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**November 11, 2019**

***The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.*** [**Douglas MacArthur**](https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/douglas-macarthur-quotes)

**November**

**Native American Heritage Month**

Nov. 11 Veterans Day

Nov. 16 International Day for Tolerance

Nov. 17 World Day of the Poor

Nov. 20 Universal Children’s Day

Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Day

**December**

Dec. 2 Memorial for Maryknoll Martyrs

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**TAKING ACTION**

**Be a voice for the voiceless  
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***Support DACA***

On March 12, 2019, the American Dream and Promise Act (H.R. 6) was introduced in the House and passed on June, 10, 2019.   The bill gives DACA recipients, along with Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders and Deferred Enforcement Departure (DED) holders, a pathway to citizenship.  We urge you to call on your senators to bring the Dream Act of 2019 (S. 874) to the floor for a vote.  This bill will provide protection from deportation and stability to the young, undocumented members of our society who are seeking work and education.  
  
Click the link below to log in and send your message:  
<https://www.votervoice.net/BroadcastLinks/_vD9vVPpWGJCnM47ArMtpQ>

***Paris Climate Agreement***

On Monday President Trump took formal action to start the yearlong process of withdrawing the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement. This agreement brings together almost 200 nations to address climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation efforts, and climate finance.  
  
As the world’s largest historical emitter of greenhouse gases, exiting the Paris Agreement is an abdication of our moral responsibility to address climate change and protect vulnerable peoples. [**Send a message to your members of Congress**](https://www.votervoice.net/BroadcastLinks/8SCZHx0GYVEpftlbXvh4eQ) **and urge them to publicly oppose the United States’ withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement! or** Call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at **(202) 224-3121**. A switchboard operator will connect you directly with the House or Senate office you request.

(UN Sustainable Development Goal #13 *Take Urgent action to combat Climate Change*)

***Stand up for Children***

Much of the chocolate bought and sold in the United States starts with child labor. Children as young as 10-years-old are purchased, transported across borders to cocoa farms and barred from educational opportunities in order to work for under a dollar a day. 2 **Mars, Nestlé and Hersey are at the root of the problem and are fueling a multibillion-dollar industry driven by the labor of millions of children.**It's time to raise our voices and demand these corporations uproot child labor from their chocolate.

<https://act.credoaction.com/sign/stop-child-labor?sp_ref=559218617.4.201004.e.642781.2&referring_akid=34743.2488201.DHzEfi&source=mailto_sp>

(UN Sustainable Development Goal #8 Decent Work and Economic Growth-**8.5** By 2030*, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value*)

***Join the next global climate strike on either 29 November or 6 December.*** *On the 29th,* Franciscans in Assisi and all around the world will honor the anniversary of St. Francis as the patron saint of ecology by joining in the climate strike alongside people of all faiths.

Whether it’s a march through your town, a public prayer, or a moment of silence at your school or workplace, **your action shows that Catholics care about climate change.** [**Register your strike here**](https://gccm.nationbuilder.com/r?u=KnJIPKv-cSboNDrSoDGTNV3BFOi2nBL9hGZHsTCUAyzmPx2g_s8TCyuC5A9izR2k&e=dfe9d5feb5ca73dca3588e6a7e5c37fd&utm_source=gccm&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=climate_strike_1_en&n=3)**.**

[Pray the St. Francis Prayer](https://gccm.nationbuilder.com/r?u=miKxJCsvtn-g_r0iFjd_btMuXKdqNdIdYfC3XurF_At8x46EkJ9_b7Ig7DGkbV6R&e=dfe9d5feb5ca73dca3588e6a7e5c37fd&utm_source=gccm&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=climate_strike_1_en&n=4)

(UN Sustainable Development Goal # *13 Take Urgent Action to Combat Climate Change and its Impacts*)

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**INFORMATION/RESOURCES**

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[***A Veteran Who Came Home from Nagasaki to Build Peace***](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=1084f05255fe7e31fa53b54bfbc1582faf404b985a8e2d685fb456c6b692ab4e8a1e8a4744de1ac77014b12a6d9a0dad27ff78f018b5e1d3)

USIP honors a special debt to veterans—both in Congress and from the grass roots—who 35 years ago led Congress to found the Institute. One such veteran, who led a citizens’ campaign to strengthen America’s capacity to build peace, is Mike Mapes.

[Read his story](http://click.newsletters.usip.org/?qs=1084f05255fe7e31d5d8a61c355e86c1996210f2cf8ddc20244c8b9d9ea84a10f9e34d98032d1bfabb3ba67e634974d270e1f0e39b55eb5f)

***Here are key take-aways from the Synod on the Amazon:***

* A concept of “**ecological sin**,” which is based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 340-344, says that the Creator established the world as a web of dependence.
* **When we break that web**, all are harmed, and we turn from our Creator’s love.
* We have **compassion for the people who have been victimized by ecological sin**, and especially for the indigenous people who suffer invaded, degraded lands and broken families.
* **Divesting** from fossil fuels and reducing our overall dependence on fossil fuels, as well as **living more simply and sustainably**, are concrete ways to recover from this sin.
* **Our God is merciful**, and we can recover. **Integral ecology,** which sees the deep connections between how we relate to God, each other, and our common home, is the way forward.

To read more about the outcomes of the synod, please click [here](https://gccm.nationbuilder.com/r?u=FHnL8ikUv8WviObJjkW8kdWOxpTbWYtQKL0oAej53G0eU7iTHUpXx5cGo8TlWRF3C8DQBi1giEEplWPeNY2J2ruQpXVU9CKIFpJ5KcuoLRE0x2zV5v0K_c5z-0APnM7qAQOy5GMHHvJ7446FRU4Rhg&e=dfe9d5feb5ca73dca3588e6a7e5c37fd&utm_source=gccm&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=synod_outcomes_en_2&n=4).

[***Guterres: "Continued vigilance" necessary against antisemitism***](http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/lWdKCCjbkDDjdYuxCieHdeCicNONcz?format=multipart)

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, speaking at an event in New York on Thursday commemorating the 81st anniversary of Kristallnacht, said the UN is "fully engaged in this fight" as he spoke against intolerance and hatred. Political leaders, teachers and parents should play a part in stemming such bigotry, especially online activities that contribute to its spread, he noted.

***Effects of Solitary Confinement***

Imagine living with no significant human contact for years, even decades, in a cell the size of a small bathroom. This is the reality for those in long-term solitary confinement, a form of imprisonment regularly imposed in US prisons. In this eye-opening talk, civil rights lawyer Laura Rovner takes us to ADX, the US federal government's only supermax prison, and describes the dehumanizing effects of long-term solitude on the mind, personality and sense of self. What emerges is an urgent case for abolishing solitary confinement -- and evidence for how our tax dollars, public safety and values are implicated in it. "Prisons are administered in our name and on our behalf," she says. "We have an obligation to bear witness."

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| [Watch now »](https://ted.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=07487d1456302a286cf9c4ccc&id=680a66d97f&e=21df47c728) |

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***Words to Ponder***

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*"People say, what is the sense of our small effort? They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time. A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that. No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much work to do." —Dorothy Day*

*"The time is ripe for discovering how 'real' is the alternative culture of nonviolence.  As a way to begin, we need to ask if on a daily basis we can nurture a spirituality which can survive a traffic jam without getting sucked into disrespect for the anonymous driver in the car in front of us; or lose a job without sliding into despair; or encounter others' sexual, racial, and class differences without prejudice; or be shoved and pulled by seductive ads and yet freely decide what we need and don't need." —Leonard Desroches,* Allow the Water