it offers indications suggesting the importance for policy of supporting early interventions to prevent radicalization.  |

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| [Read the analysis](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=7665cfe2f6f8738dc51c76f6882e95831b518457546eb4ba09b15002883ad2a75ffe4bfbfd6d5caf27cf8232b46081a1023e828b7afb200d) |

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