



ASH WEDNESDAY

God Loves Us Even In
Our Dustiness

RESOURCES FOR YOUR JOURNEY OF LENT

- o [POPE FRANCIS LENTEN MESSAGE 2024](#)
- o [Ignation Solidarity Network Refresh Lent 2024](#)
(Shared by NOREEN ALLOSSERY-WALSH, OSU)
- o [Reflecting on the Lenten Season](#)
- o [Maryknoll 2024 Lenten Reflection Guide](#)
- o [2024 PWRDF Lenten Resource](#)
- o ["40 Days of..." CSJ Journey for Justice: Our Winter 2024 Issue Slide 18-20](#)
- o [Lenten Recipes: CRS Rice Bowl](#)

"Men and women of different nationalities and religions, yet having identical feelings and aspirations are like a forest of huge trees: their trunks are separated from one another, but their roots intermingle and their tops blend together. They meet at their deepest and highest levels."

MANUEL GONZALES PRADA



*We Celebrate
In Solidarity with
Xaviere Sisters*

Feb. 02– 100 Years of Foundation

Sisters of St. Joseph

March 19 – Feast of St. Joseph

Our Lady's Missionaries

March 25 – Annunciation of the Lord

CELEBRATING A NEW HOME!!



Pictured left to right: DAVID, MONIQUE and ANNA. Family companions JOANN ROSSITTER, CND (A) and MARY-LOU COLLINS.

Toronto to receive \$162M federal top-up for sheltering asylum seekers, low-income renters

"The Federal government will provide \$162 million in new funding to the city of Toronto to help cover the cost of housing thousands of asylum seekers and to help low-income people pay rent."

[Click here](#) to learn more.

**ESSENTIAL BUT DISPOSABLE LABOUR:
MIGRANT WORKERS EXPLOITED IN CANADA**

Migrants works are a vital part of Canada. For decades, they have kept our economy moving by performing essential work. Yet Canadian systems, institutions and employers treat them largely as disposable.

Collaborative Network to End Exploitation (CNEE) is working hard to educate the public about what is happening. [Click here](#) to listen to podcast.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Afternoon Retreat for Women Religious

Lunch: 11:30-12:30pm Input: 12:30-4:00pm

Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024

Place: Catholic Pastoral Centre (1155 Yonge Street)

Theme: *"Journey of Hope in a World of Challenging Changes: Answering the Call to Live and Serve according to our Circumstances"*

Facilitators: EVANNE HUNTER, IBVM
and MICHAEL SAVER

WHAT DOES THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE CONFLICT IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE?

Conversation calling parties to dialogue instead of to shoot.

The way the Church has been formulating its vision for the Holy Land over the past century makes a contribution to the conversation about a bloody present and the possibilities for a better future.

DAVID NEUHAUS, SJ

Mar 04, 2024 12:00 PM [Click here](#) to register.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

In February, two days focus on human trafficking: February 08, which is both the Feast of Saint Josephine Bakhita and the 10th International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking; and Feb. 22, Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Click here for [prayer resources](#). A livestreamed interfaith prayer service will take place on the evening of February 08 at 7 PM Eastern.

[Click here](#) to register for the prayer service livestream.

In June 2023, Canadian artist TIMOTHY SCHMALZ's sculpture ["Let the Oppressed Go Free"](#), which depicts St. Josephine Bakhita freeing human trafficking victims, was installed at the Church of St. Francis in Schio, Italy, the town where St. Bakhita lived and died. A replica is at Regis College in Toronto.

Click the video links below to learn more. (SSND Shalom News North America - February 2024 Edition)



TALITHA
KUM 
END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

On Feb 08,
Let's turn on a light
against the trafficking of persons

Click [here](#) for additional resources



BECOMING INSPIRED

CANADIAN PRIEST BREATHES NEW LIFE INTO DYING LANGUAGES



(MICHAEL SWAN)

[Click here](#) to read the full article (Ron MacDonell, SFM is a member of the BN Board of Directors)

IN TRIBUTE TO ED BROADBENT, SOCIALIST



(ANDY CLARK/The Canadian Press)

“ *Ed was clear-eyed about what was required to pursue greater equality and give people the dignity and resources necessary to enjoy their lives.* ”

[Click here](#) to read the full tribute.

ARE THESE THE GOLDEN YEARS ?

Challenges and Opportunities
Women and Men Religious Face as We Age

DIANNE BERGANT, CSA

Hosted by the Religious Formation

Conference will be held **Feb. 07**

Zoom from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

(Eastern Standard Time)

[Click here](#) to register



INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS

For the terminally ill

February 2024



ELIZABETH DAVIS Synodal Discussion

ELIZABETH DAVIS, RSM, one of fifty-four women among the 365 voting members, who participated in the Oct 2023 Synod on Synodality, shares her experience with the Synod's listening and discernment sessions and what may come next.

[Click here](#) to watch the recording.



"WHAT MATTERS MOST"

"[What Matters Most](#)" PODCAST:

Conversation with

MARK MILLER, CSsR hosted by

Centre for Christian Engagement at

Vancouver School of Theology

(Mark continues to be highly supportive of BN)



Recommended Reading

- ["At synod prayer service, pope calls for immigration reform with a heart"](#)
- ["Investors, not immigrants responsible for fewer homes and higher rent"](#)
- ["The Lazy Person's Guide to Saving the World"](#)
- ["The Call for Open Work Permits Now is Gaining Wider Support!"](#)

Open Work Permits **NOW**

TAKING ACTION



“ Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.

Pope Francis ”



Carbon Fast

for Lent

Have you considered a carbon fast for Lent? It's a great way to take small, medium, or large steps to cut your carbon footprint and, hopefully, form habits that will last a lifetime. Together, we will be challenged to live more lightly on the earth, reducing our impact on the natural world and our global neighbors. [Receive](#) an email each week of Lent featuring a different activity or challenge.

- Word for the Day -

The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members, a heart of grace, and a soul generated by love.

CORETTA SCOTT KING



Shared by URSULA WITKOWSKA, IBVM

The Centre for Religious Education and Catechesis

[Where Faith and Life Meet: Generative Conversations for all Who Accompany Adult Faith](#)

Friday, February 09 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM EST

Part 1 Walking Together;

MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE

CAROL KUZMOCHKA, CYNTHIA CAMERON, ANNE WALSH AND DARYOLD WINKLER

Part 2 An Interactive Panel Presentation –

A SYNODAL CHURCH IS AN ADULT CHURCH

NATHALIE BECQUART, XMCI, CATHERINE CLIFFORD, MURRAY WATSON AND CHRISTINE WAY-SKINNER

REAPING OUR RIGHTS

Share Lent 2024 Development and Peace CARITAS CANADA



DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE [CLICK HERE](#)



GIVE IT UP FOR THE EARTH!

FEBRUARY 14—MARCH 28, 2024

Give it up for the Earth! raises awareness about climate change and mobilizes people across Canada to reduce household greenhouse gas emissions, engage in acts of solidarity, and collect signatures as support for increased federal government action. [Click Here](#)

Take action to reduce emissions, build solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, and call for federal action to achieve climate justice.

CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE

cpj.ca/fortheearth

FOR THE LOVE OF CREATION