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**September 16, 2019**

"We must therefore ask ourselves: How do we work with our thoughts and our beliefs in ways that nurture the dignity of all life? How do we ensure justice without fostering generations of harm and hate internally and externally? How do we comfort our own raging heart in a sea of racial ignorance, ill will, and violence? And how can our actions reflect the world we want to live in and leave to future generations? These are questions about how to respond with both heart and mind, while being awake and wise." —Ruth King

**September**

Sept. 14-22 Nonviolent Week of Action

Sept. 18 World Water Day

Sept. 20 Week of Climate Strike

Sept. 21 International Day of Peace

Sept. 26 World Environmental Health Day

Sept. 29 World Day of Immigrants and Refugees

Sept. 29 Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset

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**TAKING ACTION**

**Be a voice for the voiceless  
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***Support Refugees from USCCB/ MRS/JFI***

Despite the continued global need, some in the Trump Administration are reportedly calling to "zero out" the program for FY 2020. USCCB said that zeroing out the refugee program "[would be contrary to America values.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0014f1HHPviscvrYbMHs1Fb8TF1kZa2fR6KcMD3e_QQ-tbsmyfhxilqTnAmoh4b0n_PWBIH5KMwLW-FU3OnichmpD4fNYD79nxfUKwtCI8AKxrNYitpChfokJNU2goKUkUmFEIOZMDsGX2Mt0W85jZJ6lYTb_3qn1038yqwoZ6G2Y58YDsyBwpAu6I-ewDmJRd-d8dRrNx5RhE=&c=w2Gm5IqNgP9wO9dgAB9L3CiKrpfIWdGbaWfXkxHVnMCV8ynwDhs3ww==&ch=-oYdKaMpiAAbJf-bavOZ_mbHsKEqNDcvzujSpweV7YbVTJhO4nmdTg==)" The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom registered their "[alarm](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0014f1HHPviscvrYbMHs1Fb8TF1kZa2fR6KcMD3e_QQ-tbsmyfhxilqTnAmoh4b0n_PoAD2lI50Y7hF5dKORpYwM14GSo-T6S-i-bRdLrwxcrWSmiBVDBMD7riYkSpRUtnIIPfhzkDqPoPhBKhTWSC-Pirg8QK1TXVwwLa_Sns4A42I6q5ui-QCDR8zZ7VK3stGSOuC93rDlmUjaozwuQG7X0_5hmsEMSO-qrb_10td9AkHSv_x2EMRLhdWPOA2zjHH-rNY1ea1xz5fVZDPV-pV8zGN3miZqylViQzlTJL22HdUg8uJjVLwoA==&c=w2Gm5IqNgP9wO9dgAB9L3CiKrpfIWdGbaWfXkxHVnMCV8ynwDhs3ww==&ch=-oYdKaMpiAAbJf-bavOZ_mbHsKEqNDcvzujSpweV7YbVTJhO4nmdTg==)." The Senate and House have both introduced the Guaranteed Refugee Admissions Ceiling Enhancement Act, [GRACE Act](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0014f1HHPviscvrYbMHs1Fb8TF1kZa2fR6KcMD3e_QQ-tbsmyfhxilqTnAmoh4b0n_PRp9F-mqeWnhmr3j7l599Uk5en81_fjMu5J5hVKG3mQ48HV-PF4MQ6pbBY0fh_ph2IpQZFVDhsTixOb_DJmB2qMfqpVfmU4CGC0XQbEzzw5scMlHiinj0pkjadC6yVEd4NxCWpd9hCq7ZIk1f28g1F7Y_uCiNBkUsUr93qY4bojs=&c=w2Gm5IqNgP9wO9dgAB9L3CiKrpfIWdGbaWfXkxHVnMCV8ynwDhs3ww==&ch=-oYdKaMpiAAbJf-bavOZ_mbHsKEqNDcvzujSpweV7YbVTJhO4nmdTg==), S. 1088, H.R. 2146, which would set 95,000 as the minimum PD.  
  
As Catholics, we affirm the inherent dignity of every person and the ability of refugees to seek security and safety for themselves and family members. We continue to be deeply concerned that low admission numbers mean that refugees fleeing persecution are left in harms' way and that refugee families are left separated across the continents. For this reason, the U.S. Catholic Bishops urge you to express solidarity with refugees now in this moment of great need.  
  
**TAKE ACTION**  
Urge President Trump:  
To admit 30,000 refugees in FY 19 and 95,000 in FY 20.

Urge your U.S. Representative and Senators:  
(1) To urge the Administration to admit 30,000 refugees in FY 19 and 95,000 in FY 20;  
(2) To provide robust oversight and appropriations to achieve both goals, and  
(3) To support the GRACE Act that would establish a minimum annual refugee admission goal of 95,000.  
  
Click [**here**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0014f1HHPviscvrYbMHs1Fb8TF1kZa2fR6KcMD3e_QQ-tbsmyfhxilqTnAmoh4b0n_PsW7kt_8vibALbI8oRb_HHDpKojkwL_M6N8ZaSNOwI5LvDWBrJfjJgl3D1O71ZX_XgmR70YDfc1f7InDZqLaKcKur-gce1wwDaDYr3Epf5eXpsfi8IU776vTdYjElB4swl17XtsE77V2-O1ZAXz-P8V-NveKvN_HLjo4-NoIUpA-hfnc4U6aX9C0NhaRXQGvrBGPWXF7Yn8I=&c=w2Gm5IqNgP9wO9dgAB9L3CiKrpfIWdGbaWfXkxHVnMCV8ynwDhs3ww==&ch=-oYdKaMpiAAbJf-bavOZ_mbHsKEqNDcvzujSpweV7YbVTJhO4nmdTg==) to send the following message to the President and your U.S. Representative and Senators:

***Global Climate Strike***

On September 20th, youth around the world will lead a climate strike – walking out of their classes and jobs to call for action on the climate crisis.  
  
The timing is meant to influence the U.N. Youth Climate Summit on September 21st and U.N. Climate Action Summit on September 23rd in New York City. Greta Thunberg, the 16-year-old Swedish climate activist who began the global climate strike movement will be arriving via sailboat to New York that week. [Find out how you can support the climate strikers.](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/dia/track.jsp?v=2&c=IUEws3tfuMc18QUeRBCLPFZirKry2yvD)

Check the Union of Concerned Scientists [**guide to the climate strike**](https://blog.ucsusa.org/erika-spanger-siegfried/what-is-the-climate-strike-an-adults-guide). And stay tuned to your inbox. As the strike draws closer, we'll send additional resources including some downloadable/printable signs from the.

You can click the following to find an event near you [near you](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/dia/track.jsp?v=2&c=kYYvbDOLrXyA1F%2BI2PzKE1jcYGPw7%2FgG)

***The Amazon***

Please watch this 3 ½ minute video on the amazon [**short video with Jane Goodall**](https://yale.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=5da421acac235473df472e31a&id=9e62a89438&e=5c351ee16b)

Ask yourself, *‘How do my decisions this day affect the Earth Community and what is happening in the amazon?’*

You may also want to read the attachment on the Amazon Synod.

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**INFORMATION/RESOURCES**

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***Reflection for the second week in the Season of Creation***

*The extreme storms earlier this year flooded thousands of farms in Nebraska and Iowa making planting season impossible. Some lands are still flooded. The inability to harvest crops this year affects all of us-food for our tables and food to feed animals that make their way to our tables. Farmers endangered of losing their livelihood are now working to rebuild the failed levees. This has enabled them to support themselves and their families until planting is possible.*

*While hurricanes are a natural part of our climate system, Scientists are predicting that there may not necessarily be more hurricanes, but there will likely be*[*more intense*](https://science2017.globalchange.gov/chapter/9/) *hurricanes that carry higher wind speeds and more precipitation as a result of global warming, the Bahamas is an example. The impact of this trend is likely to be exacerbated by rising sea levels along coastlines, displacing thousands of people.*

*Do not lose hope; look for the rainbow that follows the storm!*

***From Pace y Bene***

[**Campaign Nonviolence Action Week**](https://default.salsalabs.org/Td051c4f0-37ba-4888-8ec8-fc83bdba1335/9e4dca38-c7e4-4a43-9dba-f75e0c3b115a), taking place September 14-22, 2019!

We've now got listed over [**3200 actions and events**](https://default.salsalabs.org/T32849fed-6e14-491e-bc03-6f7eac50b0d1/9e4dca38-c7e4-4a43-9dba-f75e0c3b115a)in all 50 US states and 20 countries focused on ending war, poverty, racism and environmental destruction working towards a culture of peace and nonviolence.

Be sure to join an event near you,[**see the full list here**](https://default.salsalabs.org/T1829faac-69a5-40b4-84e1-5b037cd61142/9e4dca38-c7e4-4a43-9dba-f75e0c3b115a)**.**

[***70K Bahamians homeless in the wake of Hurricane Dorian***](http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/lOluCCjbkDDipWuaCieHdeCicNefcT?format=multipart)

Approximately 70,000 people in The Bahamas have been left homeless, and search and rescue efforts are ongoing on major Bahamian islands in the wake of Hurricane Dorian, which killed at least 30 people and left many island residents missing, says United Nations spokesperson Stephane Dujarric. Teams from the World Health Organization and World Food Programme are working to distribute food and emergency medical aid

[***UNICEF highlights record number of child victims of conflict in 2018***](http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/lOvdCCjbkDDiqXdSCieHdeCicNZUPp?format=multipart)

One quarter of the world's children live in areas affected by conflict and more than 12,000 were killed or wounded last year -- the highest number since records began being kept, UNICEF says. The agency placed 3,758 backpacks, arranged to resemble a graveyard, near the United Nations headquarters in New York to draw attention to the effects of war on children ahead of the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

[***UN chief links Bahamas devastation to climate change***](http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/lPdtCCjbkDDirzoWCieHdeCicNzaal?format=multipart)

The destruction and loss of life in the Bahamas caused by Hurricane Dorian illustrate the need to address climate change, which increases the risk of deadly storms and other disasters, says United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. The UN chief is flying to the Bahamas today to express his solidarity and support with storm victims and encourage the global community to contribute much-needed aid.

***Suggestion for the Care of Creation***

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has put together [suggestions](http://cqrcengage.com/cacatholic/app/thru?ep=AAAAC2Flc0NpcGhlcjAxS_Cj1ZVuOrNjeSJ4F_SJmDn2OI-oHLrHl68C9-95JJop3IMRHRmCnY5xh4FxYKiGGByF5ACg5XzOf-NmXCpS81SqOpeCP838PI-4LotAL2uTxs5jRsnlL4JPHWfQ6sHF4YiZDyU2WxyGXlArXV4BXRRhZoxY89SOpwt2Og8ZzQYxbXb68drmghvKBeW_nQPeIZh8Ca75UYlppc6X-cIljEl_7ZNw3-z-7VW2iYO1xzLOCdz2cKuzq3H-xnOkVDJ-&lp=0) for families and communities on how they live out Pope Franicis' call to Care for Our Common Home. And [*In God Calls Us All to Care for Our Common Home*](http://cqrcengage.com/cacatholic/app/thru?ep=AAAAC2Flc0NpcGhlcjAxaMMX-fxv5rqMnY4J2nXQsXG43Jbl2PtoNnTQKeORuV0Pqf_5SxKKMb9LaEsv7AOJUD-dNSK5DHLJLIWf-OnG3ldezZ8aCUmXcOKiiS7PP8zQ0tI25Lhlnh4Rq9i4Ak2jANEx_XkWHULwPxDh4QCyT7NL1bbT0bYG_Qr98PVZ_6gEYpRvehz1PK-4TAnhIq-FN03BpJgauNUc-Si4I8K9LDidahrOOXCL5WTLxF4mVh3ZmsawKyw62eBX24O9XsLbgzx__-V_4LMsjtsKHmS-lQ&lp=0), the California Bishops challenge the people of California to appreciate the beauty of the state and to apply - both individually and collectively - the teachings of Laudato Si'  in safeguarding our natural gifts.

***Reflecting on 9/11: Time to make a change***

We have learned many hard lessons based on experience and research in the last 18 years, and the question is whether we are ready to act on those lessons by moving beyond reacting to violent extremism and instead investing in prevention, says USIP’s [**Nancy Lindborg**](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=fa069327934b419be92f57ddbb9b486ca2b8ba5c4ccfb58cf8f37c8028e61b35351d72c42c41d6ac5e33617c94edc9f16724589db07b383d).

[Read her blog](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=fa069327934b419ba4a80e3e36a10a876b716d765d1c66a9d249e1ddc1400918e5947de2786621beb08471193099409473464c03563a8558)