



Coordinator's Corner

By Pat Ferrone

We've all had the experience of reading a line or two of scripture and being granted a small, clarifying epiphany as the words take on richer meaning. Not long ago, the lectionary for the day included the passage from Mark 7:31-37, in which Jesus heals a deaf-mute. Leading the man apart from the crowd, Jesus prays and puts his fingers in the man's ears and then touches the man's tongue with his spittle, loosing the impediments that have kept him in silent isolation

Hearing, and now speaking, he is restored to himself, his people and his God. I picture him leaping about, shouting from the hilltops even, and witnessing to Jesus' compassion. All the years of forced silence are finally over, and he is able to give voice to all he has seen, and all that he knows. Since an encounter with Jesus always leads us to greater love, we can only imagine the good that may have flowed from the man.

Although there is always more to scripture than initially presents itself, it occurred to me that in another way, this miracle is exactly germane to our time, we who need healing, and are often crippled by

forms of deafness, either refusing, or unable for some reason, to really hear the aching pain of others, the dire truth of the violence that subverts the goodness of life, or the ways Jesus might be guiding us to respond. So, too, are we often tongue-tied by an attendant fear of speaking out about that which matters - the sins and wounds of our time, and figuring out how, in God's name, we are to participate in the healing of our beleaguered world.



Doomsday Clock (bnonews.com)

Though we might derive from history that thus has it always been - the presence of the desperate and alienated among us, the broken systems and the cruelty of heartless policies that permeate our society - the time in which we ourselves live often seems the most catastrophic. Whether this is true or not, is almost irrelevant. After all, the picture is grim enough, and the hands of the "Doomsday Clock," created by the

Continued on page 2

A View from the Capitol

By Brian Ashmankas

[Editor's note: This is the first in an ongoing series of columns by "our man in Washington."]

After serving on the Pax Christi MA state board for several terms, I departed this past August for Washington, DC. I am a seminarian for the Diocese of Worcester, and the occasion of this move was a transfer from the seminary in Boston to Theological College in Washington, DC. Accompanying this move was also my election to the national council of Pax Christi USA, whose office is located in a wing of my seminary.

Six months having passed since the move, I reflect on my time living in the nation's capital, my service on the national council, and the ways I have witnessed to peace and nonviolence in my new (albeit temporary) home.

Washington, DC is an amazing

Continued on page 4

NOTE: To promote a greener future with a leaner budget, print copies of this newsletter are mailed only to our readers who have no access to email.

Coordinator's Corner...

Continued from page 1

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists in 1947 not long after the first use of nuclear weapons by the United States, now stand at “two minutes before midnight” - two minutes until game’s up and “the likelihood of a man-made global nuclear catastrophe,” based on illusions of safety through muscular nuclear “deterrence,” shatters our complacency or denial.

Or, citing the category of human-induced climate change confirmed in 2007 by scientific evidence, it becomes clear that human obsolescence can also be brought about by the effects of irreversible climate disruption. The clock, as a metaphor for approaching disaster, “suggests that destruction will naturally occur unless someone takes action to stop it” (“Running the Doomsday Clock Is a Full-Time Job. Really,” CNN, 26 January 2018).



Beatrice Fihn (www.icanw.org)

One of these “someones” is surely Beatrice Fihn, executive director of the International Campaign for the Abolishment of Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), winner of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for their role in leading the campaign that resulted in the UN “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” With humility, she said, “The most

amazing thing about this campaign is that we’re just a bunch of random people who got together and wanted to do something... We hope this will serve as inspiration for others to get active, and mobilize against nuclear weapons and other issues.”

There are other “someones,” who have one ear tuned to the signs of the times, and another to the Spirit’s promptings, urging us to “shout from the hilltops,” not in joy, but in truthful fury and sorrow about the barbarities of what is being done in our name, but without our assent. Recently, Kathy Kelly of Voices for Creative Nonviolence spoke at the Community Church in Boston.

No less passionate and prophetic than when she spoke several years ago at a Pax Christi Assembly, she shared news of the persistent desperation of the people of Afghanistan from endless war, and of the suffering of millions of Yemeni people, also under the pall of a proxy civil war, which have brought blockades of needed food and medical supplies, famine and cholera, and the disappearance of thousands into 18 clandestine prisons in southern Yemen, reminiscent of the prisons at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo.

There, under the guise of rooting out Al Qaeda leaders, interrogations and unspeakable torture are taking place under the direction of United Arab Emirate and Yemeni forces who, nevertheless, deny the stories of torture told by survivors and chronicled by Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International. U.S. Forces, though admitting a role as interrogators, deny a role in human rights abuses or torture.

However, survivors have reported “Americans are only yards away,” and, according to an AP report, “legal experts said that in the light of alleged Emirate abuses, U.S. interrogations could constitute ‘complicity in torture,’ banned in Article 4 of the UN Convention Against Torture.” Kathy remarked that she is searching for language strong enough and action deep enough to witness and respond to the evil and suffering she knows is happening, including increased drone strikes by the US.



Kathy Kelly (vcnv.org)

The litany of sorrows goes on closer to home, too, as we reel from still another example of murderous violence, this time delivered by means of a legally purchased AR-15 rifle in the hands of one isolated, depressed “loner with a temper” young man who methodically mowed down students and teachers at a high school in Parkland, Florida. The wrenching pain of parents and others was soon followed by vapid platitudes - words received like ashes in one’s mouth.

Governor Rick Scott, rated an A+ by the National Rifle Association (NRA), who has signed “more pro-gun bills into law - in one term - than any other governor in Florida history,” was evasive when questioned about the possibility of new gun control laws. President Trump said, “My prayers and condolences to the families of the victims of the terrible Florida

shooting. No child, teacher, or anyone else should ever feel unsafe in an American school.”

This, after the deaths of 17 students and teachers and the wounding of 14 others, from a president who received \$21 million from the NRA, which also contributed \$36.6 million to the 2016 election campaign. It is almost impossible to believe there is genuine commitment to purposeful change in the canned utterances of the recipients of vast amounts of money from an organization which lobbies against gun control and pays politicians for their silence.

Better to ponder the simple, anguished, words of Luis Eduardo Girao, who thanked God for his daughter’s survival, then said, “No more guns, please, no more guns.” Or listen to Emma Gonzales, a



Emma Gonzales (usatoday.com)

teenager from Parkland who has helped mobilize a student movement in response to the massacre, which has gone nationwide, “We certainly do not understand why it should be harder to make plans with friends on weekends than to buy an automatic or semi-automatic weapon. Maybe the adults have got used to saying ‘It is what it is...’ but if us students have learned anything, it’s that if you don’t study, you will fail, and in this case if you actively do nothing, people continually end up dead.”

Helpless though we often feel in the wake of so much chaotic violence, we are **not** helpless. In **Winter-Spring 2018**

our St. Susanna church bulletin, after quoting from a parent who said that politicians should “grow a spine” and “stop accepting blood money from the NRA,” I wrote, “Continuing our Advent focus with our manger display depicting 16 sites around the country where mass shootings have taken place, we are using the cross of Lent, prominent in our entry-way, as a means to confront the disease of violence that is killing our children and loved ones.

“Perhaps we who identify with Jesus need to ask ourselves and others how Christians are able to justify owning weapons at all, since Jesus calls us to disarmament of heart and mind, and active, compassionate love. “Put down your sword...” Jesus tells Peter. How about if those who own guns for hunting or recreation declare a kind of personal conscientious objector status and publicly renounce their weapons for the sake of those who are being killed?

“Maybe we ought to think of the sale of guns in our community as a public health issue, responsible, in part, for preserving a gun-toting, individualistic, warped culture. At the same time, until we all come to our senses, we need to insist on greater restrictions on the types of weapons available for sale.

“An online blog by Jeffrey Sachs, a syndicated columnist and professor, called “Overcoming Delusions about the Second Amendment,” is enlightening and worth reading. Citing the opinion of former Justice Antonin Scalia, known for his conservative pro-gun perspective, he quotes Scalia saying: “There is no constitutional protection whatsoever for the semiautomatic rifle that killed the kids in Newtown’ - and in Parkland, we might add. Even more specifically, Scalia said that ‘M-16 rifles and the like have no

second amendment rights and may be banned.””

Every day of Lent this year seems to represent a re-enactment of Good Friday, and yet, by God, we are somehow salvaged from despair by the shards of hope that break through and keep us going. I think of the young students in Parkland, Florida and around the country who refuse to acquiesce to the politics of self-preservation and are doing what they can to loose the grip of a disastrous national allegiance to a love-fest with guns.

David Brooks of the New York Times writes in “Respect First, Then Gun Control” of a group called “Better Angels,” whose “team members travel from town to town finding members of the Red and Blue tribes and bringing them together for long humbling conversations,” in order to break



Bishop John Stowe at Catholic Day of Action (paxchristiusa.org)

down the stereotypes about the ‘other.’ There are peacemakers of all faiths, or none, who are also inspired to form alliances, then witness out loud, and in public venues, to the pitiless ways in which we keep one another in bondage to violence.

A particular sign of hope for Pax Christi is the announcement of Bishop John Stowe as Bishop

President of Pax Christi USA's National Council, and his participation, along with 200 others, at the Catholic Day of Action for Dreamers in DC on February 27, in support of the Dream Act as a pathway to citizenship for DACA recipients. There, prayer and the celebration of Mass supporting nonviolent civil disobedience took place. Of the 42 arrested, at least half were Pax Christi members.

Another profound encouragement comes from a sermon by Rev. Jim Brown, a Presbyterian minister, after a recent visit to the Holy Land, where he encountered persuasive gospel nonviolence in the life of a Palestinian Evangelical Lutheran Christian, and his extended family. Daoud and his brothers now run their extensive farm southwest of Bethlehem, called "Tent of Nations," which has been in their family for more than 100 years, and is now nearly surrounded by encroaching Israeli settlements.

They are continually harassed and subjected to damage to their equipment; trees have been uprooted and stone roadblocks created by Israeli forces; and they have been threatened by an irate Israeli settler with an M-16 rifle - all attempts to force the family to abandon their property.

However, Daoud and his family remain dedicated to what they call a "Fourth Way" of "active, nonviolent resistance, despite fierce opposition. He says, "We refuse to be anybody's enemies. We confront our suffering in a positive, proactive way, believing that the occupation cannot, and will not, last forever. The crucial question we ask is 'How can I "turn" the perspective of someone who believes that I am his

enemy?" The sign at the entrance to "Tent of Nations," where an environmental and educational summer camp is held each year, reads, "We Refuse to Be Enemies."



Daoud Nassar with olive trees at Tent of Nations (tentofnations.org)

Check out their web site for information and inspiration: www.tentofnations.org

Pat Ferrone is co-coordinator, with Fr. Rocco Puopolo, of Pax Christi Massachusetts.

A View from the Capital

Continued from page 1

city with many opportunities for activism. In my second week living here, I had the opportunity to be part of the One Thousand Ministers March for Justice – a



Thousand Ministers March (upi.com)

march to the Department of Justice to reaffirm the commitment of

religious leaders to social justice. Later this month I also plan to join the March for Our Lives in protest against gun laws that continue to permit deadly shootings around our country.

It is also a city of monuments and museums. The African American History Museum powerfully reminds and convicts us of our racist past and present while demonstrating the wonderful and essential contributions of African Americans to our culture.

The Holocaust Museum's greatest impact on me was a quote near the exit that tells us that most "were neither killers nor victims...most merely stood by, neither collaborating nor coming to the aid of the victims. This passivity amounted to acquiescence, and the planners and executors of the 'Final Solution' counted on bystanders not intervening in the process of genocide."

This has affected me deeply as a Christian, Pax Christi member, and future priest and will hang in my mind for the rest of my life always challenging me to not be a bystander to injustice.

Finally, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial stands as an excellent witness to his life and does not gloss over his stands against war, poverty, and unjust economic systems that so often are ignored or downplayed.

In addition, my time on Pax Christi's national council has been an amazing experience. I serve on the strategic planning committee and am therefore part of the process of determining the direction the organization will take over the next few years. The annual meeting in Bay St. Louis, MS was a particular highlight. It

was a gathering of nonviolence activists from around the country of various ages, races, and genders. It was inspiring to see people of so many different backgrounds put nonviolence into action as we worked through a number of decisions.

Resolutions to disagreements and varied perspectives were found not through outmaneuvering politically or building a majority to outvote the minority, common techniques in the political world where I was prior to entering seminary. Rather, we worked toward consensus by listening to, understanding, and genuinely coming to love and respect each other. Pax Christi in this way was shown to be a model of the peace and justice we hope to bring to the rest of the world.



*Theological College campus, DC
(theologicalcollege.catholic.edu)*

The seminary community at Theological College is a diverse group. Several of us are pacifists; others are training to be military chaplains; some emphasize social justice ministry; others have different priorities. Some love Pope Francis; others preferred Pope St. John Paul II. However, this diversity of views rarely leads to genuine discord. Disagreements and disputes can be intense, but respect is not lost and never ends with the condemnation of the other.

I have strong friendships with those who I strongly disagree with, and we can discuss those disagreements without censorship and to our mutual enrichment.

When early on I “outed myself” as a pacifist, I expected quick rejection and intense insistence on the just war theory. Instead, I found the others befuddled by my cautiousness, insisting that “that doesn’t seem like too odd a thing for a Catholic to be.”

Certainly, they were not saying they were all pacifists, but some are, and the others are open to its reasonableness. This all leaves me with hope for the generation of priests that will come out of Theological College over the coming years and the Church that they will help lead.

Just over three years from now, God willing, I will be ordained a priest of the Worcester Diocese and return to Massachusetts and to the state board there, but at that time I will bring with me the formative experience I have had in Washington. I will have been a witness to and participant in activism. I will have worked with and built consensus with various people and groups. And I will have been challenged never to be a bystander while injustice and violence rage in the world around and within my parish.

Brian is a longtime member of the Pax Christi MA board of directors.

Sad, tired & angry: A prayer in the face of gun violence

By James Martin, S.J.

Almighty God,

I come before you,
once again,
after another shooting.

I am sad, God.
So I ask you
to receive into your loving care the

souls of those who were killed,
to care for those who were
wounded or hurt in any way,
to console the family members and
friends of those who died or were
wounded,
to strengthen the hands of the
rescue workers, medical
professionals and caregivers

I pray too for the shooter, as I must
as a Christian.

All this makes me inexpressibly
sad, God.
But I know that the sadness I feel
is your sadness.
It is the same sadness your son
expressed
when he wept over the death of
his friend Lazarus.



James Martin, SJ (twitter.com)

I am tired, God.
I'm tired of the unwillingness to
see this as an important issue.
I'm tired of those in power who
work to prevent any real change.
I'm tired of those who say that gun
violence can't be reduced.

All this makes me tired.
But I know that the tiredness I feel
is your tiredness.
It's the same tiredness that Jesus
felt after his own struggles against
injustice
that led him to fall asleep on the
boat with his disciples.

I am angry, God.
I'm angry at the seeming
powerlessness of our community
to prevent this.
I'm angry at the selfish financial
interests who block change.
I'm angry that these shootings
happen at all.

But I know that this anger is your anger
It's the same anger Jesus felt when he overturned the tables in the Temple,
angry that anyone would be taken advantage of in any way.

Help me see in these emotions your own desire for change.
Help me see in these feelings your moving me to act.
Help me see in these reactions your pushing me to do something.

Because I know this is the way you move people to action.
And I know that you desire action.
For Jesus did not stand by while people were being hurt.
He plunged into their lives.

So help me to answer these questions:
How can I help?
How can I fight against gun violence?
How can I urge my political leaders to enact change?
How can I help people understand that this is an issue about life?

I am sad over the loss of life,
tired of excuses for the loss of life,
and angry that we are paralyzed by the loss of life. So

Turn my sadness into compassion.
Turn my tiredness into advocacy.
Turn my paralysis into the freedom to act.

Help me
to be compassionate,
to advocate
and to act,
as your son did,
Almighty God.

*-Originally published in America:
The Jesuit Review, October 2,
2017.*

Holy Cross College Pax Christi

By Jenny Casey

The Holy Cross chapter of Pax Christi focuses primarily on the three pillars of education, conversation, and advocacy. As students at Holy Cross we've been given incredible opportunities, and as a result we have a responsibility to advocate for a more just world.



Students wearing "Summit" tees
(photo courtesy of Marty Kelly)

It was with this in mind that we partnered in February with four other groups on campus to host a week of education and advocacy around DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program), TPS (Temporary Protected Status program), and other immigration policies.



(amazon.com)

The week, entitled "Summit on Human Dignity: Immigration and

DACA," included: a screening of the film *Indivisible*, a documentary about three young Latin American DACA recipients, or "dreamers;" a faculty panel on DACA and TPS; a panel of leaders in the Worcester community; and an advocacy night.

Our goals for the week were two-fold: first, to educate the campus on U.S. immigration policies (which we see as both unjust and ineffective); and second, to encourage students on campus to advocate to their elected representatives via phone calls, emails, and letters.

To that end, we were impressed by the level of interest and support we received from the general student body. There are clearly many students on this campus who are interested in learning about and taking action on these important social justice issues, but who perhaps don't know where to start. We hope this week helped students to feel more knowledgeable about immigration policy and thus emboldened to advocate for more just solutions.

-Jenny is co-chair of Holy Cross PC and a PCMA board member..

From Just War to Just Peace?

By Mike Moran

The 2017 Pax Christi Massachusetts annual fall Assembly featured as keynote speaker Dr. Lisa Sowle Cahill, the J. Donald Monan professor of theology at Boston College, addressing the topic, "From Just War to Just Peace?: Peacemaking as Gospel Vocation." The event attracted 60 or so Pax Christi members and supporters to St.

Pax Christi Massachusetts

Susanna Parish in Dedham on Saturday, December 2, 2017.

The author of many articles and books, including *'Love Your Enemies': Discipleship, Pacifism, and Just War Theory* (Fortress, 1994), Dr. Cahill was one of 80 worldwide participants, and the only one from New England, at the April 2016 conference "On Violence and Just Peace," convened in Rome by Pax Christi International and the Vatican.



Rome conference participants
(<https://nonviolencejustpeace.net>)

She began with a brief summary of the background paper on Catholic social teaching and just war theory that she had been asked to prepare for the Rome conference. She noted the irony that while every modern Pope (since World War II) has unequivocally condemned war, they all "leave the door open" to the use of violence as a last resort in self-defense.

But Dr. Cahill argued that Pope Francis is trying to focus the Church on "nonviolent conflict resolution" in the form of "peacebuilding." She described this process as the finding of common ground between conflicting parties, most often in "the global south," who are tired of endless warfare and need to find a just and sustainable way of living together. This daily reality, she suggested, makes the academic debate about "just war" vs. "just peace" at best "distracting" and at worst "divisive." Put another way, she said there is "no just war in practice."

Winter-Spring 2018

Dr. Cahill also noted that while the Rome conference produced a consensus "Appeal to the Catholic Church to re-commit to the centrality of Gospel nonviolence," a number of other viewpoints were expressed in the "background papers" submitted from around the world. She saw Pope Francis's World Day of Peace message for 2017 ("Nonviolence: A style of politics for peace") as a direct outgrowth of the conference. She suggested that we familiarize ourselves with all these documents at the Catholic Nonviolence Initiative web site:

<https://nonviolencejustpeace.net/>

After wryly commenting that "proof texting" is "not the Catholic way," Dr. Cahill nevertheless pointed out the "Gospel basis of nonviolence" in several passages from Scripture, especially the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5:38-44).



Dr. Lisa Cahill (bc.edu)

In response to several questions following her remarks, ably solicited Oprah-style via mobile microphone by PCMA board member John Monaco, Dr. Cahill revealed that she's working on an updated edition of *'Love Your Enemies'*; and affirmed her belief in a "preferential option for pacifism" in contemporary Catholicism.

This year's Assembly took the

innovative form of beginning with a light lunch and social time at 11:00 am, followed by the keynote at 12:30 pm. Lunch still included the full array of delicious home-made pies and other treats contributed by St. Susanna parishioners at prior Pax Christi events there. At the annual PCMA business meeting after the keynote, the 2017 peacemaker award went to Bill Toller of Springfield, whose separate profile in this issue more than establishes his bona fides.



Assembly attendees at creche with deaths from recent mass shootings
(courtesy of Phil Mandeville)

An afternoon session facilitated by Pax Christi MA co-coordinator Fr. Rocco Puopolo, drew many thoughtful responses to three questions following up on Dr. Cahill's presentation:

1. What is your vision of the ways and means to move forward with the "Appeal" that arose out of the Vatican conference in April 2016?
2. How can we make this information available to parishes throughout the state?
3. What "best practices" in your nonviolent peacemaking life seem to carry seeds of hope for change?

A number of concrete suggestions, from local bulletin inserts, to collaborative support with other like-minded organizations for refugees, to further contacts with Pax Christi USA and our Bishops, promised that Dr. Cahill's reminder about the power of public opinion to create change would not go unheeded.

Bill Toller Receives 2017 Peacemaker Award from PCMA

By Mike Moran

Three of his fellow Pax Christi Western Massachusetts members – Sally Markey, Jeanne Allen, and Mike Moran - presented the 2017 Peacemaker of the Year award from Pax Christi MA to Bill Toller of Springfield. The text of their presentation summarizes the long history of nonviolent activism which makes Bill such a worthy recipient of this honor:

“The peacemaker award is given annually by Pax Christi Massachusetts to an outstanding peacemaker who embodies the ideals of Pax Christi, and those of us who’ve worked with him in Western MA Pax Christi believe that no one better fits that description than this year’s recipient, our beloved friend and colleague, Bill Toller.



Bill Toller (holycrossparish.org)

Bill’s work for the past 40 years with the Hampden County Sheriff’s Department has brought him into contact with many poor, troubled, and needy members of the greater Springfield community. For those same 40 years Bill, his wife, Mary, and their three daughters, Amy, Laura, and Tracy, have been members of Holy Cross parish in Springfield, where he was ordained a deacon in 2001. For the past seven years Bill has also been the Catholic chaplain at

Springfield College.

At Holy Cross in 2006 he founded the “sandwich ministry,” through which parishioners make hundreds of sandwiches in the church cafeteria every Sunday and deliver them personally to Springfield’s homeless population, taking care, as Bill insists, to make eye contact with each recipient. This ministry has grown to include distribution of clothing to those in need.

Around the same time Bill introduced the national JustFaith Ministries program to Holy Cross. Founded in 1988 by Jack Jezreel, JustFaith offers 24 weeks of training to Catholics who want to develop a “compassionate



Sandwich ministry at Holy Cross parish, Springfield (masslive.org)

commitment to build a more just and peaceful world.” To date over 200 people in greater Springfield have graduated from this program.

More recently, Bill was a co-founder of Greater Springfield Campaign Nonviolence, a local chapter of this national project initiated in 2014 by Fr. John Dear and led by Pace e Bene. Bill has been a leading organizer of the many CNV-sponsored walks for nonviolence through Springfield neighborhoods where violent deaths have occurred, and he’s hosted public showings of films like Al Gore’s recent “An Inconvenient Sequel” about

climate and environmental justice.

Over the years Bill has sponsored numerous other events at Holy Cross, exploring issues like immigration and prison reform from a faith formation perspective. He’s brought many groups of students and parishioners to participate in retreats and other events at Agape. Several years ago Bill also joined other parishioners in organizing a Holy Cross parish Pax Christi chapter which has supported all the above and other initiatives.



Campaign Nonviolence March, Springfield 2016 (paceebene.org)

Apart from his tireless advocacy for gospel nonviolence, the qualities that most impress us about Bill are his ability to communicate from the heart with every person he meets, and his total humility about his own accomplishments. When he speaks (and he speaks a lot!), it’s never about what he himself has done but rather about the important work that all of us must keep doing to build a world where, in the words of Dorothy Day, it’s easier for everyone to be good.

As his fellow parishioner, Pax Christi and Campaign Nonviolence member Anne Gagnon puts it, ‘What Bill does is infinitely impressive, resourceful, timely, and faith-fulfilling.’ So it’s our honor and privilege to present this award today to Bill Toller.”

-Mike is editor of this newsletter.



Pax Christi Spring Retreat

Saturday April 7, 2018

Mary Dooley Campus Center, ELMS College

Faculty Dining Room, 291Springfield Street Chicopee MA

Registration begins at 9:30am

Program 10:00 am to 3:30 pm

**(4:00pm Mass at College Chapel for those who wish to stay)
For parking check out <https://www.elms.edu/campus-map/>**



“Witnessing the Roots of Peace in a World of Discord and Hate”

Transcending the deep racism in our history and the current worldwide anti-immigrant feeling to re-engage public discourse and build the beloved community of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream.

Father Warren Savage, a priest in the Springfield Diocese, is a professor in the permanent diaconate formation and lay ministry program, and president of Project Reach Out in Westfield, a community-based diversity training and race relations program. Father Savage was a participant in the northeast seminar of the Pastor Theologian Program sponsored by the Center of Theological Inquiry in New Jersey. He is Chaplain at Westfield State University; Member of Spiritual Directors International, Academy of Homiletics and The Society of Christian Spirituality and a longtime Pax Christi member.

Registration Form

Name _____ Street Address _____

City/State _____ Phone/e-mail _____

Donation* \$25.00 (Lunch will be in café on one's own)

High School and College Students with ID Free

I would like to be a Retreat Sponsor and will donate an additional tax-deductible gift of \$_____ to help defray the cost of the Retreat.

Mail Registration and check, made out to **“Pax Christi MA”** to:

Charles Gobron, 6 Bolser Avenue Natick, MA 01760

*Scholarships available

www.paxchristima.org

For information: paxchristima@gmail.com

2018 Pax Christi Massachusetts Peacemaker Award Nomination
To be awarded at the annual Pax Christi Massachusetts Assembly Fall 2018

This award is given to an outstanding peacemaker who embodies the ideals of Pax Christi. She or he need not be a member of Pax Christi and may be a person as young as 16, or older. Nominations may be submitted by PC-MA members, teachers, campus ministers, parish pastoral leaders, youth ministers, family members or friends who have been inspired by the nominee.

DEADLINE: Nominations must be received by September 1, 2018.
SEND TO: Mike Moran, 135 Shearer Street, Palmer, MA 01069 (or email to: moran3@comcast.net)

Nominee's name/s _____
School, if applicable _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Social justice & peacemaking activities, volunteer involvement, etc. (attach, as needed)
Your name _____ Relationship to nominee _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

2018 Pax Christi Massachusetts John Leary Youth Peacemaker Award Nomination
To be awarded at the annual Pax Christi Massachusetts Assembly Fall 2018

This award is given to an outstanding young peacemaker who embodies the ideals of Pax Christi, as John Leary lived them. John was a Harvard University graduate who worked with PC Massachusetts co-founder Gordon Zahn at the Pax Christi Center on Conscience and War in Cambridge and died at age 24 while jogging to Haley House, a Catholic Worker House in Boston, during the summer of 1982.

Nominees for the John Leary Award need not be members of Pax Christi but should be no older than 24. Nominations may be submitted by PC-MA members, teachers, campus ministers, parish pastoral leaders, youth ministers, family members or friends who have been inspired by the nominee.

DEADLINE: Nominations must be received by September 1, 2018.
SEND TO: Mike Moran, 135 Shearer Street, Palmer, MA 01069 (or email to: moran3@comcast.net)

Nominee's name/s _____
School, if applicable _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Social justice & peacemaking activities, volunteer involvement, etc. (attach, as needed)
Your name _____ Relationship to nominee _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Restorative Justice: A Healing Alternative?

By Nancy Carapezza

Almost 21 years ago two community leaders in Concord, MA organized a forum on restorative justice, and 230 people attended the meeting! Within three years Communities for Restorative Justice (C4RJ) was formed. Today more than 17 police departments and the Middlesex District Attorney's Office are referring partners, along with local agencies that need helping hands. For a complete listing, visit: www.c4rj.com

The mission of C4RJ is to provide regional communities with a complement to the traditional judicial system wherein:

- *Victims of crime are given the opportunity to address the person(s) who have harmed them, to ask questions in a safe environment, and to share ideas on ways that the harm can be repaired.
- *Offenders better understand the impact of their actions, are held accountable, and encouraged to make amends to those they have harmed.
- *The community offers support for the process, strengthening community connections, and engaging in matters of concern to its members,

C4RJ's "circle" process reflects that crime is not just a violation of the law but a violation of people and relationships. Those affected by crime are included in the circle of decision-making: victims; offenders; loved ones; supporters; community members; and law enforcement

officials. The organization trains scores of volunteers, is guided by a 13-member board, and employs an executive director and support staff.



C4RJ co-founders Jean Bell and Joan Turner (c4rj.com)

I recently had the opportunity to attend a gathering with Erin Freeborn, the current Executive Director of C4RJ. Listening to this impressive young woman, her passion and commitment was obvious. As a social entrepreneur she encourages programs to think about new ways to create positive change in society. Erin holds a J.D. from Northeastern University, with a focus in restorative justice, and a master of divinity degree and a certificate of conflict transformation from Boston University.



C4RJ Executive Director Erin Freeborn, Bedford Police Chief Robert Bongiorno (c4rj.com)

The Chief of Police in my town (Wayland) and a Selectwoman from a neighboring community which has participated in the program were also present. The town of Wayland may consider being a part of the program. It's a huge commitment for any

community, but from the examples presented by Erin, including Bedford, the rewards seem obvious. C4RJ is working on legislation that would make restorative justice available to all stakeholders in the state's criminal justice system, with the hope of expanding the circle to schools and statewide.

An informative 15-minute video of a case study called "Finding Courage: Addressing Harm with Restorative Justice Circles" can be viewed at the C4RJ web site by clicking "Who We Are."

I'd like to end with one thought (never underestimate the power of individuals) and two questions: (1) might your community be interested in restorative justice?; (2) would you like to hear more about it through PCMA?

-Nancy is a PCMA board member from Wayland.

Pax Christi MA Board of Directors 2017-2018

Co-Coordinator: Pat Ferrone 238 Harris Avenue Needham MA 02492 781-449-3890 patferrone@rcm.org	Secretary: Jeanne Allen 10 Sutton Place Easthampton MA 01027 413-527-0037 (email page 12)
---	--

Treasurer: Charles Gobron 6 Bolser Avenue Natick, MA 01760 774-270-2442 cgobron@aol.com	Newsletter Editor: Mike Moran 135 Shearer Street Palmer, MA 01069 413-283-5716 (email page 12)
--	--

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS: Brian Ashmankas (Millbury); Nancy Carapezza (Wayland); Irene Desharnais (Jamaica Plain); Phil Harak (Southampton); Sue Malone (Westborough); Sally Markey (Springfield); John Monaco (Boston); Rose Morrissey (Westborough); Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x. (Holliston), Co-Coordinator (contact info under Fatima, page 12).

Quarterly Board meetings are held in the Hogan Campus Center at Holy Cross College in Worcester at 10 AM and are open to all PCMA members (the next meeting is on June 9, 2018).

Local Groups

Berkshire P.C.

Carolyn Zabloutny
P.O. Box 14
Mill River, MA 01244
berkshire.pax.christi@gmail.com
Contact for meeting info

Beverly P.C.

Sr. Linda Bessom, SND
15 Bubier Street
Lynn, MA 01901-1704
(781) 595-7570 x18
linda@mahomeless.org
Mtgs 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
St. Mary's Convent

Boston (Citywide) P.C.

Christina Abbey
Paulist Center, 5 Park St
Boston, MA
(781) 286-5004
LNCabbey2004@yahoo.com
Mtgs 1st Monday, 2:00 PM

Cape Cod P.C.

Edouard & Francoise Rocher
77 Old Post Road
Centerville, MA 02632
(508) 771-6737
paxchristi-cc@comcast.net
Our Lady of Victory
Centerville, MA 02632
Contact for meeting info

Central Mass P.C./Our Lady of Guadalupe P.C. (MCI Shirley prison chapter)

Roger & Charlotte Stanley
55 Pleasant Street
Berlin, MA 01503-1610
cstanley041258@verizon.net

St. Rose of Lima Parish
Northborough, MA 01532
Contact for meeting info

Fatima Shrine P.C.

Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x.
101 Summer Street
Holliston, MA 01746
(508) 429-2144
frrocco@xaverianmissionaries.org
Mtgs 2nd Friday, 4:00 PM
Upper Room

Holy Cross College P.C.

1 College St, Box 16-A
Worcester, MA 01610
Marty Kelly
(508) 793-2617
mkelly@holycross.edu
Meetings and activities geared to
college calendar

Holy Cross Parish P.C.

221 Plumtree Road
Springfield, MA 01118
Marilyn Paul-Lewis
(413)739-3278
parishsocialministry@gmail.com
Mtgs 1st Monday, 6:30 PM

Metro West P.C.

Guido Jacques
121 East Central Street
Natick, MA 01760
(508) 330-9035
gjmjeagles@yahoo.com
Contact for meeting info

National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette P.C.

Sheila Matthews
199 Maple Street
Somerset, MA 02726
508-674-8220

sheilmatthews@aol.com
Mtgs 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:15
Chapel of Reconciliation

Rhode Island P.C.

Bill Waters
(401) 438-6612
wjtwj157@gmail.com
Fr. Ray Tetrault
(401) 374-5036
St. Peter's Church
Lower level
350 Fair Street
Warwick, RI 02888
Mtgs last Sunday, 6:00 PM

St. John's Prep P.C.

St. John's Preparatory School
72 Spring Street
Danvers, MA 01923
Bill Mackinson
978-774-1057
wmackinson@stjohnsprep.org
Prayer for Peace, Tuesday
mornings, 7:45-8:00 AM

St. Susanna Parish P.C.

Pat Ferrone
262 Needham Street
Dedham, MA 02026
781-449-3890
parferrone@rcm.com
Contact for meeting info

Western Mass P.C.

Jeanne Allen
10 Sutton Place
Easthampton, MA 01027
(413) 527-0037
jeanne.allen@hhcinc.org
Mtgs 2nd Friday, 7:00 PM
Elms College, Chicopee

If you belong to a Pax Christi group that is not listed above, please let us know so we can add it to our list. If any information above is incorrect, or if you would like to be added to a list of Pax Christi "friends" and receive current messages from the Board, please email changes or additions to Mike Moran: moran3@comcast.net

Pax Christi Massachusetts
6 Bolser Avenue
Natick, MA 01760

paxchristima@gmail.com
www.paxchristima.org