

JUNE NEWSLETTER

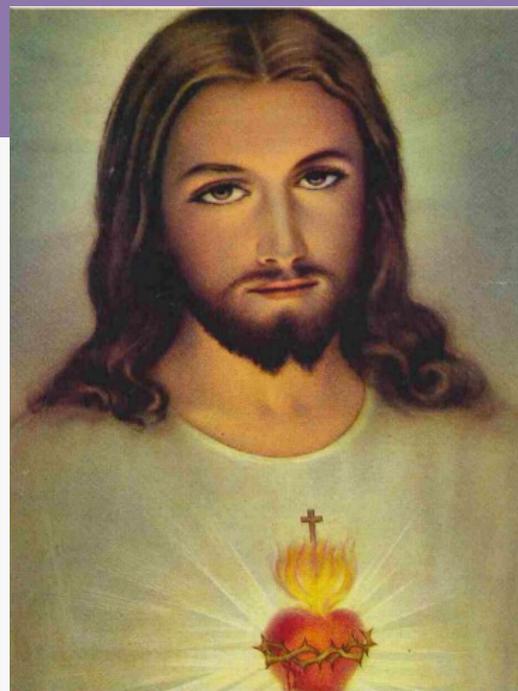
CATHOLIC SOCIAL WORKERS' NATIONAL ASSOCIATION



"Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we, who glory in the Heart of your beloved Son and recall the wonders of his love for us, may be made worthy to receive an overflowing measure of grace from that fount of heavenly gifts. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever." - Collect Prayer

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CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

We pray in thanksgiving for the passing of the heartbeat bills, and similar pro-life bills being passed in states across the US. We also offer our love and prayers to those who have suffered from an abortion. May we grow in charity and love of neighbor and offer support to all pregnant women, their families, and their children!



“HE WILL WIPE EVERY TEAR FROM THEIR EYES, AND THERE SHALL BE NO MORE DEATH OR MOURNING, WAILING OR PAIN, FOR THE OLD ORDER HAS PASSED AWAY. THE ONE WHO SAT ON THE THRONE SAID, ‘BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.’” -REVELATIONS 21



FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES



Franciscan University's 2019 graduation commencement was held on May 11, 2019. There were 19 social work graduates who proudly walked the stage, eager to begin their careers. Please keep these young professionals in your prayers as they begin their jobs and strive to be leaders in the field of Catholic Social Work.

The 2019 Fall Conference will be a wonderful opportunity to meet current social work students, as well as recent graduates who will be helping with the conference. The CSWNA looks forward to the conference as a means of connection and collaboration between CSWNA members and the FUS student social work community!

CHANGE AGENTS

"I KNOW THAT YOU ARE
COMBINING ALL YOUR
EFFORTS SO THAT YOU
MAY BE OF BUT ONE
HEART AND ONE WILL
AND MAY THEREBY ACT
ONLY WITH THE DESIRE
OF ACCOMPLISHING THE
WILL OF GOD."

- LOUISE DE MARILLAC





REFLECTION

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME: Self-Care as a Catholic Social Worker

Written By: Helena Stadnik

St. Thérèse of Lisieux once stated: “The world is thy ship and not thy home”. This wisdom, shared by the youngest Doctor of the Church, should ring true for all Catholics. We are taught to be in the world but not of it. One may assume that this call could be easier in a profession such as social work which shares so many ethical values with our Catholic faith. However, even as social workers our faith is often challenged in many ways; just as a ship is challenged by the foreboding waves of the open sea. If we lack a navigator on our ship, if we lack an anchor or sails or any other necessary tool, our ship will surely be wrecked by these spiritual storms.

Yet, there is great hope! As Catholics, we can access our spiritual home while we are still here on earth through prayer and community. As social workers, these are indispensable resources which we must incorporate into our self-care. If we do not, we will be as constant travelers: wandering, vulnerable, and exhausted. Instead, we are encouraged to rest and rejuvenate by spending time “at home” in prayer. This includes spending time in a Catholic church, our physical home, as well as personal and communal prayer, meditating on our spiritual home, our destiny of heaven.



"GOD IS GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL"

As we well know, being a social worker more often than not can be rather taxing on physical, mental and emotional levels as we give of ourselves to those in most need. Yet, in order to give, we must first receive. For me, I receive peace of mind and peace of soul by going to Holy Mass twice a week, meditating on the mysteries of the rosary and sitting with Jesus in adoration. These are ways in which I step out of the world and into the comforts of "home", where I can rest and be reminded of who I am and where my strength lies. I also regularly discuss with my friends and family ways in which I can incorporate the virtues of our faith into my job not only to better serve my clients, but also to help myself remain level-headed and at peace throughout the day.

These resources of prayer and community are those which keep our hearts grounded in our spiritual home. These are the prayers and people to whom we can hold fast in the storms and with whom we can share our professional burdens. One such friend recently encouraged me to "pray more than you worry". I have since written this down and keep it out as a reminder when I am weighted down by the stresses of being a social worker that are often difficult to leave at work. I heed this advice by taking small breaks throughout my work day to rest and rejuvenate "at home" in prayer. Though the length of these breaks differ depending on the day, one thing is always certain: God is gracious and merciful. When we offer our work to Him, He never fails to offer the graces necessary to accomplish more than we ever imagined.

These graces are also reminders of how powerful our heavenly home truly is. With all the saints and angels interceding for our needs, especially St. Louise de Marillac and all the patrons of social work, there is nothing that cannot be done in our efforts to serve God by serving our clients. There really is no place like home!

JUNE 2019

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Passionately Catholic Social Work Conference



CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Would you like to be a conference speaker?

Catholic Social Workers National Association, invites submissions of proposals at the Association's Conference to be held in Steubenville, Ohio, October 11th-12th, 2019. The annual conference contributes to the education and growth of social workers who live out their Catholic faith in their daily practice and professional lives. CSWNA invites you to submit proposals that will provide practical knowledge and insight into integrating our Catholic faith and social work practice. The theme for this year's conference is: "Passionately Catholic Social Work". Application forms at www.cswana.org

2019 SPEAKERS:

**ALL APPLICATIONS
WILL BE REVIEWED
BY THE CSWNA
BOARD AND A
DECISION WILL BE
REACHED BY
AUGUST 2, 2019.**