

VOICES

SUMMER/FALL 2016

JustFaith Ministries Facilitators: Transformed by the Transformed

by **Susie Tierney**,

Executive Director of the Center for Social Ministry in Des Moines, Iowa; a nonprofit organization founded by JustFaith graduates in the Des Moines area

In the fall of 2002, I both participated in and facilitated one of the first fifty JustFaith groups taking place across the country.

Since that time, I've facilitated JustFaith six times, Engaging Spirituality twice, JusticeWalking three times, and one of the JustMatters modules. Every time I facilitate a JustFaith Ministries program, I am reminded of how transformational they really are. It's a real privilege to be part of someone else's faith journey; it feels a lot like walking on holy ground.

I am not alone. Other facilitators across the country have also been moved deeply by their facilitation experiences. My friend, Rev. Karen Crawford, an Episcopal priest in Newton, Iowa, just finished facilitating her first JustFaith group. She said, "As a facilitator, it was amazing to see the personal growth in JustFaith participants. Participants went from doubting they could make a difference in the world to understanding that they really could do something; that even small steps are important."

Rev. Kathleen McShane, an ordained United Methodist pastor at Campbell UMC in Campbell, California, had a similar experience facilitating Engaging Spirituality for the first time. Kathi was looking for a program that would engage participants more deeply in the call to discipleship. "I found Engaging Spirituality both helpful to my own growth and satisfying, because I could see growth in the participants and they began to own and be invested in their own spiritual deepening," she said.

In my conversations with facilitators across the country, the transformative effect of JustFaith Ministries' programs was only one reason they said "yes" to facilitating. Jay Landry, a Pastoral Associate at St. Basil Catholic Church in South Haven, Michigan, has facilitated the JustFaith program six times. He said, "The most inspiring part of JustFaith is the development of community. That dynamic allows participants to become vulnerable to ways of being called by the



spirit to grow and to change. It is one of the most transformative dynamics I've experienced in the life of the Church." As a former Pastoral Minister at a Catholic parish myself, I can say with certainty that

the experience of community within the JustFaith program is nearly unmatched in other faith formation programs. Like Jay, I have also facilitated JustFaith six times over the past fourteen years and because of the dynamic communal aspect of the program, I continue to meet with three of my groups regularly and one of them occasionally. Jay's continued sentiment resonates with me, "I never get tired of facilitating. The whole communal aspect – the journeying with one another – is always a new privilege."

The transformational and communal aspects of JustFaith Ministries' programs certainly draw individuals to facilitation roles, but there is also a much more practical reason people across the country agree to facilitate: the program writers and staff make it easy. Often when I am training facilitators across Iowa, I simply say, "The JustFaith Ministries staff has made facilitating so easy that anyone with some basic facilitation skills can pick up the program and run with it." Alan McGill, Director of Religious Education at Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Atlanta, Georgia, had to step in at the last minute and facilitate JustFaith for someone who was unable.

Alan said, "The materials are very user friendly and the workload is not unreasonable, threatening, or too demanding. The role of the facilitator is often simply moving the group along." John Ryan, a facilitator from Manchester, Connecticut, has facilitated three different JustFaith Ministries programs. He said, "Anyone can facilitate! All you have to do is be willing and say 'yes.'"

Regardless of the specific reason someone says "yes" to facilitating, the common denominator among all of the facilitators I have spoken with about their experience is the ultimate value of JustFaith Ministries programs. When I asked Sr. Dorothy Moczygamba of San Antonio, Texas, what she might say to others who are considering facilitating a JustFaith Ministries program, she said, "Don't hesitate. The programs are very informative and engaging and they evangelize the participants to action." Her parish, St. Brigid, has participated in GoodNewsPeople three times and JusticeWalking twice. "They demand a significant commitment of time, but are definitely worth every minute you invest." Alan McGill of Atlanta concurs. He shared,

"The return on your investment to facilitate JustFaith is far higher than any other program I've seen. The benefit brought to my parish by the JustFaith program is wonderful."

Often I'm asked, "How do you begin to make a difference in the world?" My response is typically, "First you have to actually believe that you have the power to make a difference. Then, start with what's right in front of you." Unfortunately, many who want to make a difference have not been able to see or name what is right in front of them. My friend, Karen, reminded me that JustFaith and other JustFaith Ministries' programs, help participants see what is right in front of them and then help empower participants to change the world. Who doesn't want to be a part of that process? Facilitating JustFaith Ministries' programs is one of the best commitments I have ever made, and I look forward to future opportunities to be part of the transformation of the world – one participant at a time. *JF*

✻✻✻✻✻✻ *JustMatters* ✻✻✻✻✻✻

JustMatters is a series of small-group processes from JustFaith Ministries that allow participants to focus on a particular current social justice topic. JustMatters modules use prayer, readings, media, guest speakers, and dialogue to give sustained attention to a specific area of social concern or social ministry and culminate in a call to engagement. We invite you to delve deeper into the critical issues we face by participating in a JustMatters module.

Please visit justfaith.org for more information.

Church of Second Chances

Church of Second Chances shares the stories of incarcerated people and exposes injustices in the judicial system through the lens of faith. This module inspires a prophetic revision of incarceration that invites restoration, mercy, and reconciliation.



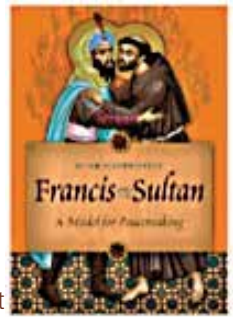
Crossing Borders

The Crossing Borders: Migration, Theology, and the Human Journey module offers the opportunity for prayer, reading, and reflection as well as discussion and discovery related to this complex issue reshaping the cultural, economic, and political landscape of the planet.



The Sultan and the Saint

The Sultan and the Saint module brings Muslims and Christians together in dialogue. By nurturing relationships across religious boundaries, participants model interfaith cooperation as they live out a central tenet of both faiths: to love God and to love our neighbor.



JustFaith Ministries is a ministry that relies on people called into service of others to meet its mission.

Each year, hundreds of loving souls take up the work of facilitating our programs all over the country. In fact, since our founding, over 5,000 people have engaged in the holy work of program facilitation. One of every five facilitators actually facilitates again. And some of those folks facilitate again and again and again!

The Board and staff of JustFaith Ministries are deeply grateful to every facilitator for animating and actualizing our mission in the world.

In this edition of Voices, we want to recognize the following facilitators who have facilitated three or more times in the last five years (2011 – 2015.)

Nick Albares
Jane Alderman
Delis Alejandro
Rita Amberg Waldref
Janice Anderson
Okey Anyanwu
Mindy Banz
Bill Barman
Ann Bartell
Mary Bechtel
Michele Becker
Charles Benke
Rose Bennett
Cheryl Berg
Suzanne Bernet
Mary Bertani
Teresa Beyer
Carol Binder
Julie Binney
Steph Blake
Lucy Bloedorn
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Ed Boenisch
Jim Bolner
Meg Bowerman
Patty Bowman
Jack Braun
Bob Brezinski
Maureen Brown
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Doug Christiansen
Ken Christy
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Leslye Colvin
Ami Conlan
Madeline Contorno
Bob Cooley
Tiffany Cooper
Michele Costello
Joyce Cottage
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Maria Cressler
Cindy Davis
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Betty Deerwester
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Richard DiCarlo
Kate Doherty
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Mary Doucette

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PJ Edwards
Celeste Egger
Jim Egger
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Anne Fitzsimons
Mary Flood
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Mary Ellen Foley
Maria Frantz
Mark Fritts
Elizabeth Gabay
Joe Gamarano
Gwen Goss
Elise Gower
Jackie Graham
Joe Grant
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Sharon Grigar
Nancy Haffey
Margie Hake
Dennis Hardwick
Roy Harrington
Caryl Hartjes
Ed Hatfield
Curt Hench
Warren Henderson
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Mary Homola
Linda Hurm
David Hyman
Jennifer Ibach
Darcelle Ioli
Maureen Irvin
Don Jensen
Denise Johnston
Linda Kahley
Mary Kay Kantz
Kathy Keary
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Susan Keefe
Jack Kern
Martha Kern
Betsy Keyack
Ann Kilkuskie
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John Krebsbach
Mary Kuhlman
Maureen Kurtz
Joseph Kwiatkowski
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Joan Laliberte
Pat Lamb
Jay Landry
Ann Lang
Daniel Larguier
Karen Latendresse
Bradley Leger
Tanya LeSane
Pam Lownik
Joe Lubrano

*Since our founding,
over 5,000 people
have engaged in
the holy work of
program facilitation.*

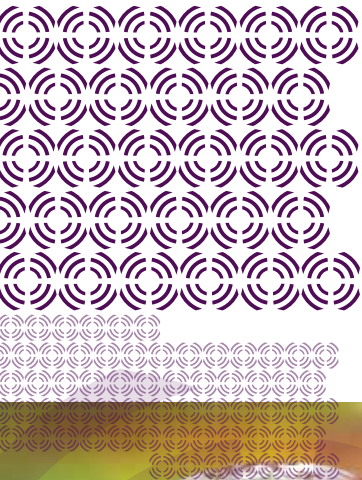
Rachel Lyons
Deni Mack
Anna Magallanez
Michael Magee
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Maria Massey
Frank McCann
Jean McCarthy
Renee McCarthy
Tim McCarthy
Linda McDowell
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Jim McNamara
Jim McVey
Rebecca Mendoza
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Kathy Meus
Mary Meyers
Donald Miller
Glady Miller

Lisa Milligan
Bruce Mlakar
Dorothy Moczygemba
Dennis Morehouse
Sandy Morehouse
Nancy Morrison
Lauren Morton
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Kathy Nickodemus
Patricia Niewiadomski
Pamela Novak
Nancy O'Byrne
Cathy Olds
Carolyn Owens
Barbara Padilla
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Heidi Parish
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Richard Parry
Kevin Pence
Mary Permoda
Gayle Peters
Nora Petersen
Katie Piiffner
Kelly Pignato
Noella Poinsette
Paul Prine
Mary Pung
Ellen Raeker
Judy Reilly
Shari Reilly
Jeff Riddle
Theresa Rinkoski
Steve Risley
Jack Roger
Myrt Rollins
Suzanne Rose
Barbara Roth
Tom Ruggaber
John Ryan
Phyllis Sanders
Bev Sauer
Edward Sause
Jeannie Scalise
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Sally Schauble
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Tom Schuenzel
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Lyle Scritsmier
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Pat Shullick
Daryl Shute
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Rachel Sizemore

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Jane Snyder
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Linda Swindle
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Brian Taaffe
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Guy Wauthy
Dale Weatherspoon
Debbie Weatherspoon
Barney Webb
Dixie Webb
Al Weilbaeher
Ed Welch
Bea White
Mike Wideman
Gerald Wiczorek
Cathy Wilhm
Eileen Williams
Mary Williams
Joan Wissbaum
Stephen Wodzanowski
Greg Wolfe
Norman Young
Bill Zaccagnino
Berrien Zettler

JustFaith

Encouraging a Culture of Care: Renewal of the JustFaith Program



They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:9)

In *Laudato Si'*, a landmark letter addressed to the whole human family, Pope Francis presented a new paradigm for engaging the Christian message of justice and peace in our time. In the face of an unfolding environmental and human catastrophe, whose effects are felt acutely by the most impoverished among us, Francis strengthened the bridge between environmental and human concerns. True to the Biblical vision of God's world restored, he challenged us to make an "ecological conversion."

...social love moves us to devise larger strategies to halt environmental degradation and to encourage a "culture of care" which permeates all of society. —Laudato Si' 231

At JustFaith Ministries we have wholeheartedly embraced the integration of eco-social justice, linking the cry of Creation with the cries of the world's poorest.

In order to trash the planet, you have to trash people, but if you create a world where you don't trash people, you can't trash the planet. Van Jones, "The Economic Injustice of Plastic" TED talk

To that end, we have renewed our premiere program, JustFaith, with an emphasis on the new paradigm: encouraging a culture of care. This renewed process, now a single program, is accessible and designed for use in diverse Christian contexts. The renewed process affirms the links between planet and people and integrates the paradigm of *Laudato Si'* with wisdom and voices from other traditions.

...the opposite of poverty is not wealth; the opposite of poverty is justice. —Bryan Stevenson, Just Mercy

The framework (4 phases, 24 sessions, 2 retreats, 4 immersions) and major themes (compassion, poverty, personal and structural bias, nonviolence) remain consistent. Past participants will recognize well-loved books, such as *Tattoos on the Heart and Compassion*, and note new resources, such as Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy* and numerous TED talks representing a diversity of voices and perspectives.

Stories have been used to dispossess and to malign, but stories can also be used to empower and to humanize. Stories can break the dignity of people, but stories can also repair that broken dignity. —Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, "The Danger of a Single Story" TED talk

In the renewed JustFaith process, participants will continue to share dialogue and prayer, a deep commitment to explore the realities of today, and a desire to discern their role in creating a world of greater peace and justice.

Visit justfaith.org to register today!

*Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life,
the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle
for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life. —Earth Charter*

Walking Together as Missionary Disciples

www.usccb.org/cchd



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

by **Maura Moser,**

Mission and Identity Manager for the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development

In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis proclaims, “The Church which ‘goes forth’ is a community of missionary disciples who take the first step, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice.” The facilitators of JustFaith Ministries embody this missionary discipleship. They take the first step, walking with participants on a journey whose destination is not pre-determined, but guided by the Holy Spirit. Facilitators are involved and supportive, dedicating their time and energy by preparing and leading sessions on challenging topics amid their own busy lives. We know their efforts bear fruit in forming missionary disciples; they rejoice in the knowledge gained and fellowship fostered.

For us, JustFaith facilitators are missionary disciples.



Photo credit: iStock

As you continue on your JustFaith Ministries journey, the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops walks with you. Here are some of the ways we can work together to promote integral human development:

- Utilize the new **We Are Salt and Light** website to learn ways your parish, school, diocese, or JustFaith Ministries group will be able to continue to engage in the dynamic process of praying together, reaching out together, learning together, and acting together. www.wearesaltandlight.org
- Discern the social mission of the church with the book, **Sacraments and Social Mission** which you can download here: www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/upload/sacraments-and-social-mission-book.pdf
- Take the poverty tour at **PovertyUSA.org** to learn more about the effects of poverty in our communities.
- Discern how you are putting the “Two Feet of Love in Action” (www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/two-feet-of-love-in-action.cfm) resource into practice by connecting to a local **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)** group in your area. Contact your CCHD Diocesan Director to learn more: www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/diocesan-coordinators-catholic-campaign-for-human-development.cfm.
- Begin conversations with area community members to find ways to support local groups. Find more information about potential groups at PovertyUSA.org or www.pobrezausa.org.
- Start a CCHD committee in your parish in order to share information about the program of the U.S. Catholic bishops, to share the stories about low-income people helping themselves, and to promote the annual collection.
- Work and advocate with the members of your local community by speaking to your elected leaders (local and national). Read excerpts from *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* for help to formulate your dialogues with elected leaders. www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship
- Sign up to receive updates on legislative actions, current events and happenings and prayer reflections from our “Notes for Neighbors Newsletter.” It is distributed every three weeks. You may sign up here: www.usccb.org/about/justice-peace-and-human-development
- For more information on the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, please contact us at JPHDmail@usccb.org or 202-541-3180.

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“Let us be realists, but without losing our joy, our boldness and our hope-filled commitment. Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of missionary vigor!” —Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel

Through Faith, CRS Answers the Questions

by **Kimberly Mazyck**,

Relationship Manager, National Partnerships, Catholic Relief Services

www.crs.org



Recently, a friend and I were having dinner and found ourselves discussing formation, especially for young people. She shared this story about a grandmother asking her granddaughter, “What are you doing for Easter?” The granddaughter responds, “Who is Easter?” Of course, this story makes me laugh, but it also reminds me that I have had a very earnest and concerned individual ask me, “What is CRS?” This story and the question make me think about people’s knowledge of Catholic social teaching and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Unfortunately, some people still refer to CRS as one of the greatest secrets of the Roman Catholic Church.

In my opportunities to meet with people across the country, I find that the group least likely to ask, “What is CRS?” are JustFaith Ministries facilitators, participants, and graduates. The JustFaith Ministries community remains a very enthusiastic supporter of CRS, and JustFaith Ministries graduates serve on global solidarity teams in many dioceses.

As the CRS liaison for JustFaith Ministries, I want all facilitators to know that CRS is a direct resource for them and their groups. All facilitators have access to CRS staff and Diocesan Directors who are local resources for

them and their JustFaith Ministries group. In addition to the written and web-based resources that are available, facilitators should never hesitate to contact CRS should they need a local speaker to come or call into their meeting.

A phone call to the CRS Call Center at 866-608-5978 will help locate the appropriate individual for a JustFaith Ministries group.

I smile, certain that if you are ever on the receiving end of the question, “What is CRS?” you have an answer as a direct result of your amazing JustFaith Ministries facilitators. *JF*



Photo credit: Oscar Leiva-Silverlight for CRS

Here are the Top Ten Things that JustFaith Ministries facilitators should know about CRS:

1. CRS is the international relief and development agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB.)
2. CRS is the face of the U.S. Catholic community around the world (this means that the work of CRS represents us all).
3. CRS is not Catholic Charities. Both organizations are part of Caritas Internationalis, but direct services of CRS are outside of the U.S. and Catholic Charities’ direct services are in the U.S.
4. Getting more information about CRS or finding a speaker to attend or call into your group’s gathering is just a phone call away.
5. CRS responds to the challenge of Pope Francis in *Laudato Si’* through our overseas programming.
6. CRS supports Fair Trade to promote safe and healthy working conditions, protect the environment, enable transparency, and empower communities to build strong, thriving businesses. CRS also provides direct links to our Fair Trade partners where individuals can make Fair Trade purchases.
7. CRS Rice Bowl provides resources for individuals, families, parishes, and small groups like JustFaith Ministries program groups so they can put their faith into action during Lent by devoting their fasting and alms to change the lives of those living in poverty.
8. CRS developed Catholics Confront Global Poverty with the USCCB to provide opportunities for Catholics to defend the lives and dignity of people living in poverty worldwide, through advocacy and action.
9. CRS Global Fellows are priests, deacons, and seminarians who travel with CRS to visit our programming overseas. Once they return to the U.S., many are available to share their experiences and stories with parishes across the country.
10. The inspiration of CRS is found in the staff and partners serving in more than 100 countries around the world and here in the U.S. To learn more about these stories, visit www.crs.org

People of Faith and the 2016 Elections

by **Krisanne Vaillancourt-Murphy**,

Senior Associate for National Catholic Engagement and Co-Author of *Advocating For Justice*, published by Baker Academic in May 2016

www.bread.org



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As a Catholic woman and mother of three elementary school-age children, I believe that helping my children develop a sense of right and wrong is one of the most important aspects of being a parent. As Jacob, Matthew, and Sarah grow, learn to read, and piece together the world around them, their questions have gotten more complex and insightful.

Recently, the most challenging questions the children have raised have been about the 2016 presidential election. Amid the rancor of this election cycle, my husband and I have struggled to offer our children a positive vision of what political dialogue and civil discourse means in light of our Catholic faith.

Pope Francis' first apostolic exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, has something to say about faith and politics. In part, it reads, "An

authentic faith . . . always involves a deep desire to change the world, to transmit values, to leave this earth somehow better than we found it. We love this magnificent planet on which God has put us. . . . The earth is our common home and all of us are brothers and sisters."

In addition, the Catholic bishops of the United States have developed a tool called *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*. The document reminds us of the four biblically grounded principles of Catholic social doctrine that inform citizenship: the dignity of the human person, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity. The document reads, "With this foundation, Catholics are better able to evaluate policy positions, party platforms, and candidates' promises and actions in light of the Gospel and the moral and social teaching of the Church in order to help build a better world."

For Catholics—and all Christians—retreating from political life is not an option. Active and engaged citizenship is key to our faithful discipleship and gospel witness. *AF*



Photo credit: Doug Puller for Bread for the World



Photo credit: © iStock photo/YinYang

What You Can Do This Election Season

Bread for the World is encouraging people of faith to get involved in a bipartisan way this elections cycle. Our goal, when the new President and the next Congress take office in 2017, is that they will take action to make ending hunger a national priority and will put our nation and the world on track to end hunger by 2030.

You can help achieve this goal by meeting with the candidates and asking them the following questions:

1. If elected, what will you do to end hunger, alleviate poverty, and create opportunity in the U.S. and worldwide?"

2. Will you publicize your position on hunger, poverty, and opportunity on your website and in social media?

3. Will you meet with us again within the first 100 days of taking office?

For more information – including hunger and poverty statistics for your state – and additional ways to get involved, visit www.bread.org/elections.

Become Prayer and Peace with Maryknoll

by Susan Gunn,

Communications Manager, Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

www.maryknollaffiliates.org
www.maryknollaymissioners.org
www.maryknollsisters.org
www.maryknollsociety.org



Like participants in JustFaith Ministries programs, members of the Maryknoll mission organizations – Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, Lay Missioners, and Affiliates – journey with God through the sharing of our lives. Maryknoll missioners in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the United States give witness to God’s love by serving people who are ailing, vulnerable, and marginalized.

“If I become prayer and peace...”


Maryknoll Sister Theresa Baldini shares this story about an encounter with a woman in South Sudan:

When I first came to Narus, South Sudan, with another Sister to begin a simple prayer and peace presence in a war zone, one of the Sudanese women, Anna, asked us: “What tribe are you?”

Spontaneously, I said that my companion is from the New Jersey tribe and I am from the New York tribe. Anna seemed perplexed. “Do you live together?” she asked. “Yes, we live gratefully together,” I said. I explained that Maryknoll has members from many different tribes and we live and work together as a family.

I quickly learned that there were over 40,000 displaced Sudanese people in the town, representing about 10 different tribes, each living in separate compounds. Anna and her family were among the displaced.

After about a year of visiting and praying with us, Anna said that the name of our dwelling – “House of Prayer and Peace” – challenged her to “become prayer and peace.”

“The two sisters here are from different tribes,” Anna said. “If I become prayer and peace, then I, too, can peacefully live together with other tribes, all being part of one family.” 

Pray with Maryknoll

Like Anna, we recognize prayer as the way God reveals God’s self to us. Pray with *A Maryknoll Book of Prayer*. It offers universal and traditional prayers as well as local prayers collected by Maryknoll missioners from around the world.

www.orbisbooks.com

Meditate on Scripture with Maryknoll *Scripture Reflections*, written by Maryknoll missioners on the readings for each Sunday and holy days. You will find Sister Theresa’s story from South Sudan and many more.

www.maryknollogc.org/scripture-reflections

Come and See

Participate in an overseas trip organized by Maryknoll Lay Missioners to immerse you in the mission reality we call home. Some trips are designed specifically for JustFaith Ministries graduates.

www.friendsacrossborders.org

Become a Maryknoll Missioner or Affiliate

Check out opportunities to live out your baptismal call to mission, from joining a local Maryknoll Affiliates group to making a full-time commitment to overseas mission, for a few years or the rest of your life!

www.maryknoll.org

Form your Faith

Whether you are a deacon, educator, parent, or parishioner, join a formation program, workshop, or retreat to learn more about mission.

www.maryknoll.us

<https://maryknollsisters.org/maryknoll-mission-institute-2/>

Stay Informed and Get Involved

Join our email list to receive *NewsNotes*, our newsletter, for analysis of latest developments in Maryknoll mission, and ways to take action.

www.maryknollogc.org

Read more stories about Maryknoll Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, Lay Missioners, and Affiliates, in the pages of *Maryknoll Magazine*

To subscribe to Maryknoll Magazine, send check or money order for \$15 or more, payable to Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers, to:

Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers New Magazine Subscription P.O. Box 302 Maryknoll, NY 10545-0302

www.maryknollmagazine.org

Current Maryknoll Immersion Programs for JustFaith Ministries Program Participants:

EL SALVADOR

June 9-18, 2017

Deadline for signing up is February 9, 2017.

TANZANIA

August 4-13, 2017

Deadline for signing up is April 4, 2017.

A Prayer for Facilitators of JustFaith Ministries

As catalysts for deeper conversation, facilitators are the hinge that holds open a door to dialogue. Prayerful presence is the most valuable gift facilitators can offer, for it is the Spirit (already present in our lives) that is directing the process. Indeed, it is this very Spirit, acting on us and through us, that transforms.

Take this prayer to heart. Let it guide you each time you prepare to shepherd a group through a life-affirming JustFaith Ministries' process:

Holy Spirit come! Take the lead!

*We open our hearts to your inspiration,
our life-journey to your direction.*

*Breathe creativity, challenge, and consolation into our day,
so we may never get in Your way.*

Mind of Christ, enlighten us.

Heart of Christ, fill us with compassion.

Spirit of Christ, compel us to action.

May it be so.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" (Luke 24:13-17)

Did you know that JustFaith Ministries exists because the people who participate in our programs and other donors who support our mission provide nearly 60% of our annual budget?

That's right.

In 2015, just over 900 people provided the charitable gifts that sustained this ministry, allowing facilitators and participants to journey together through one of our programs. Please visit www.justfaith.org/donate for a full list of these wonderful donors.

Thank you.

We can't say it enough. Thank You.

Because you give, over 8,000 people have participated in a JustFaith Ministries program in the last two years. And those 8,000 people multiply your gifts as they go out to feed the hungry, visit the imprisoned and the lonely, reduce their own personal consumption, and increase their giving to organizations that care for the vulnerable, the poor, and the Earth. And so much more.

Program registrations and books sales provide only about 24% of what it costs to produce, maintain, and distribute programs that support and sustain people

of faith living lives of extraordinary compassion. We simply cannot do this work without you!

When you support JustFaith Ministries, you grow a movement of compassion across the country.

Let's say it one more time.

THANK YOU

*~the Board and Staff
of JustFaith Ministries*

A special THANK YOU to our 2016-17 Board of Directors!

The Board of Directors of JustFaith Ministries faithfully guides the mission of this nonprofit ministry. They bring a wealth of experience, deep faith, and profound commitment to the mission and to our ministry. We are grateful to each of them.



Vicki Beynon, Ed Boenisch, Bill Brennan, Bob Brezinski, Claudia Brown, Claire V. Broome, Jim Carney, Adrienne Directo, Mary Doucette, PJ Edwards, Vince Herberholt, Tricia Hoyt, Jack Jezreel, Collen Mayer, Jean McCarthy, Bruce Mlakar, Lauren Morton, Dennis O'Donnell, Barbara Roth, Ron Schaefer, Lyle Scritsmier, Nancy J. Servoss, Susan Stall, Bill Toller, Jane Walsh

In the last 16 years, well over 50,000 people have participated in a JustFaith Ministries program. So many people of faith opening their hearts to the gospel call to lives of mercy and compassion! Those 50,000 have gone on to embody the Works of Mercy by feeding the hungry, comforting the afflicted, welcoming strangers, visiting incarcerated people, living lives of extraordinary compassion.

How did such a thing happen?

Each day, I'm blessed to roll up my sleeves and set about doing the work of supporting this small, nonprofit ministry along with 9 full- and part-time employees. And while each of us works very hard and with loving dedication – we're not the reason this mission has engaged thousands of people.

The reason the mission is actualized in the world is YOU.

You, the faithful people who facilitate, participate in, and support our programs. Whether it was this year, last year, or ten years ago, you are the reason so many people continue to engage in our programs, and then go on to engage in the world with mercy and compassion.

You are the facilitators who gather, inspire, form, and help transform people in small groups all over the country. You are the local leaders and ambassadors who take up the task of sharing the transformative power of JustFaith Ministries programs within your region, your diocese, your church, or your local community. In waves of generosity that never fail to amaze me, your donations

support this small organization by providing over 60% of our operating budget each year. And it is you who pick up the mantle of leadership, becoming the Board members who move us forward.

You represent the voice and vision, the hands and feet, the heart and soul of this challenging mission, this inspiring ministry; all of you, quietly going about changing those people who change this world.

You are the movement for a more compassionate, peaceful world.

Thank you! Thank you!



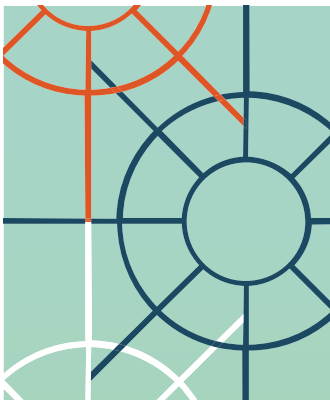
Notes

From Jane



**Christ has no body now on earth but yours,
no hands but yours,
no feet but yours,
yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion
is to look out to the earth,
yours are the feet by which He is to go about doing good
and yours are the hands by which He is to bless us now.**

—St Teresa of Avila



JustFaith Ministries provides program participants with timely resources through our **GradNet** email.

To receive our electronic resource, please email gradnet@justfaith.org

JustFaith Ministries provides resources in addition to Voices for past program participants. If you would like to receive additional resources, please email us at info@justfaith.org with your name and email address.

JustFaith Ministries
P.O. Box 221348
Louisville, KY 40252
502-429-0865


www.justfaith.org

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Louisville, KY 40252

OUR MISSION

JustFaith Ministries is a nonprofit organization that forms, informs, and transforms people of faith by offering programs and resources that sustain them in their compassionate commitment to build a more just and peaceful world.

Graphic Design: PLOW Studio, Louisville, KY



JustFaith Ministries offers an array of programs that invite people of faith into the heart of mercy.

Make community with those asking deep questions and looking to change their lives. Connect with your brothers and sisters on the margins and find hope together.

Respond to this opportune moment by participating in a JFM program:

JustFaith

JustMatters

GoodNews People

Engaging Spirituality