



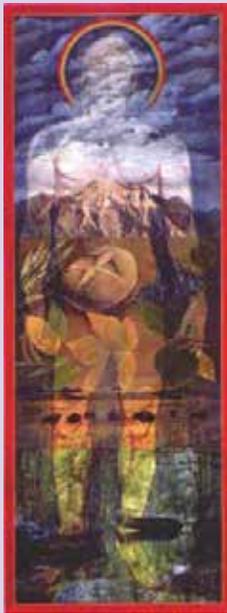
JUST Love

APRIL 2019



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OFFICE OF PEACE, JUSTICE AND
ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF SAINT ELIZABETH

When April *JustLove* is published there will still be several weeks of Lent. Nevertheless, in our April issue we share some Easter art and words to inspire reflection on the Easter mysteries. Our celebration of Easter is not a historical re-enactment of a past event. Rather it is the vigorous affirmation that the God of Life is present even in our Lents, our deserts, our most hopeless moments. Lent is 40 days. Easter is every day, without exception.



Mystic Christ by Fr. John Giuliani suggests the Cosmic Christ in whom all creation finds fullness. From earth to sky, this powerful image mystically reveals the universe as the Body of Christ. Traditional iconography gives witness to the human face of the Sacred. This icon, imaged in the features of the Americas' indigenous peoples, reveals anew that sacred power. It celebrates the soul of the Native American as the original spiritual presence on this land, and as a prophetic sign, it celebrates the reconciliation of the spiritual vision of Native and Christian peoples.

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"After Calvary, men were afraid with a new fear, the fear of love. There was a laugh freed for ever and for ever." Patrick Kavanaugh

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"Dying implies letting go and the Church does so reluctantly. We want to hang on to what we know, as opposed to a rising that we do not know."
Beth Davies, CND

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"The No to state uttered by the unarmed Christ is vindicated in His resurrection. Of this, the world can never be a witness... This is our glory. From Peter and Paul to Martin Luther King, Jr. and Romero. Christians have known something which the "nations" as such can never know or teach—how to live and how to die. We are witnesses to the resurrection. We practice resurrection. We risk resurrection." Daniel Berrigan, SJ



"To believe in the resurrection is not to believe in a scientific miracle. It is to believe in God. It is an act of hope in the God who created you and everyone else and everything else, who has the love and the power still to recreate, even when death has taken away the only life that you know." Elizabeth Johnson, CSJ

In February, the Office of Peace, Justice, and Ecological Integrity sponsored a workshop on the pastoral letter on racism of the United States Bishops' Conference *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*. We committed ourselves to sustained examination of our racism/white privilege. Reading the pastoral letter, if you have not already done so, is a good place to start <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/upload/open-wide-our-hearts.pdf> Each issue of *JustLove* will contain an invitation to engage this crucial question.

This month we invite you to take this online test from Harvard University that identifies our implicit biases around race. Click on the link and follow the instructions. <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/>



Justice, Peace, and Ecology Dates to Remember in April

Please continue to use our calendar *Savoring Lent 2019*

https://www.scnj.org/images/justicepeace/Savoring_Lent_2019.pdf

4 (1968) Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King “We must rapidly begin the shift from a "thing-oriented" society to a "person-oriented" society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered.”

9 (1945) Execution of Dietrich Bonheoffer “We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of injustice, we are to drive a spoke into the wheel itself.”

10 (1930) Birthday of Dolores Huerta, co-founder with Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers “Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world.”

11-12 Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance Day “There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.”
Elie Wiesel

22 Earth Day – The 2019 theme is *Protect Endangered Species* – Think of your favorite animals, plants, bodies of water, plots of soil. How would you feel if they disappeared forever?

27 Day of Silence against LGBTQ bullying <https://www.glsen.org/day-silence>

30 Anniversary of the death (2016) of peacemaker Daniel Berrigan, SJ “A revolution is interesting insofar as it avoids like the plague the plague it promised to heal.”