

On Line and On Point

MARY MOTHER OF JESUS INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Marymotherofjesus.org



WAY OF CROSS CONTINUES—As you know, President Donald Trump's decision to cut \$450 million in foreign aid to Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador — the three countries in the “Northern Triangle” of Central America that are the origin point for many migrants crossing the southern border — will end dozens of projects designed to bolster security, the economy, education and judicial systems.

Maryknoll missionaries who have lived and worked with communities in these countries say the cuts could worsen the crises of violence, impunity, and poverty that are the root causes of migration there.

Go to the website mentioned below and send an email message to President Trump asking him to reconsider his proposal to cut anti-corruption, anti-poverty, and anti-violence assistance to Central America. Assistance is a crucial part of U.S. diplomacy and an important piece for addressing the root causes of forced migration and displacement.

Website: ogc@maryknollogc.org

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE combining both St. Andrew UCC and MMOJ communities, April 19 at 6 PM.

ON DEATH AND DYING—The [following] five invitations . . . have served me as reliable guides for coping with death. And, as it turns out, they are equally relevant guides to living a life of integrity. They can be applied just as aptly to people dealing with all sorts of transitions and crises— from a move to a new city, to the forming or releasing of an intimate relationship, to getting used to living without your children at home.

1. Don't wait. [Step fully into life. Be present.]
2. Welcome everything, push away nothing. [Turn toward your suffering.]
3. Bring your whole self to the experience.
4. Find a place of rest in the middle of things. [For example, focus on your breath.]
5. Cultivate don't know mind. [Practice a beginner's openness, curiosity, and humility.]—*Frank Ostaseski*

OUTREACH—The MMOJ Spring project will be **Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center [SPARCC]**, which provides emergency shelter for survivors of domestic violence and their dependents 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Please support this project with an individual donation in the collection plate or donate to and shop at their thrift shop, The Treasure Chest, 1426 Fruitville Rd.

Send articles/info by Wed to be published on weekend: rjbannerusa@gmail.com

CELEBRATION—You are invited to join the congregations of SURE on Monday, April 29, at 6:00 PM at St. Thomas More Catholic Church (2506 Gulf Gate Dr., Sarasota) to celebrate SURE's victories over the past year, reflect on SURE's work, and begin preparing for issues and items for next year!

WEEKEND OFFERING

—The total of the offering for **Saturday, April 6**, was **\$248.00**. We are grateful to everyone who has been so generous in supporting our community. Thanks so much!

WORKSHOP PLANNED

—A Centering Prayer Workshop [free and open to all], Saturday, May 11, facilitated by Bob Ferkenhoff. Registration, 12:30, workshop (with break and refreshments) begins at 1:00. Closing at 3:30 in time for Saturday liturgy.

RECENT—[email from John Dear] Just finished attending the historic Second Vatican Conference on Nonviolence in Rome, at the Vatican, with some wonderful people. A statement will be issued this week, but in general, I think we went far deeper into Gospel nonviolence, and at the end, there was a complete unanimous vote from everyone present to ask the Pope for an encyclical on nonviolence!—information provided by fellow peace and justice activist, *Tim Musser [CLE]*

LOCAL WITNESS—Walk Your Faith with 1,000 Christians from over 30 congregations. Gather in front of the

Hollywood 11 Theater on Main Street, Good Friday, April 19th, at 7:15 am to proceed, observing the Stations of The Cross and conclude at the front door of the Church of the Redeemer near 8:30 am (222 S. Palm Ave.). Come walk and witness to the meaning of Easter.—*The Sarasota Ministerial Association*



WAY OF THE CROSS WITH MEANING

—Consolata Sr. Eugenia Bonetti, 80, will prepare the texts for the evening service April 19, Good Friday, at Rome's Colosseum, Alessandro Gisotti, interim director of the Vatican press office, said April 5. Gisotti explained, "The suffering of many people who are victims of human trafficking will be the central theme of the meditations," which are meant to help

participants walk in Christ's footsteps and reflect on today's sins and sufferings, and how Christians should respond.

Each year, the pope asks a different person to write the commentary and prayers.

Bonetti is a leader among religious women working against human trafficking. She started and led anti-trafficking initiatives for the Italian Union of Major Superiors and helped educate officials in Italy and the United States about the problem.—*Global Sisters' Report*

WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

—Go meatless on Fridays. Livestock production accounts for 4% of Americans' treehouse gas, according to the EPA. By going meatless one day per week, you'll honor both Catholic Teaching and creation.—*Catholic Climate Covenant*