

TO PAX CHRISTI EL PASO AND FRIENDS

May 1st: International Workers Day

Labor Day is the time to honor every hard-working man and woman out there, the backbone of our whole country!

🎵 "Workers" by John Eimen 🎵

[Click here](#)

Newsletter Pax Christi El Paso May 2021

PAX CHRISTI VIRTUAL MEETING

Monday, May 3 at 7 pm (MT) on Zoom

We will "meet" again on Zoom. If you did not attend last month, and would like to receive an invitation and link, please send me your email. (phdelgado3583@gmail.com) You may attend with a computer, smart phone. or by audio using any type of phone. All are welcome!

Fratelli Tutti, on Fraternity and Social Friendship, Pope Francis' new Encyclical is our ongoing book study. We will focus our discussion on Chapter Five, paragraphs #154-197, "A Better Kind of Politics".

Pax Christi USA's monthly virtual Peace Mass, May 27, 2021

4th Thursday of each month at 8 pm ET, (6 pm MT) A wonderful action of solidarity for our Peace community to gather together and celebrate no matter where we are! All are Welcome! <https://paxchristiusa.org/2021/03/16/pax-christi-usa-to-host-a-monthly-peace-mass-starting-in-march/>

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🎵 Creator Spirit, By Whose Aid 🎵

Vocal/Piano Video Performance, Copyright © 2018 by Charles E. Szabo

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=mcafee&ei=UTF-8&p=youtube+%2B+creator+spirit+by+whose+aid+to+be&type=E211US1406G0#id=4&vid=917e5d1a3830eeab0e1eab6fb6afef31&action=view>

BORDER PEACE PRESENCE

WITNESS AT THE BORDER held a walk and rally at Haddox Park on Friday, April 30, El Dia de Los Niños, to protest the detention of unaccompanied minors. Many people from all over the U.S. came to be part of the demonstration:



A group from St. Paul/Minneapolis, Minnesota came all the way to El Paso to learn more, and protest the holding of children at Ft. Bliss:



NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE ILLEGAL! Pax Christi Dallas, supported by Veterans for Peace projected this powerful message on the West Wall of Dallas City Hall.



Bishop Mark J. Seitz, other religious leaders oppose bill that would ease carrying of guns

HB 1927 would eliminate the requirement for Texas residents to get a license to carry handguns if they are not already prohibited by state or federal law from possessing a firearm.

"Criminals and people who are angry or unstable will find guns more accessible," Bishop Seitz said. "Untrained people will be handling guns in public. They will put those individuals themselves at risk in several ways: They could accidentally discharge the weapon and harm themselves. They could have a gun taken from them. They could shoot at a bad guy and hit an innocent bystander. They could interfere with law enforcement. They could be mistaken by law enforcement to be the

assailant." https://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/2021/04/21/el-paso-bishop-mark-j-seitz-other-religious-leaders-oppose-bill-would-ease-carrying-guns/7325792002/?utm_source=elpasotimes-Daily%20Briefing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily_briefing&utm_term=list_article_headline

Restorative Justice Ministry

EXECUTION SCHEDULED IN TEXAS

The execution of Ramiro Gonzalez that was scheduled for April 20 in Texas was stayed and rescheduled for later in the year. At this time Texas has scheduled the execution of **Quinton Jones on Wednesday, May 19**. He has been on death row since 2001. Unless there is a stay, we will hold a courthouse vigil on that day, at San Antonio and Campbell, 12 noon - 1 pm. Texas is the only state scheduling actively scheduling executions at this time. Virginia just abolished the death penalty. Ohio is not going through with any of their planned executions. Texas is the outlier, refusing to admit that there are much better ways to deal with crime than our outdated, costly, discriminatory system which provides healing to no one, not the victim, not the offender and not the community. There are better ways! Info: 915 740-3962.

For very interesting information on Quinton Jones's case, including a powerful 7.5 minute video, and to sign petition for clemency: <https://www.clemencyforquin.com/>

CATHOLIC MOBILIZING NETWORK'S FIRST FRIDAY VIRTUAL VIGILS TO END THE DEATH PENALTY

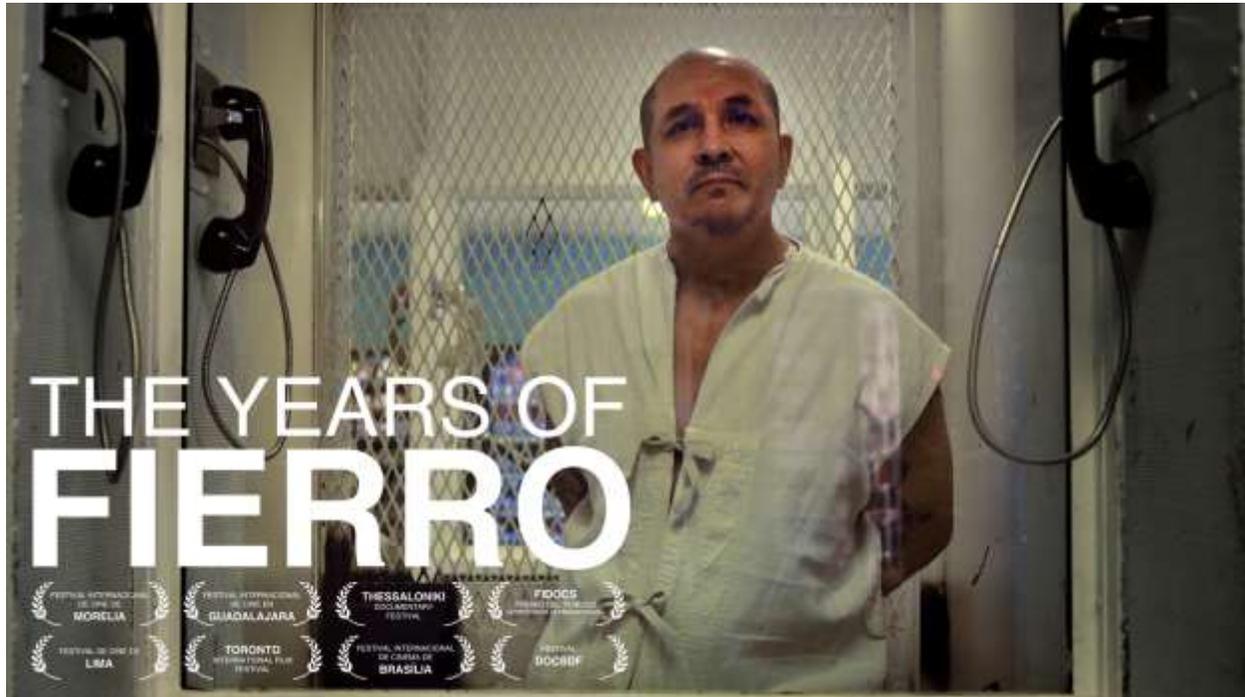
On the First Friday of each month, Catholic Mobilizing Network holds a Virtual Prayer Vigil to lament upcoming executions and bear witness to the inviolable dignity of all human life. These virtual spaces offer a place to pray together as a faith community in response to the injustice of the death penalty. They include time for guided prayer, petitions, Scripture reflections, and contemplative silence. The vigils feature the voices of Catholic bishops, Church leaders, and allies across the death penalty abolition movement. If you attend, you are able to insert your own petitions into the "chat box" during intercessory prayer time.

The next First Friday Prayer Vigil is scheduled for **Friday, May 7** at 2 p.m. **EDT / 12 NOON MT**. Please RSVP below to attend.

<https://catholicsmobilizing.org/first-friday-vigils>

On the same page you can sign up to receive links for first Friday vigils automatically.

"The Years of Fierro"



You are invited to watch “The Years of Fierro” (Los Años De Fierro), a remarkable documentary about César Fierro, who spent four decades on Texas’s death row before his release from prison one year ago. Throughout his ordeal, César has maintained his innocence of the crime for which he was convicted in El Paso in 1980. **The film will be available online for free from May 7 to May 21, 2021.**

[Sign up now!](#) Next week, you will receive a private screening link, which will enable you to stream the film on your own any time from Friday, May 7 until Friday, May 21.

[Watch the trailer for “The Years of Fierro” and learn more about César.](#)

On **Wednesday, May 12, 2021 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM**, join us for a special panel discussion featuring the filmmaker, Santiago Esteinou, attorneys Sandra Babcock and Dick Burr, and César himself! The panel will be moderated by Professor Ana Otero of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law and will be conducted in English and Spanish. [Read more about our panelists.](#) By signing up to watch the film, you also will receive a link to attend the panel discussion on Zoom on May 12.

César's story exemplifies the power of resilience. His freedom today is a testament to those who stood with him year after year as the courts turned a blind eye to the injustice of his wrongful incarceration. Please join us for this unique opportunity to learn about César's journey and what his case says about the death penalty in Texas.

Register here: <https://tcadp.org/the-years-of-fierro/>

ANNUNCIATION HOUSE

Annunciation House continues to receive refugees and migrant families. Any local El Paso/Las Cruces/Juarez residents interested in volunteering to help provide hospitality in El Paso, can fill out this questionnaire. One of the volunteers will follow up with you. If you have additional questions,

contact refugees@annunciationhouse.org. Thank you!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5MGue8B5QzZphzTiqZA-K9Mi6VbBr0u9Yd2k1WN2qhFy37w/viewform>

LINKS

'El Paso gave me the values I have':

Black leaders emerge from a Hispanic majority border city.

They lived in the heart of a thriving Black and Mexican American community that spanned south, just past Bowie High School, into the eastern edge of Segundo Barrio. This community nurtured numerous future leaders including a civil rights activist, a best-selling author and a basketball hall-of-famer. These leaders would fight for racial equity each in their own way. That struggle continues today on numerous fronts.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/el-paso-gave-me-the-values-i-have-black-leaders-emerge-from-a-hispanic-majority-border-city/ar-BB1f7vpN>

Petition to Create a Community ID Program in El Paso County

This year, more than ever, we have seen the important role that documentation has in carrying out essential activities and accessing critical financial and medical assistance. The Peace and Justice Ministry and Bishop Seitz have supported this initiative in the past when Border Network for Human Rights first launched it. We continue to support it again this time around and ask that you support it as well by signing the petition through the link below:

<https://bnhr.org/campaigns/community-id/>

Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project

Responds to the Bipartisan Border Solutions Act

Sponsored by Sen. Cornyn, the bill takes no meaningful steps to reform our broken immigration system. It is little more than a streamlined deportation process.

https://firrp.org/florence-project-responds-to-the-bipartisan-border-solutions-act/?fbclid=IwAR2-YMW_RvYXs70QmYRmOa4u5xi45SspNpjCEUMrj_7NZJ6cKo3iehJqNaI

Pope Francis invites us to do social analysis

We look at persons and events all the time, but we do not always see them. Pope Francis invites us to reflect deeply and prayerfully on what is going on around us.

<https://paxchristiusa.org/2021/03/12/pope-franciss-invitation-to-social-analysis-to-really-see-what-is-going-on/>

Can Churches Earn the Trust of Young Racial Justice Activists? Sojourners

"Churches will not gain the trust of young activists without understanding that [mutual aid] is what faith in action looks like, what biblical justice should look like, what Christianity should be." <https://sojo.net/articles/can-churches-earn-trust-young-racial-justice-activists>

Now playing: Pope Francis' ecological encyclical set to music. Boston composer's *Laudato Si* oratorio is 'a call to action through music'.

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/earthbeat/now-playing-pope-francis-ecological-encyclical-set-music>

24 Hours of Reality: "Earthrise" by Amanda Gorman. 4.29 minute Video

"It is a hope that implores us at an uncompromising core to keep rising up for an Earth more than worth fighting for." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>

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