

Pax Christi El Paso Newsletter - May 2022

TO PAX CHRISTI EL PASO AND FRIENDS

REMINDER: Pax Christi El Paso Virtual Meeting, Tuesday, May 3 at 7 pm. The zoom invitation has been sent out to those who have been attending our more or less regular meetings. But all are welcome. So if you would like the **zoom link, just email me a request.** (to phdelgado3583@gmail.com)

Some of the items we will be discussing include:

1) Pax Christi USA is offering a 3 part study/discussion of **Archbishop John C. Wester's pastoral letter on nuclear disarmament, *Living in the Light of Christ's Peace: A Conversation Toward Nuclear Disarmament.*** <https://paxchristiusa.org/2022/04/26/register-for-the-new-study-circle-on-archbishop-westers-pastoral-letter-on-nuclear-disarmament/>

This is a powerful letter! Archbishop Wester is from Santa Fe NM, and will be the keynote speaker at the 50th Anniversary Conference in August 2022 in Washington DC. The Webinars will be held on 3 consecutive Tuesday evenings this month: **May 17, 24 and 31, at 6 pm MT, 7 pm CT.** Joyce Hall, coordinator of Pax Christi Dallas, is offering to send us **copies of the pastoral letter/study guide** to participate in the webinars. Please send me your name, address and phone number if you are interested in receiving a copy of the booklet. We need this information soon.

2) Updates on Climate issues, labor reports...

3) We signed on to pressure the Biden administration to reject the **terrible leaked WTO text on COVID and to push for a comprehensive TRIPS waiver to expand global production of life-saving vaccines, tests and treatments.** Letter will go to the White House on May 5.

4) We rejoice that the execution for **Melissa Lucio** was stayed, but pressure needs to continue until Melissa is released from prison. The family has been victimized by the loss of their mother for 15 years. We want to thank the **Texas Conference of Catholic Bishops** for their support for Melissa, and for their statement regarding the systemic flaws embedded in her trial and conviction. "We continue to pray for Melissa Lucio, her family, her community, and all who have been affected by the devastating loss of Mariah," the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops statement said. "May Melissa's story be a catalyst for our civic leaders to consider more deeply the **need for reform of our laws and practices regarding criminal justice.**"

There are 3 more executions scheduled this year so far in Texas, Carl Buntion was executed on April 21, an elderly, severely handicapped man who had been on death row for over 30 years. Carl was a changed person, over the years, and deeply remorseful for the pain and suffering he had caused. Our society is not safer or better for clinging to a system of public killing of someone strapped on a gurney.

Catholic Mobilizing Network will hold their **First Fridays of each month prayer vigil** to pray for the end of the death penalty on **Friday, May 6, at 12 noon MT, 1 pm CT.** Spanish language interpretation is now available. to register: <https://catholicmobilizing.org/first-friday-vigils?eType=EmailBlastContent&eid=58ea5cb4-3015-4f86-a2d2-5660cdf7ca7c>

5) We encourage you to sign up to be on the email list of **Pax Christi USA** or to follow the facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/PaxChristiUSA>
You can register to watch the monthly Pax Mass, (4th Thursdays of the month) And follow preparations for the **50th Anniversary Conference, August 5-6, 2022 in person!** in Washington DC.

Blessings on all your work for Peace with Justice. Hope to see you soon.

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