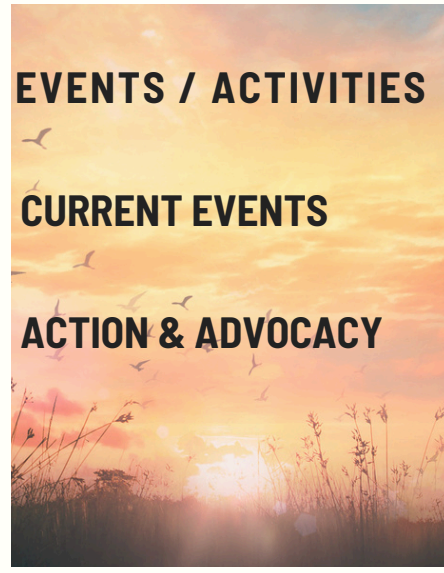




# THE WEEKLY REVIEW



## IN THIS ISSUE:



*"Peace is not the product of terror or fear. Peace is not the silence of cemeteries. Peace is not the silent result of violent repression. Peace is the generous, tranquil contribution of all to the good of all. Peace is dynamism. Peace is generosity. It is right and it is duty."*

—St. Óscar Romero

*This weekly news aggregate is created by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Office of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation for SCL Sisters & Associates along with any other interested audiences.  
Questions/Comments/Concerns?  
Email: JPIC@scls.org*

# Care of Creation

## High school students press for more climate curriculum

*(PBS News, 5/8/2024)*

"Several dozen young people wearing light blue T-shirts imprinted with #teachclimate filled a hearing room in the Minnesota Capitol in St. Paul in late February. It was a cold and windy day, in contrast to the state's nearly snowless, warm winter.

The high school and college students and other advocates, part of group Climate Generation, called on the Minnesota Youth Council, a liaison between young people and state lawmakers, to support a bill requiring schools to teach more about climate change."



## Explainer: What are the most powerful climate actions you can take? The expert view

*(The Guardian, 5/9/2024)*

"Many of the experts were clear on the limits. "It can only go so far. Deep, rapid cuts in carbon emissions from oil and gas, as well as other sectors such as transport, are needed, which are outside the control of the average individual," said Dr Shobha Maharaj, a climate impacts scientist from Trinidad and Tobago. "Individual action can only amount to a drop in the bucket – only systemic changes will be sufficient," said Prof David Wrathall, at Oregon State University in the US. But Prof Hiroyuki Enomoto, at Japan's National Institute of Polar Research, said that while individual actions have a small impact, they are important in increasing collective awareness of the problem."

## 3 female saints teach that Earth is our common mother and home

*(Earthbeat, 5/10/2024)*

"Servant of God Nicholas Black Elk, in keeping with his Lakota tradition, taught that the earth is our mother and grandmother and every step we take upon her should be done prayerfully. None of the three saintly women presented here were mothers themselves, but each heard the beat of God's maternal heart in the hills of Ireland, Germany and North America, and each felt the breeze of the feminine spirit of God as it flowed from the Shannon to the Rhine to the Mohawk Rivers."

# Events

# Human Trafficking

## Stop Trafficking Newsletter

### May Issue: The Apparel Industry

*(Alliance to end Human Trafficking, 05/2024)*

**"Focus:** The focus of this month's newsletter is the role of child and forced labor in the apparel industry."

## May, 2024 Monthly Reflection-

### Cling to the Vision: A World without Human Trafficking

*(Alliance to end Human Trafficking, 05/2024)*

"I learned—and keep learning—that the work of ending human trafficking is not for the faint of heart. It's a marathon, not a sprint, and it requires building strong relationships with others who share the vision and a similar mission of ending the crime. It demands that I generously share my gifts, abilities, time, and energy to address the factors that allow this crime to continue, bringing about healing and wholeness for those affected and for our communities that cannot thrive if any of our neighbors is suffering such gross inhumanity.

When I'm feeling overwhelmed, discouraged, and tired from my efforts that seem fruitless, I turn to the Scripture passage from the book of Habakkuk 2:2-3 that speaks of the dream: "Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets, so that one can read it readily. For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint. If it delays, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not be late."





## **How Oklahoma's undocumented community is preparing for expanded immigration enforcement**

*(PBS News, 5/7/2024)*

"The law, which goes into effect July 1, creates a new crime called "impermissible occupation," and imposes penalties for willfully remaining in the state without legal authorization to enter the United States. The first offense is a misdemeanor punishable by one year in jail and a fine of up to \$500 or both. A second offense is a felony with up to two years in prison, a fine doubled up to \$1,000 or both. The person would be required to leave the state within 72 hours following their conviction or after they're released from custody."

## **Biden is tweaking an asylum rule to speed up deportation for some migrants**

*(NPR, 5/8/2024)*

"The incremental change would apply to people viewed as unlikely to be eligible for asylum because they pose national security risks. The proposal would mean they could be deported at an earlier stage of the review process, which sometimes takes years."

## **Texas attorney general revives attempt to shut down Catholic nonprofit serving migrants**

*(NCR, 5/10/2024)*

"Paxton previously filed suit in February in an attempt to shut down Annunciation House, accusing it of "human smuggling," in a move that was denounced by Catholic immigration advocates, including El Paso Bishop Mark J. Seitz. In March, District Judge Francisco Dominguez in El Paso issued an order blocking Paxton's subpoena of Annunciation House, finding both that Paxton's effort seemed politically motivated and that it must go through appropriate due process in the state court system."

# Seeking Racial Justice

## Nearly 50 years later, Asian American and Pacific Islander month features revelry and racial justice

*(Associated Press, 5/1/2024)*

“What started as just one week in May has evolved over the decades into a monthlong tribute of events in cities big and small. The nature of celebrations also evolved. Asian American and Pacific Islander or Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is not just about showcasing festive fare like food and fashion, but hard subjects like grief and social justice. The rise of anti-Asian hate during the pandemic only heightened that effort.”



## Freedom Monument Park tells honest story of enslaved people

*(NPR, 4/22/2024)*

“It's a way of just humanizing this community of people who endured so much, who suffered so much and yet gave so much to this country,” he said. “This nation wouldn't be what it is without the labor and the sacrifice and the toil and the struggle of enslaved people.”  
With this new monument park, there's now a physical reminder of the impact slavery had on this country and on the people who lived it.”

## Pursuing paths toward justice through Black ecology

*(The Harvard Gazette, 5/6/2024)*

“Many exclusionary environmental policies and practices date back to slavery and Jim Crow laws. J.T. Roane, a historian based at Rutgers University, uses his scholarship to show how laws and policies have alienated and disconnected Black residents from the land over time. Roane works closely with Just Harvest, a Virginia-based organization that employs history, advocacy, and hands-on work to advance food sovereignty. Just Harvest brings attention to the root causes of hunger and poverty through community education programs.”



# Advocacy & Action



Sisters of the Good Shepherd National Advocacy Center:  
**Better Protect Asylum Seekers from Human Trafficking**

“This bi-partisan, common-sense legislation would reduce asylees' wait time for work authorization from 180 days to 30 days, giving them quicker access to legal work while their asylum cases are being adjudicated. This change would reduce their vulnerability to being trafficked, allowing them access to legal work sooner to provide for themselves and their families. It also would reduce their reliance on emergency services, and bolster both the U.S. workforce and economy. It's a win-win for all of us.

Asylum seekers are in the U.S. seeking safety and opportunity. Please fix our antiquated system that shuts them out of our workforce for months at a time - please support and pass H.R. 1325.”