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**May 6, 2019**

**"I wonder how the foreign policies of the United States would look if we wiped out the national boundaries of the world, at least in our minds, and thought of all children everywhere as our own." Harold Zinn**

-Howard Zinn **May**

**May 6 Ramadan Begins**

**May 7 Teacher’s appreciation Day**

**May 15 International Day of Families**

**May 17 Bus Tour to end Child Poverty**

**May 17 Endangered Species Day**

**May 21 World Day of Cultural Diversity**

**May 22 International Day of Biological Diversity**

**May 24 Climate Strike on anniversary of Laudato Si’**

**May 25 African Liberation Day**

**May 29 International day of UN Peacekeepers**

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**TAKING ACTION**

Be a voice for the voiceless  
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***End Child Poverty***

We are invited to stand in solidarity at the 2nd stop of the Bus Tour to End Child Poverty in California.  An event that will address child poverty on Friday, May 17 at 1:30 p.m. (see attached).  This event will take place in Los Angeles near Mount St. Mary’s University, Doheny Campus.

We are being asked to be a presence as we greet the bus that will include Governor Gavin Newson and other elected officials at St. John's Well Child and Family Center (5701 S. Hoover St)

This is event to bring awareness of the child poverty -a moral crisis in our state. California has the highest rate of child poverty in the country - one in five.   To learn more about the “End Child Poverty in California” plan, click [here](https://www.endchildpovertyca.org/)

***Make Gun Violence Prevention a Priority (GVP)***

We are hoping candidates will make GVP a priority in their campaign. A recent [CNN poll](http://cdn.cnn.com/cnn/2019/images/04/29/rel6a.-.2020.democrats.pdf) (page 11) showed that 65% of Democrats/Democratic-leaning independents who are registered to vote strongly support taking executive action if Congress fails to pass stricter gun laws. Gun control was ranked 3rd after climate change and healthcare yet many candidates do not have it listed it as one of their primary issues on their websites.

Click [**HERE**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1hl-lgUFPzWOcU2xUEiO1E2Ivop_enAfRBzld-gKYfeE/edit?usp=sharing) to view our list of presidential candidate's stance on an assault weapons ban and other gun control policies. We will continue to track their gun control stance.

If you have NOT done so yet, we encourage your organization to officially join the Campaign Against Assault Weapons by signing up [HERE](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfZGQgfvtbcBVJIj9QESSx8jY5fh4a2EiDt8dkZNl_kEuXfTA/viewform).

***Preserve Bristol Bay***

Pebble Mine is a massive, open-pit gold and copper mine being planned for the headwaters of Alaska's Bristol Bay. It would threaten the largest sockeye salmon fishery in the world and hurt wildlife like grizzly bears, moose, and unique freshwater seals that live in nearby Iliamna Lake. To take action click on the link below.  
  
[**To preserve Bristol Bay and its natural riches, and to defend the way of life of the Alaskan tribes that rely on it, we have to stop this disastrous mine.**](https://click.everyaction.com/k/6554004/60032022/-1061269020?nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9DQkQvQ0JELzEvNjE0MjkiLA0KICAiRGlzdHJpYnV0aW9uVW5pcXVlSWQiOiAiZDQ2YWUzMjEtZWU2Zi1lOTExLWI0OWUtMjgxODc4MzkxZWZiIiwNCiAgIkVtYWlsQWRkcmVzcyI6ICJkc21pdGhAY3NqbGEub3JnIg0KfQ%3D%3D&hmac=l586voeUwoUccjoRq5PsEuO8jPJXbsUdHA4dfvUyBA4=&sourceid=1005295&utm_source=action&utm_medium=email&emci=345a9d97-3f6c-e911-b49e-281878391efb&emdi=d46ae321-ee6f-e911-b49e-281878391efb&ceid=650609&contactdata=wnpimz1lwpNbcoziw47V5jsg4k0zhX5Wj9nwrrbpL%2FplyRjVYN03BQzFo4AWA3xxhZXkrhrTlIGU6888QccW58inlRDg2SKANpsWMmECoxZxqdCD%2BpocZvMGCdT3Gdq6d4pWh8FiZ2haFKgYPqxtIvwez39oGZm68y7RkH6KPzAjNSSuukdpsBCInReaMQpj)  
  
Although the Environmental Protection Agency has determined that Pebble Mine presents unacceptable risks to the Bristol Bay watershed, the Trump administration is rushing the mine toward approval.

***Plan an Earth Day Strike***

Climate strikes everywhere are calling the world to wake up. **The momentum is growing, and it’s being driven by young people**. Young people know their future is at stake. Older generations are joining them in the spirit of love and solidarity that we need to solve this crisis.

**Host a climate strike on May 24.** It can be a walk around your parish, a gathering at the local community center, or a march to your local government office.

**If you can’t join a strike in person, consider supporting it symbolically** by setting aside time to read from Laudato Si’, write a letter to your elected representative, or making a [donation](https://gccm.nationbuilder.com/r?u=OTMHrcF-sOx-lBzEt1GffuFdcAg04vewGY5oVTZeYO4a1aguy04Y68cpCG7kTrUO&e=dfe9d5feb5ca73dca3588e6a7e5c37fd&utm_source=gccm&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=strike_en&n=2&v=414) to support GCCM’s media and resource needs for the strike

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**INFORMATION/RESOURCES**

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[***Israel, Palestinians implement cease-fire after spike in violence***](http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/lvqdCCjbkDDhoRBhCieHdeCicNsErL?format=multipart)

A cease-fire negotiated by Egyptian officials between Israel and the Palestinians has silenced the border in Gaza after three days of intense violence, which led to a number of fatalities. United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres voiced his concern over the escalation and on Sunday called for "all parties to exercise maximum restraint, immediately de-escalate and return to the understandings of the past few months."

[***1M species threatened by economic growth, climate change***](http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/lvqdCCjbkDDhoSajCieHdeCicNKSqo?format=multipart)

One million species around the world may become extinct due to the combination of global economic growth and climate change, according to a report by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. "This loss is a direct result of human activity and constitutes a direct threat to human well-being in all regions of the world," says the report, written by experts from 50 countries.

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Data Hits *Highlight Significant Contributions of Immigrants, Child Poverty Disparities in California***  Data Hits by Senior Policy Analyst Sara Kimberlin and Policy Analyst Kayla Kitson highlight that California's immigrants make significant contributions to the state economy:  [California’s Undocumented Immigrants Make Significant Contributions to State and Local Revenues](https://calbudgetcenter.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=17ca1da24a57bcb636baacea4&id=7a3fee7d71&e=83159a043d)  [Half of All California Workers Are Immigrants or Children of Immigrants](https://calbudgetcenter.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=17ca1da24a57bcb636baacea4&id=2977e4e2e1&e=83159a043d)  Data Hits from Senior Policy Analyst Alissa Anderson discuss the prevalence of child poverty in California and highlight the startling poverty disparities among children of color and children of immigrants:  [If the Poverty Rate for Children of Color Were as Low as That for White Children, 957,000 Fewer Kids Would Be in Poverty](https://calbudgetcenter.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=17ca1da24a57bcb636baacea4&id=79d0f76c19&e=83159a043d)  [Among Working Families, Children of Immigrants Are Far More Likely to Live in Poverty Than Other Children](https://calbudgetcenter.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=17ca1da24a57bcb636baacea4&id=22d0662648&e=83159a043d)  [Families With Children Are Significantly More Likely to Live in Poverty in California Than in the Rest of the US](https://calbudgetcenter.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=17ca1da24a57bcb636baacea4&id=11dfbb8f97&e=83159a043d)    ***A Teacher’s Wage***  EPI’s newest report on the teacher weekly wage penalty shows that teachers were paid 21.4 percent less in weekly wages than similar college graduates in 2018, after accounting for education, experience, and other factors that affect earnings. According to EPI’s Lawrence Mishel and University of California economist Sylvia Allegretto, teachers’ benefit packages only partially mitigate the wage penalty, which reached a record high in 2018. Arizona, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Colorado—four of the states with the highest wage penalties—were among the states where teacher protests occurred last year, drawing national attention to the crisis. [**Read the report »**](https://epi.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=ec2361f981a14ee1d45cccaa9&id=dc9d262f97&e=d20c84e935)  ***Your Support does Matter***  Thank you for your support of the Religious Sisters Should Vote at the Synod campaign last October (<https://action.groundswell-mvmt.org/petitions/catholic-women-religious-should-vote-at-the-synod>). Your signature and engagement in spreading the word contributed to the success of our petition! | | |
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