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SALT & LIGHT

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RESPECT LIFE: CHILDREN AT RISK

Since 1997, the Flores Agreement has protected immigrant children from inhumane detention conditions. This has complicated the Trump administration's desire to prosecute all who come across our border without permission, even those who come legally seeking asylum. Because of Flores, families with children were often released into the community pending hearings. Now adults are being held in detention facilities and their children are still being separated and placed in facilities that are not appropriate for children. The government wants to change Flores to make this legal.

Although calls or emails to our Senators (we still have no Congressional representation) on this issue are good, it's even more important that people submit comments on the proposed rule change before the Nov. 6 deadline. Justice for Immigrants has more information at <https://justiceforimmigrants.org/2016site/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/final-formated-10-things-flores-doc.pdf>. Here's JFI's summary of Flores:

"The agreement, which the federal government voluntarily entered into, requires in part that: facilities provide children in their custody with access to sanitary and temperature-controlled conditions, water, food, medical assistance, ventilation, adequate supervision, and contact with family members. Further, Flores states that facilities must ensure that children are not held with unrelated adults, that the government release children from detention without unnecessary delay to parents or other approved sponsors, and that if a child cannot be released from care, the child be placed in the "least restrictive" setting appropriate, based on his or her age and needs. As it relates to the custody of children, Flores also mandates that the government typically transfer immigrant children to facilities that are licensed by the state for childcare."

See p. 2 for more information about tent camp housing

HUNGER FOR CHANGE

The Church of the Assumption in Fairport is offering Justfaith's *Hunger for Change* module to give participants fresh insights into the causes and consequences of food insecurity in the U.S. and across the globe. Rather than meet on consecutive weeks the 8-week program will be scheduled based on participants' availabil-

ity. One option is Tuesdays starting Oct 23 at 6:30 to 9 pm. The second option starts Wednesday Oct 24 at noon to 2:30 pm. For more info or to register to join this small group contact Dr. Deni Mack @ 388 5428 deni.mack@dor.org and please put HUNGER in the subject line.

REALITY TOUR

Join the Reality Tour today while there's still space and learn about the facts. Hear the real human stories. Get ready to take action.

For cities our size, we are #1 in extreme poverty. This means there are more than 30,000 men, women, and children in the heart of our community who struggle to survive every day. Learn about their experiences. Hear about the impact of failed policies and devastating budget cuts on their lives.

Saturday, October 20, 2018

11:45AM to approximately 3:45PM

Begins and ends at The Children's School of Rochester # 15, 85 Hillside Ave, Rochester NY 14610

*Look for the yellow school buses.

RSVP by October 12, 2018

Seats are confirmed when payment is received.

\$20 donation for the tour

\$15 for students

\$10 for low income

Reserve your seat with payment at

www.swaarochester.org/reality-tour-registration

Or mail your checks to SWAA Reality Tour, P.O. Box 17323, Rochester, NY 14617

Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. There's one bathroom break. The buses roll rain or shine.

For more info call: 585.512.8812 Email: realitytour@swaarochester.org

"Today too, children are a sign. They are a sign of hope, a sign of life, but also a "diagnostic" sign, a marker indicating the health of families, society and the entire world. Wherever children are accepted, loved, cared for and protected, the family is healthy, society is more healthy and the world is more human."

Pope Francis, 5/25/14

CELEBRATION - ST. OSCAR ROMERO

Nazareth College: Lecture and celebration Mass in honor of the canonization of Oscar Romero. Sunday, October 15

St. Oscar Romero: A Disciple in Troubled Times

Lecture by Dr. Damian Zynda, PhD

3:00—4:30 pm

Golisano Academic Center, Room 38

Mass of Celebration

7:00 pm Linehan Chapel, Golisano Academic Center

Fr. Jesus Flores presiding

On Sunday, October 15, Pope Francis will canonize Oscar Romero making him a Roman Catholic saint. While Romero was archbishop of San Salvador, he spoke out against poverty, social injustice, assassinations and torture. On March 24, 1980 he was assassinated while offering Mass. Learn more at <https://www.smome.com/mcfny-celebration-of-saint-oscar-romero?ref=email>

All are welcome to attend.

CHILDREN AT RISK

Hundreds of Children Moved to a Tent Camp on the Texas Border

The NY Times has reported that hundreds of immigrant children have been moved in the dead of night to tent cities in a rural area of Texas. The reason: increased number of undocumented children crossing the border and foster homes are filled to capacity. Older children (teens) have been moved to provide room for others who have recently arrived. Reports are that they are not told ahead of time for fear they will run away. The number of days spent in shelters has almost doubled from 34 to 59. So far it is estimated that more than 1600 children are now in these tent cities. The number of unaccompanied children crossing the border has increased 5 fold since last year and now the estimate is about 30,000.

The tent city in Tornillo, unlike the shelters regulated by state human service agencies is unregulated, except for guidelines created by the Department of Health and Human Services. For example, schooling is not required there, as it is in regular migrant children shelters.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/30/us/migrant-children-tent-city-texas.html?nl=top->

SEASON OF CREATION EVENT

St. Monica's Parish celebrated Roc the Riverway Weekend by participating in a hands-on cleanup of a residential parcel with vacant land bordering the river in the Maplewood neighborhood. The health of the river is linked to the vitality and safety of our neighborhoods.

THE COFFEE PRAYER

Loving Savior,

I drink this cup in solidarity with the one who planted the seedlings.

In solidarity with the one who nurtured the soil.

In solidarity with the one who watered the trees.

In solidarity with the one who harvested the beans in their cherries.

In solidarity with the one who brought the harvest to market.

It has been a long time brewing, this cup.

And with each sip, I pray for justice for everyone in the chain of production

Particularly those whose poverty

Prevents them from tasting the bounty you provide.

Solidarity, justice: this is our challenge.

But one thing I have learned from you, Lord

Is that small cups can contain great miracles.

And we can all find oneness there. Amen

Learn more about supporting Catholic Relief Services' Ethical Trade program at <https://ethicaltrade.crs.org/>

SHANNON LECTURE

Thursday, Oct. 18, Shannon Lecture, Shults Center, Nazareth College; Ruben L.F. Habito, *Buddhist Wisdom and Christian Truth: Expanding Horizons of Catholic Faith and Understanding*, 7 pm; Free and open to the public.

TSUNAMI AND HURRICANE RELIEF

The news has been full of people suffering from natural disasters. The U.S. Catholic Church has highly reputable programs doing both domestic and overseas relief.

Catholic Relief Services is recognized throughout the world for its development and relief work. Learn more and donate at <https://www.crs.org/>

Catholic Charities agencies throughout the United States network through Catholic Charities USA. Learn about and donate to assist the work of Catholic Charities in response to southern hurricanes at <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/>

HAITI FUNDRAISER

Join Friends of Borgne to celebrate the harvest and raise funds to provide nourishment to fuel the brains of our students at the Fondasyon Dauphin in Haiti this school year! October 21, noon—3:00 pm, Mendon Community Center, 167 N. Main St., Honeoye Falls.

\$10 person, \$5 for children. Eat soups and stews, watch the Bills vs Colts game, bounce in the bounce house, and enter to win a beautiful Afghan or the 50/50 raffle. If you are able, bring a rugged backpack for our backpack drive.