

## Social Mission Newsletter: *Updates for Active Disciples*

*The thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity.*

*I see the church as a field hospital after battle.*

*~Pope Francis*

**About:** This weekly, web-based newsletter is meant to help our community go deeper into the issues of our day, to help us put our faith into action. Here you will see the Top posts from our e-bulletin, plus additional updates on other social mission-related events, resources, and opportunities from our community and non-profit partners. If you have questions on anything you see here, want to get involved, or want to share your own resources or events, please reach out to our Director of Social Mission, Tim Severyn, at [severynte@xavier.edu](mailto:severynte@xavier.edu)

**Week of June 21-June 27, 2020**

### NOTE

**Some content remains on this page for more than one week, especially when it relates to an upcoming event. If you visit this page weekly, you can skim through to new content by looking for the star ✨ next to an announcement.**

**Contents:** [General](#) | [Dismantling Racism](#) | [Immigration](#) | [Healthy Earth](#) | [St. Vincent de Paul](#) | [Other](#) | [Archive](#)

### TOP 4 from the E-Bulletin

1. ✨ **June Outreach Collection: [Coronavirus Community Assistance Fund](#)**

We are using our [Bellarmine Coronavirus Community Assistance Fund](#) in partnership with the Bellarmine Conference of St. Vincent de Paul, to help those most impacted by COVID-19, both parishioners and neighbors. Check out [this video](#), which will be featured at the beginning of this Sunday's livestream, for an overview from our Conference President, Jim Doerger. To keep meeting what is a growing need over the summer months, we are hoping you will consider donating today! You can make a [donation in support of one another online](#) or send a check to Bellarmine Chapel with CCAF in the memo line. Thank you all for your generous support!

2. ✨ **New Issue Team Group Emails**

As part of our new Social Mission communications strategy, each of the issue-based teams email lists (Immigration, Dismantling Racism, and Healthy Earth) will be shifting to Google Groups, using our bellarminechapel.org email system. **The existing email lists will be deleted by the end of July.** To join the new email list groups, click on the links below.

*Please note, while these groups are open to all, they are primarily going to be oriented towards those who are part of the issue team working group, those who either attend meetings or are interested in actively participating in the work of the team through email or other activities outside of the meetings. If you just want to stay abreast of upcoming events and resources, you do not need to join these groups. You can now find all of that information in one place - right here!*

**Here are the join links:**

Immigration Team: <https://groups.google.com/a/bellarmineschapel.org/forum/#!forum/immigration/join>

Healthy Earth Team: <https://groups.google.com/a/bellarmineschapel.org/forum/#!forum/healthyearth/join>

Dismantling Racism Team: <https://groups.google.com/a/bellarmineschapel.org/forum/#!forum/dismantlingracism/join>

3. ✨ **In Memory of the Emanuel 9**

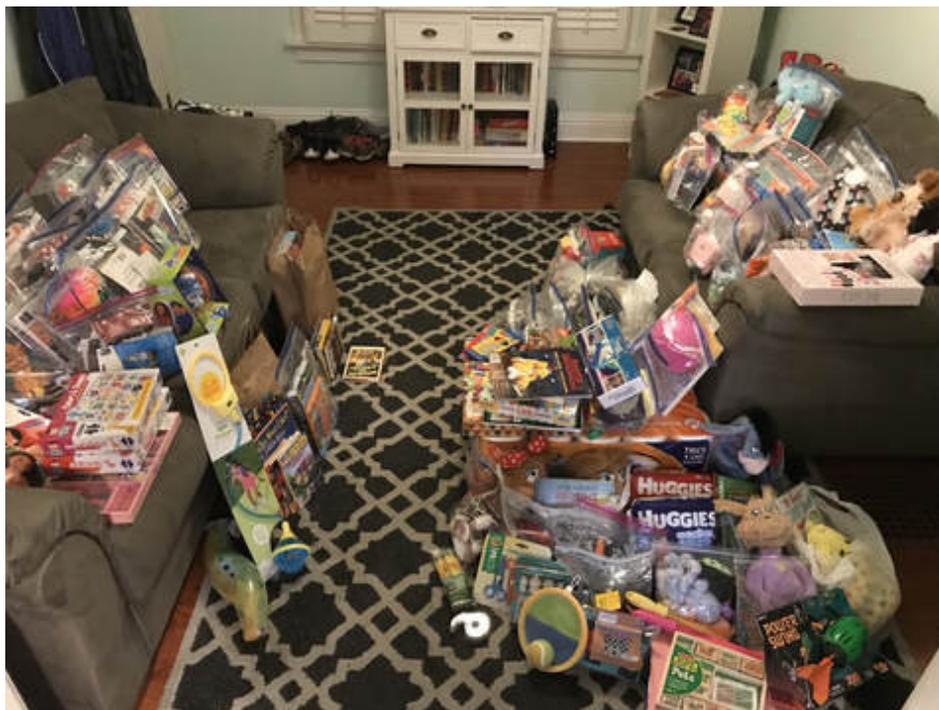
June 17 marked the 5-year anniversary of the racist mass shooting at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC. You can find [a powerful video created by parishioner Jeff Hutchinson-Smyth here](#), along with a beautiful reflection and several action steps below, in the Dismantling Racism section.

In memory of that moment and the moment we live in, we have also refreshed our page of resources to dismantle racism, this time with OnBeing podcasts, TedTalks, and faith-based articles. [You can find that page here](#). Please make use of it today and in your ongoing journey to dismantle racism in your heart and our world!

4. ✨ **Needing Upholstery Work?**

Jorge and Glenda, our friends from El Salvador that the parish is hosting as they go through the asylum process, do top-notch upholstery work on chairs and other small pieces of furniture. If you have something you want re-done, reach out to our [Director of Social Mission](#) and he will connect you with them!

**General: Social Mission Core Team**



Donations for the IHN Hosting Week!

### ✿ Interfaith Hospitality Network Thank You

Thank you to the Bellarmine community for your incredible generosity during our Interfaith Hospitality Network Hosting Week: Social Distancing Edition! Together we collected 50+ individual self-care/activity packs and \$475+ gift cards for families experiencing homelessness. This allowed us to support 7 families this week AND have supplies to create more packs for future hosting weeks. Although we hope to be hosting families in-person in August, we are glad that we could still connect during this challenging time. If you would like to learn more about this ministry and/or become involved, please contact Nicole Ollier, [ollier.nicole.m@gmail.com](mailto:ollier.nicole.m@gmail.com).

### ✿ Bellarmine Building a Bridge

Next week our parish will have a special blessing for LGBTQ+ welcome and inclusion. We will also invite you to participate in a new team forming in the parish, the Building a Bridge Team, focused on extending this spirit of welcome and inclusion throughout the year. The first team meeting will be happening virtually on Sunday, July 12, 5:30 PM. Email our Director of Social Mission, [Tim Severyn](mailto:Tim.Severyn@bellarminechapel.org), for more information and to join!

If you missed our Taize prayer for inclusion and welcome last week, including a beautiful witness from parishioner Jill Johnson, you can find [a worship aid and recording here](#).

### ✿ Social Mission Outreach Grants for FY 2020

In FY 2020, which ends on June 30th, the Social Mission Core Team allotted 8 mini-grants of \$500 each to the following non-profit and mission partners:

- [Mercy McAuley High School](#) - organizing an interfaith service outing with those at the school and youth groups including from the local mosque, synagogue, and Bellarmine
- [Crayons to Computers](#) - bringing school supplies to classrooms across the region
- [In the City Development Co.](#) - Cincinnati Saturday Supplemental School - offering low-income children a Saturday enrichment opportunity developing life skills, trade skills, academic skills, and more
- [Frederick Douglass Elementary School](#) - creating a library for the children in the school
- [Coop Cincy](#) - organizing cooperatives to support workers rights and human dignity
- [Ten Thousand Villages in Cincinnati](#) - supporting global artisans through fair trade
- [Casa de Paz/House of Peace](#) - accompanying Latina survivors of trauma and domestic violence through supportive housing, specifically the Chapel purchased masks the women are making, for donation to the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry

- [Beloved Community Church](#) - led by Pastor Nelson Pierce, this community is leading the efforts for racial justice in our city

The deadline for grants for next quarter is September 1, 2020. Contact our Director of Social Mission to receive the grant application and criteria!

### ✿**Save-the-Date: Catholic Social Teaching, COVID-19 and the Path Forward**

Join Bellarmine and the Institute for Spirituality and Social Justice for another livestream talk, on Monday, July 6, 7 PM, with Dr. John Sniegocki, parishioner and Associate Professor in the Theology Department. More information to come.

[Meet Your Social Mission Core Team!](#) - The Social Mission Core Team is a parish leadership team representing the breadth of our parish's social mission activity, with representatives elected to two year terms. Core Team members serve as community organizers for the parish focused on sustaining and growing our social mission and forming active disciples. [Here, you can see who the current members are, what ministries they represent, and a favorite resource for peace and justice that has helped them through this time of pandemic.](#) We hope you will consider checking out these resources for yourself!

### **Join a Virtual Social Mission Meeting in June or July!**

It has been great to have some new folks take advantage of these virtual meetings and join us these past months - all are welcome! If you are interested in any of these issue areas and want to join, even if just for one meeting, email our Director of Social Mission, Tim Severyn, at [severynte@xavier.edu](mailto:severynte@xavier.edu) and he will be sure to share the Zoom link with you! Team Meetings are:

Healthy Earth - Monday, June 22, 6 PM

Dismantling Racism - Tuesday, June 23, 6 PM

Immigration - July 21, 6 PM

### **Dismantling Racism Team**

***Next meeting is Tuesday, 6/23, 6 PM via Zoom***

### ✿**Remembering the Emanuel 9 Video and Reflection upon the Anniversary of the Mother Emanuel AME Church Mass Shooting**

*Both the Video and Reflection were created by Parishioner Jeff Hutchinson-Smyth*

On the evening of June 17, 2015, our family was days away from traveling to Charleston, South Carolina. We had started the process of packing, and at about 10:00 pm I began noticing the first fragments of initial reporting about a mass shooting at Mother Emanuel AME Church, whose legacy was well-known to me from our many visits with family in Charleston.

Earlier that evening, a small group of the Christian faithful had entered Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church for their weekly Wednesday evening Bible study. A young white man had entered the church shortly after 8 pm and was welcomed to join their circle in the spirit of hospitality that is such a hallmark of black church communities throughout the United States.

After sitting with the group for more than 30 minutes, 12 of the Christian disciples rose to their feet and closed their eyes to join together in prayer. It was at that point that Dylann Roof--who had marinated his heart and mind in white supremacist propaganda online--took out the Glock .45-caliber pistol that had been given to him as a gift on his 21st birthday, and coldly fired 70 rounds into those members of the Body of Christ that had come together in prayer.

Within an hour of his arrival, 9 of the individuals who had welcomed him wholeheartedly into their church and into the intimacy of their lives and their prayer circle on that hot June evening, lay dying on the floor of the church that had so deeply nourished their Christian faith.

On June 17th, 2015, our nation experienced yet one more tragic reminder of what happens when the lives of black people are caught in the crosshairs of an unchecked culture of racism and white supremacy, and when those given over to such hatred have such easy and unfettered access to deadly weapons.

Because we were in Charleston in the immediate aftermath of the tragedy, our family was able to bear witness in a number of ways, most profoundly alongside thousands of others for the "Bridge to Peace" march and vigil. I attempted to represent our family at the funeral of Rev. Clementa Pinckney on June 26, 2015, arriving outside the TD Arena at the College of Charleston at 6:30 am. While 6,000 people packed into the arena, I was one of thousands who ended up watching the funeral remotely.

Up until I somehow lost it earlier this year, I had for years worn a wristband etched with the names of the [#Emanuel9](#):

**Cynthia Hurd**  
**Susie Jackson**  
**Ethel Lance**  
**DePayne Middleton-Doctor**  
**Rev. Clementa Pinckney**  
**Tywanza Sanders**  
**Daniel Simmons**  
**Sharonda Coleman-Singleton**  
**Myra Thompson**

Even though I never met a single one of them in person, I have poured myself into reading each of their obituaries, and have read, watched or listened to their eulogies where they're available online. I have come to know something--albeit at a distance--of the unique ways they graced this earth with their presence by immersing myself into the testimony of how they are remembered by family and friends.

I believe it is my responsibility to both [#SayTheirNames...](#)

**Cynthia Hurd**  
**Susie Jackson**  
**Ethel Lance**  
**DePayne Middleton-Doctor**  
**Rev. Clementa Pinckney**  
**Tywanza Sanders**  
**Daniel Simmons**  
**Sharonda Coleman-Singleton**  
**Myra Thompson**

and also to REMEMBER THEIR LIVES.

In addition, I believe that it is my duty to BEAR WITNESS both to their lives and to their deaths by TAKING ACTION to DISMANTLE RACISM and UNDERMINE WHITE SUPREMACY in whatever ways I can for as long as I'm on this earth.

I hope you'll consider taking the time in the days to come to watch this documentary:

<https://www.emanuelmovie.com/home>

to go back and watch President Obama's eulogy on behalf of Rev. Pinckney:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRvBzzR5tdA&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRvBzzR5tdA&feature=emb_logo)

to consider donating in support of the creation of this memorial:

<https://emanuelnine.org/>

or to pay homage to the lives of the [#Charleston9](#) in whatever ways seem most fitting to you in this moment wherever you are.

### ✿ **Racial Justice Updates and Actions**

The Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center is coordinating an excellent list of [Ways to Stand Up for Racial Justice](#), including upcoming events, resources, and more on their website, updating it daily. [You can find that list here](#) - check it out to get involved!

One particular effort that is gaining momentum is a call to divest City resources away from policing in the city's budget (~\$150M at present) and towards human services, health care, housing, and education, especially for low-income communities and communities of color. The Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center has prepared [a resource explaining this](#) initiative. You can support this call to action in the next week or so, as the FY 2021 City Budget is being finalized. IJPC lists several ways to reach out to our Council Members, [including signing on to this online petition](#), organized by the Beloved Community Church and Rev. Nelson Pierce.

### ✿ **Examen on White Privilege**

50 people turned out to pray the Examen on White Privilege with Fr. Eric last week. If you missed it, you can find the [examen prayer here](#).

### **Watch Just Mercy for Free!**

Still haven't seen Just Mercy? For a limited time, it is being offered for free on various streaming platforms. Just Mercy is the film adaptation of Bryan Stevenson's book by the same name that exposes the many layers of injustice in our capital punishment system. Starring Jamie Foxx, Michael B. Jordan, and Brie Larson, the film focuses on the true story of Walter McMillian, who was arrested in 1987 for a murder he didn't commit, and it details the racism and incompetency of the Alabama legal system that refused to acknowledge their wrongdoing. [Click here to watch](#).

### **Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center**

The IJPC [Race and Racism in Cincinnati Toolkit](#) offers a wealth of historical and current information on the realities of race and racism here in Cincinnati.

### **USCCB Responds to Racism**

[Here you can view the official video](#) response of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops to the murder of George Floyd and racial injustice more broadly. Bishop Shelton Fabre is the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism.

### **Racism in our Streets and Structures**

The Georgetown Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life recorded [a powerful livestream](#) with four prominent black Catholic leaders - Ralph McCloud, the Director of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development; Gloria Purvis, host on EWTN; Archbishop Wilton Gregory of Washington; and Marcia Chatelain, a Professor at Georgetown University.

### **[JustMatters: Faith and Race](#)**

Fall 2020 - JustFaith offers [three different 8-week JustMatters modules related to faith and race](#). We have one group scheduled to begin this Fall already, and would like to offer additional groups if we can. So, if you are interested in joining an 8-week small faith group around this theme, please complete [this interest form](#), and we will follow up with you as plans develop. We will do our best to schedule meetings around the schedules of those who express interest.

**Immigration Team****Next meeting is Tuesday, 7/21, 6 PM via Zoom**

Yard Signs Available!

**✿Hate Has No Home Yard Signs**

Looking for a yard sign? Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center advocate, Cecilia, has bought some in bulk from [hatehasnohome.org](http://hatehasnohome.org) and is redistributing them for \$5. Email [ceciliakloecker@gmail.com](mailto:ceciliakloecker@gmail.com) for more information. She is also looking for folks to help with distribution!

**✿DACA and the Supreme Court Decision**

The Dreamers who work with the Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center's YES Program coordinated a press conference today celebrating the [5-4 decision of the Supreme Court](#). You can [watch that press conference here](#). The US Bishops, through their [Justice for Immigrants page](#), supports this decision and will continue to advocate for a clear pathway to citizenship for the Dreamers in the days and months ahead. You can learn more about the many faces of DACA, including the 25,000 DACA recipients active in the healthcare sector, on the [Ignatian Solidarity Network's website here](#).

**✿Immigration Dignity Coalition - Action Needed**

Did you know Bellarmine is a member of the Immigrant Dignity Coalition, an organization committed to recognizing the dignity of our immigrant brothers and sisters, regardless of their status? You can find a [substantial table they created last week](#) listing a

host of actions you can take, both to be in direct encounter with our immigrant neighbors and to advocate on their behalf.

### ✿World Refugee Day Screening - June 20

SC Interfaith Immigration Initiatives are hosting a "watch party" of short films about refugees this Saturday, June 20 at 8 p.m. It will be streaming from the Facebook page "SC Interfaith Immigration Initiatives," starting at 8 p.m. for about an hour. To watch, visit the [SC Interfaith Immigration Initiatives Facebook page](#).

### ✿Su Casa Virtual Gala 2020 - Thursday, July 16 at 7 p.m.

We at Su Casa Hispanic Center missed gathering with all our friends and supporters when the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to postpone our annual awards dinner in April. But we didn't give up on finding a creative way for us to still celebrate! We are hosting a "Virtual Gala," on Thursday, July 16, at 7:00 PM.

This will be a fun, one-hour opportunity to bid on great prize values and to learn about Su Casa's mission and our life-changing work with local immigrant families. Most importantly, let's raise the funds we need to keep serving with compassion and justice!

The gala will be live-streamed on Catholic Charities' website at <https://ccswoh.org/su-casa-virtual-gala/>.

You can donate now or during the event: **text SuCasa20 to 76278** and following the prompts **or** by visiting <https://SuCasa20.givesmart.com>. This is a free event to attend.

### Healthy Earth Team

**Next meeting is Monday, 6/22, 6 PM via Zoom**

### ✿Laudato Si': 5-Year Anniversary Prayer Service

This past Thursday, 6/18 marks 5 years since Pope Francis powerful encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, was published. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati Care for Creation Task Force, including members of Bellarmine parish, put together a 30-minute prayer service to celebrate God and creation. [You can watch that prayer service here.](#)



**2020 One Stop Drop**  
for your difficult-to-recycle items  
(residential use only)

**4.18.20 12-3 PM** **EARTH DAY**  
in Washington Park  
*(you don't even need to park your car!)*

<p><b>TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE TUBES &amp; DENTAL FLOSS CONTAINERS</b></p> 	<p><b>HAIR &amp; SKIN CARE: PLASTIC TUBES &amp; JARS</b></p> 	<p><b>CLOTHES, LINENS &amp; SHOES (CLEAN AND DRY)</b></p> 
<p><b>CHIP &amp; SNACK BAGS (EMPTY AND DRY)</b></p> 	<p><b>#5 PLASTIC PACKAGING (CLEAN AND NO LIDS)</b></p> 	<p><b>LIGHTBULBS &amp; BATTERIES</b></p> 
<p><b>EMPTY PRESCRIPTION BOTTLES</b></p> 	<p><b>PAKTECH 6-PACK HOLDERS</b></p> 	<p><b>CELL PHONES, CHARGERS, SMALL ELECTRONICS</b></p> 

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Visit:  
[keepcincinnatibeautiful.org/earthday/](http://keepcincinnatibeautiful.org/earthday/)  
for more information.

**\*** Personal care products accepted: shampoo/conditioner/body wash tubes, hair gel tubes, hair paste jars/tubs, deodorant containers, lip balm tubes, soap and lotion dispensers & tubes, toothpaste tubes, floss containers, toothbrushes

**\*\*** National Prescription Drug Takeback Day is April 25th. To dispose of pills, check with your local pharmacy.

### Recycling: One Stop Drop on June 20

The 5th Annual One Stop Drop has been rescheduled to June 20 at the Academy of World Languages (2030 Fairfax Ave, 45207) in Evanston. You can bring all your hard to recycle items, including plastic tubes, clothes, shoes, batteries, light bulbs, can carriers, chip bags, small electronics, plastic planters, styrofoam and more!

### Terracycle Update

Due to issues beyond our control, we are no longer able to collect many of the toiletries and cosmetics that we had been collecting for Terracycle recycling. At present, we will ONLY be able to collect oral care items (toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes, mouthwash bottles, floss containers) and empty deodorants. We encourage you to look for alternative recycling streams for all other items, including Rumpke, which can accept most plastic bottles. [See their list of acceptable items here.](#) If you are able, please hold on bringing your accepted Terracycle materials to the Chapel until after public masses resume in July.

### St. Vincent de Paul

**conducting virtual visits weekly**

### A Resurrection Story

"For the first time in my life, I'm happy and have nothing," the neighbor the Vincentian was "visiting" by phone told them. This older man had lung cancer but was working when the coronavirus began to close down the country. He was afraid to work because of his condition. Then a person in his building got the virus. He knew he had to move. Besides this, he was unable to pay the rent and would soon be evicted. A friend whom he had known for forty years invited him and his two grandchildren to come and live with her. The man told the Vincentian that this woman was such a blessing to them with her loving ways. She, herself, had only one kidney and had recently been in the hospital for a month and a half. When she got out, our conference had helped her get a bed. Now, they needed food and clothing, so she suggested he call SVDP. The Bellarmine volunteers brought them gift cards for groceries and is helping them get food from the SVDP food pantry too. When the Vincentian spoke with the woman helping her friend, she said, "It is so good for me because I had no grandchildren and now I have two." She was so positive and so grateful! From the suffering of COVID's Good Friday, came a Resurrection story of God active in our midst!

### Other

#### **✿Peter's Pence Collection**

Next Sunday, June 28, we will be participating in the Archdiocese-wide Peter's Pence Collection. This collection helps Pope Francis and the global church to effectively respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease. You can learn more about the efforts funded by [Peter's Pence here.](#) Look next week for a donation link on our website!

#### **Catholic Mobilizing Network**

Click [here](#) to read a letter by the Catholic Mobilizing Network (CMN) which individuals and organizations are welcome to sign. The letter of solidarity highlights the unique challenges of COVID-19 in our criminal justice/immigrant detention system. Early

signatories include USCCB (multiple committees), Catholic Charities, Catholic Healthcare, Jesuit Conference (Fr. Tim Kesicki) and many others. If you are interested in signing, please go to the [website](#).

**Archives:**

[SMN - Week of June 14, 2020](#)

[SMN - Week of June 7, 2020](#)

[SMN - Week of May 31, 2020](#)

**SVDP Story Archives:**

[An Extraordinary Life - May 31, 2020](#)

**Social Mission Overview**

Bellarmino Chapel is a church committed to Vatican II and the revolutionary idea that the Catholic church should serve as a field hospital, promoting missionary discipleship amongst all our parishioners. [You can see a visual depiction of the way our community works to fulfill that mission here.](#) And you can learn more about many of these initiatives by clicking on the remaining tabs under the Social Mission Initiatives heading. Please feel free to reach out to our Director of Social Mission, Tim Severyn, at [severynte@xavier.edu](mailto:severynte@xavier.edu) with any questions or concerns.