

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

JUST Words

A DOMINICAN LOOK AT THE AMAZON SYNOD



Winter 2019-2020
Vol. 20, No. 1



“

“...to speak and to be Just Words in our world.”

~ Sister Mary Jean Traeger,

The Context, JUST Words, Vol. 1, Number 1

In preparation for this 20th anniversary year of *JUST Words*, we take a glance back to our inaugural issue, to the first of these columns, where we find this well-turned phrase from Sister Mary Jean's pen, and the beauty of her borrowed syntax. Intentionally or coincidentally, her expression of the mission of *JUST Words*, riffs on Jordan of Saxony, the successor of St. Dominic. In his *Libellus*—the first history of the Order of Preachers—Jordan wrote that Dominic sought papal approval of an order “*to be called and to be*” an Order of Preachers.

The Order of Preachers was not only to be called such, but to be such. The members of the order would, in fact, be preachers of Jesus, the Christ of God.

Sister Mary Jean summoned that same spirit with her words two decades ago. Her expressed desire then—and our continuing desire now—is that *JUST Words* be a summons to speak, live, and act with the same integrity and truth called forth by St. Dominic more than 800 years ago.

The first *JUST Words* appeared at a moment of national crisis, just weeks after the attacks of September 11 that year. In 2020 do we not find ourselves at the juncture of another kind of crisis—a constitutional crisis? So, it seems, that even after twenty years, *JUST Words*' mission has not run its course. There is still work to do!

We'll look back through the decades in each edition this calendar year. And we'll look forward to the work the world needs from us. We start, in this issue, with an in-depth look at an important event in the life of the global Church—The Amazon Synod—as experienced and understood by *JUST Words* readers in North and South America. Enjoy and be challenged by their summons “to speak and to be” women and men of integrity and truth For the Life of the World.



Sister Beth Murphy, OP, has been editor of JUST Words for nearly 14 of its 20 years of existence.

Mission Statement:

Called by God
into right relationship
with all creation and graced by
Dominican life and mission,
we compassionately preach the
Gospel of Jesus Christ.

JUST Words

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JUST WORDS ARTICLE CURATION

To celebrate *JUST Words*' 20th year, editorial board members John Freml and Sister Mary Jean Traeger signed on as curators of our collection of vintage *JUST Words* stories. With the publication of each *JUST Words* edition in 2020 you'll be able to browse these gems at our website. Here's a peek at their first "best of" JW list!



A clipping of a vintage *JUST Words* and *Springfield Dominican* Vol. 17 No. 5 from May 2001.

Read all the stories here: <https://springfieldop.org/vintage-just-words>

Changing Perspective

- *The Faces of Globalization*, Fall 2001, Vol. 1 No. 1
- *Walking to the Crossroads: Springfield Dominicans Engage in Anti-Racism Process*, Spring 2004, Vol. 4, No. 2
- *Water: Global Concern, Dominican Effort*, Summer 2004, Vol. 4, No. 3
- *Long Journey Brings Nigerian Sisters to St. Edwards*, Fall 2004 Vol. 4 No. 4
- *The Preaching Life: Women in the Order of Preachers*, Winter 2006, Vol. 6 No. 1
- *Dominicans in Ministry Feel the Heat of Immigration Debate*, Spring 2006, Vol. 6 No. 2

Fulfilling a Mission

- *Jubilee Farm: Singing in Tune with Earth's Rhythms*, Spring 2002, Vol. 2 No. 2
- *Sisters Luma and Rihab: Growing the Seeds of Peace*, Summer 2002, Vol. 2 No. 3
- *Technology 101: Learning in a Digital World*, Spring 2003, Vol. 3 No. 2
- *Language of Friendship Spoken at Dominican Literacy Center*, Fall 2005, Vol. 5 No. 4
- *Touching the Lives of People We Can't Count" Socially Responsible Investing*, Winter 2005, Vol. 5 No. 1
- *The Secret Strengths of Single-Sex Schools*, Spring 2006, Vol. 6 No. 2)
- *Hurricane Sows Destruction—and Kindness*, Spring 2006, Vol. 6 No. 2
- *Marian Convent: Living the Word in Community*, Summer 2006, Vol. 6 No. 3

Human Interest Stories

- *'Missionary Impulse' is Hermana Mila's Foundation for Ministry*, Fall 2001, Vol. 1 No. 1
- *Sisters at Play? The Secret Ingredient for a Wholistic Life*, Summer 2003, Vol. 3, No. 3
- *Faith and Truth in the Workplace*, Spring 2005, Vol. 5 No. 2
- *From Student to Friend*, Summer 2005, Vol. 5 No. 3

En Sirvundi, 1 de octubre de 2018 un equipo de 11 periodistas de Perú, Bolivia y Ecuador investigaron sobre el tráfico ilegal para lavar y saquear la madera de la Amazonía.

El cauchero peruano no sólo fue un empresario dedicado a la extracción del látex; también fue un equivalente del minero en la frontera estadounidense.

Un dato importante que recoge esta investigación es la estimación de que el 30% de la madera vendida a nivel mundial es de origen ilegal, siendo Estados Unidos y China los principales destinos de envío.

Eran reclutados a la fuerza y obligados a entregar cierto número de arrobas de goma al mes con la amenaza añadida de torturas, mutilaciones y demás vejaciones.

Un sínodo es una asamblea de obispos y otras personas convocadas por el Papa para apoyar las necesidades del pueblo de Dios y fomentar la comunión entre las iglesias locales del mundo.

Encuentre información en torno a la participación de dominicos/as en el Sínodo del Amazonas, acerca de nuestras responsabilidades y preocupación común por la Vida del mundo.

A synod is an assembly of bishops and others called by the pope to support the needs of God's people and to foster communion among the local churches of the world.

DEST
EXTR



ques peruanos
ar de más del 60%
biodiversidad
del planeta

Learn from
Dominican
participation
in the Synod
on the Amazon
about our
responsibilities
and common
concern for the
life of that region
and the life of the
world.

STRUCCIÓN
ACTIVISTA



En virtud de tales consideraciones, algunas veces los caucheros extrajeron de sus tierras a nativos más sumisos y los trasladaron hasta sus colonias de producción.



- Los indios naturales de la Amazonía estaban divididos en dos grupos: los bautizados o "civilizados" y los "salvajes".



Las cifras del petróleo en el Perú en barriles por día, ha aumentado a 48,675, muy diferente a la tactación de enero de 2018.



La historia del aprovechamiento del petróleo en el Perú inició hace más de mil años, cuando los nativos de la costa norte y la sierra sur descubrieron

LESSONS FROM THE AMAZON SYNOD

by Carlos Ojeda and Mirella López



This husband-and-wife team, who live in Lima, prepared for the Amazon Synod, held at the Vatican in October 2019, by reflecting on the themes of the synod. Here they offer their post-synodal insights. Accompanying their work is a response from members of the Dominican Sisters' Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Committee.

All photos courtesy of Carlos Ojeda and Mirella López or Sister Marcelline Koch.

We are Dominican Associates since 2009. In all these years we have grown spiritually and personally. We share the charism of the congregation of our Dominican Sisters in Springfield, Illinois. This synod urges us to go out and preach the Word of God in places we do not know with our *Testimonio de Vida*, individually and as a couple.

What Pope Francis asks of us is that we be an active Church that carries the presence of God to all sectors of the Amazon, respects the customs of the native peoples, learns about their customs, and respects their ways of life. Living together with them allows us to learn their creed and

their practice of care and gratitude for what God has given to them.

A Church that first *listens* and then *announces* understands what the people are asking for and is better able to announce the good news that Christ wants for the people and to denounce what negatively affects them. In this way, the Church brings hope and joy, living the people's anguish and making their cry its own.

The face of Christ must be reflected in us—the agents of evangelization—in the places we find ourselves. We are called to be a thriving Church, a living Church, and not a Church that is in a dead and cold grave. It is important to have an Amazonian heart that walks together with cultures rooted in their customs. We must live and express by our lives the feeling of a nearby Christ.

Pope Francis invites us to a spiritual and cultural conversion. It is a difficult path, but with the love of the risen Christ we can be converted. We have to abandon our prejudices that separate us from the divine grace of Christ in order to do that. This conversion begins in our homes. May we shed our ego of false culture and experience that long-awaited shift towards the love of Christ.

Our challenge is to reach out to the indigenous people of the Amazon, bringing education and health, while learning from their ancestral practices and medicines. We must also offer education that will help them improve communication with the globalized world while promoting a strong and safe future for their culture.

The cultural conversion

In order to evangelize in our Amazon, we have to respect the customs and religious rites of the people there. Their expressions in these rites is a great challenge for us, but we have to adapt ourselves to this great challenge.

The face of the Church

We are called to help our native brothers and sisters in the Amazon to feel they are not alone. We must accompany them as true brothers and sisters without forcing and imposing our customs on them but by coexisting with them as they live within their customs.

The Church must defend indigenous territories from the depredation of forests, because it is the livelihood and the entire existence of its peoples. We must demand that the government establish laws to protect places where there are indigenous people who have a rooted culture and habitat. The Church should not be oblivious to this.

The Church must be the entity which protects the common house that God provides for us, ensuring the existence of territories in our Amazon. In this way, the evangelizing church will feel closer to our indigenous brothers and sisters.

New ways of ecological conversion

The Church is a teaching entity for ecology. We can re-educate ourselves and unlearn habits of lack of care for the environment. Through recycling,

(continued on page 7)

FAMILIA Y COMUNIDAD



Los pueblos indígenas tienen una enseñanza basada en la tradición oral y la práctica vivencial.



Guardan un conocimiento de distintos campos medicina agricultura caza medicina pesca en armonía con Dios la naturaleza y la comunidad.



Buen vivir, buen convivir y buen hacer.



Las familias en la Amazonia han sido víctima del colonialismo del pasado y del neocolonialismo del presente.



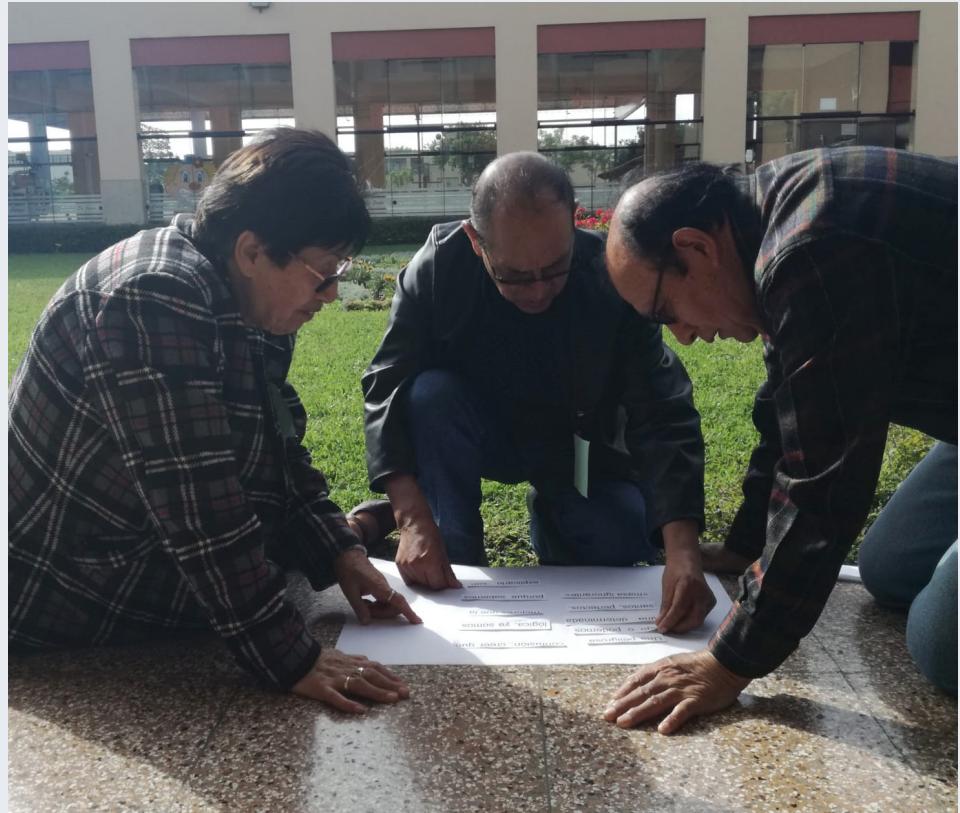
Los colores, Vestimenta, alimentación, lenguas y ritos son parte de una herencia familiar.

Springfield Dominican Associates in Peru worked in collaboration with many others to prepare for the presence of Peru's voice at the synod in October 2019.

(continued from page 6)

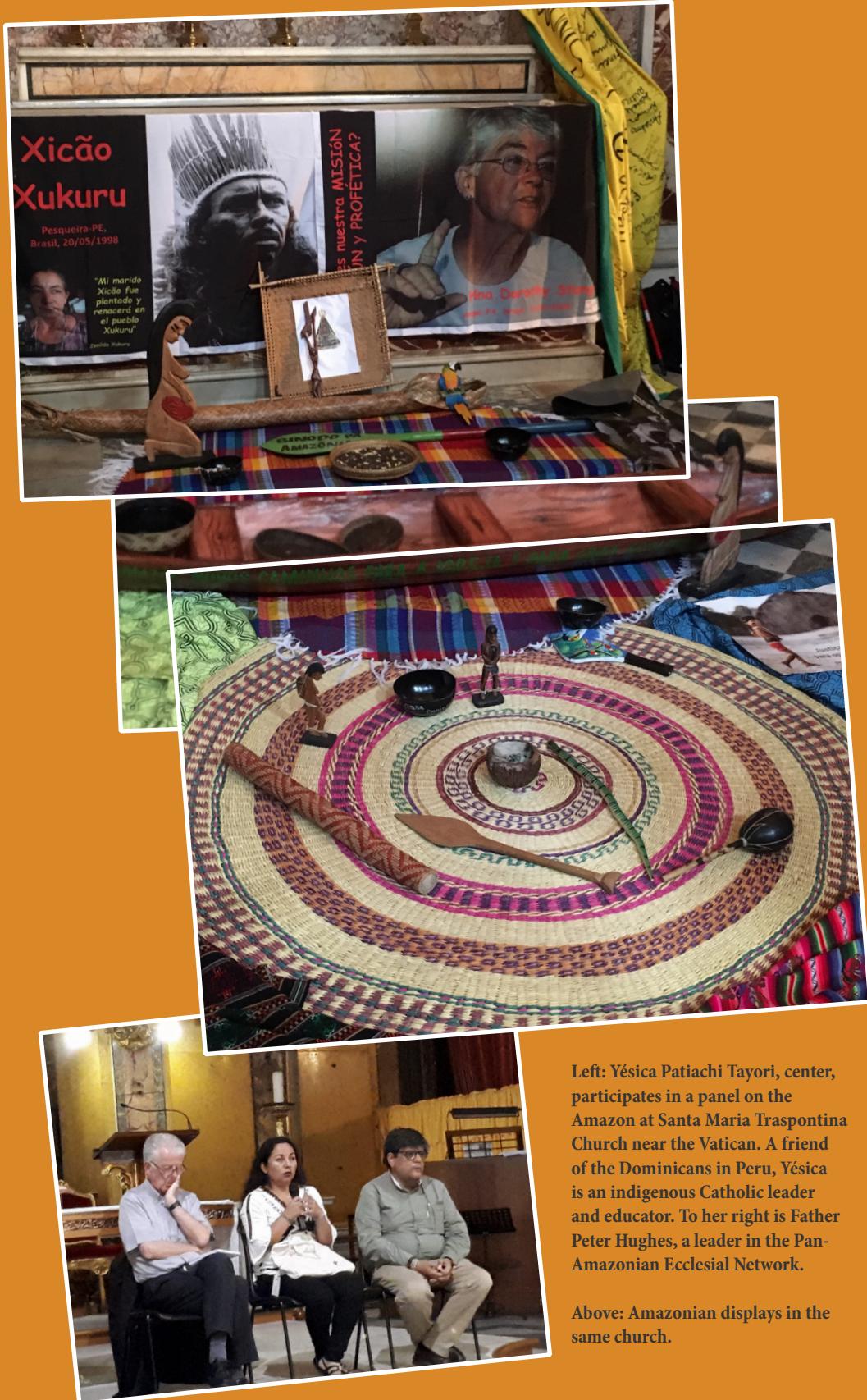
reusing, and buying only what is necessary, doing the least harm to the ecology, we can overcome our poor education.

It is important that the domestic church begins to be aware of our ecology. It is very important to be able to inhabit Earth and, alongside our indigenous brothers and sisters, take care of water, land, forests, etc. Everyone has rights and responsibilities. Our brothers and sisters of the Amazon also have a right to a good life in our world, our common house. It is urgent that we take on responsible habits. We must cultivate values in ourselves, in our children, in schools and colleges, in transport, etc. We must promote an integral ecology throughout the state and Church.



A RESPONSE TO OUR PERUVIAN DOMINICAN FAMILY

by the Springfield Dominican Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Committee



Left: Yésica Patiachi Tayori, center, participates in a panel on the Amazon at Santa María Traspontina Church near the Vatican. A friend of the Dominicans in Peru, Yésica is an indigenous Catholic leader and educator. To her right is Father Peter Hughes, a leader in the Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network.

Above: Amazonian displays in the same church.

How grateful we are for our Peruvian associates' participation in the synod preparation and their continued reflection on the synod message.

In seeking a Church that first listens and then announces, we are acutely aware of how different that picture of evangelization is than what we as Church did in past centuries. Instead of imposing religious beliefs couched in a culture foreign to those being evangelized, there is a deep respect for indigenous persons and their culture—for God already-present among them. This is connected to the cultural conversion to which Pope Francis invites us. We are grateful that our Church has been moving toward that sense of wholeness.

A most touching phrase is that we must all have an Amazonian Heart. This is what it is all about. No matter who we are or where we are, we need an Amazonian Heart. We need a Pacific Heart, an Atlantic Heart, a Mississippi River Heart, an Antarctic Heart, a Bavarian Forest Heart, a Grand Canyon Heart, a Democratic Republic of the Congo Heart.... We need hearts that will protect, preserve, and celebrate the beauty and uniqueness of the incredible world we live in.

The depth of interconnection between Earth, air, water, plants, trees, animals, and humanity needs to be significantly felt. This is a truth intrinsically understood, lived, and ritualized by our Peruvian brothers and sisters. While we may speak



of Earth, they live in relationship with Earth more deeply than is our experience. The “cry of the poor” is not only from the suffering of our brothers and sisters; it is also the cry of Earth in its destruction.

This connection is what Pope Francis is talking about when he writes about integral ecology, which reflects the many relationships that keep systems intact, whole, and healthy. He proposes integral ecology as the new paradigm of justice. This paradigm respects our unique place as human beings in this world and our relationship to all which surrounds us. No issue is an isolated event but is part of the web of relationships.

While many of us in the U.S. are getting better about reusing and recycling, we find buying only what is necessary to be our challenge in an affluent country. Our culture of consumerism often leaves no room for the question “Do I need this?” What is the cost of over-consumption to our common home? Can we practice the virtue of “enough”?

We want our brothers and sisters of the Amazon to know they are not alone. We accept the invitation to walk with them. We seek to do our part to protect water, air, and soil, and to use it responsibly, ever aware of the generations that will follow us.

Springfield Dominican Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Committee

Amazon Synod

Rome, Italy

“The death of the forest is the end of our life” proclaims a poster displayed in what Bascilla in Rome during the Amazon Synod. The poster includes an image of Sister Dorothy Stang, a U.S.-born Sister of Notre Dame de Namur who was assassinated in 2005 for her defense of the Brazilian rain forest and its people.

The unknown Brazilian woman spoke at Santa Maria Traspontina about the life of Sister Dorothy, who she recalls meeting in the Brazilian Amazon when she was a child.

LECCIONES DEL SÍNODO AMAZÓNICO

por Carlos Ojeda and Mirella López



La pareja de esposos Carlos Torres Ojeda y Mirella López, que viven en Lima, fueron parte de la preparación para el Sínodo del Amazonas, que se llevó a cabo en el Vaticano en octubre de 2019, reflexionando sobre los temas del sínodo. Aquí ofrecen sus ideas postsinodales. Acompañando su reflexión se ofrece una respuesta de las miembros del Comité de Justicia, Paz e Integridad de la Creación de las Hermanas Dominicas.

En la foto de esta página, Mirella aparece a la derecha.

En la foto de la página siguiente, Carlos aparece a la derecha.

Somos asociados dominicos desde el año 2009. En todos estos años hemos crecido espiritual y personalmente. Compartimos el carisma de la congregación de nuestras Hermanas Dominicas de Springfield, Illinois. De manera personal y como pareja este Sínodo nos impulsa a salir a predicar la Palabra de Dios en lugares donde no lo conocen con nuestro Testimonio de Vida.

Lo que el PAPA Francisco nos pide es que seamos una iglesia activa, llevando la presencia de Dios a todo los sectores de la amazonía, respetando las costumbres de los pueblos originarios de la selva, aprendiendo sus costumbres y

respetando sus formas de vidas. En la convivencia con ellos aprendemos su credo, su hábito de cuidado y agradecimiento por lo que Dios les ha dado.

Una iglesia de escucha y anuncio sabe lo que el pueblo pide y anuncia la buena nueva que Cristo quiere para su pueblo y denuncia lo que afecta a este pueblo de Dios. Ella lleva la esperanza, el gozo, viviendo su angustia y haciendo propio su clamor en nosotros.

El rostro de Cristo se debe reflejar en nosotros los evangelizadores desde nuestros ambientes en los que nos encontramos. Que seamos una iglesia pujante, una iglesia viviente, y no una iglesia que se encuentra en un

sepulcro muerto y frío. Es importante tener el corazón amazónico, que vaya con las culturas enraizadas por sus costumbres. Hay que vivir y poder expresar el sentimiento de un Cristo cercano.

El PAPA nos invita a la conversión espiritual y cultural. Es un camino difícil, pero con el amor de Cristo vivo podremos lograr esa conversión. Para eso tendremos que dejar prejuicios que nos alejan de la gracia divina de Cristo. Esta conversión empieza en nuestros hogares. Que podamos despojarnos de nuestro ego de cultura falsa y tener ese ansiado cambio hacia el amor de cristo.

Hemos de llegar a ellos y ellas llevando educación y salud,

(continúa en la página 11)



aprendiendo desde sus culturas y medicinas ancestrales. Hemos de brindar una educación que les ayude a tener una buena comunicación con el mundo globalizado y promueva que el futuro de sus culturas sea más firme y segura.

LA CONVERSION CULTURAL

Para poder evangelizar en nuestra amazonía tenemos que respetar las costumbres y ritos del pueblo. Las expresiones propias que tienen en sus ritos son un gran desafío pero tenemos que adaptarnos a este gran desafío.

EL ROSTRO DE LA IGLESIA

Estamos llamados a hacer que nuestros hermanos indígenas en la amazonía sientan que no están solos. Tenemos que acompañarlos como verdaderos hermanos y hermanas sin forzar e imponer costumbres ajenas a ellos sino conviviendo con sus costumbres arraigadas.

La iglesia debe defender los territorios de la depredación de los bosques porque es su medio de vida y existencia, exigiendo a las autoridades que consigan leyes de protección de los lugares donde exista personas nativas que tienen cultura propia y hábitat allí. La iglesia no debe estar ajena a esto.

La iglesia debe ser el ente de protección de la casa común que Dios nos brindó, asegurando la existencia de territorios en nuestra amazonía. De esa forma la iglesia evangelizadora se sentirá más cerca de los hermanos/as indígenas.

NUEVOS CAMINOS DE CONVERSION ECOLOGICA

La iglesia es un ente de enseñanza para la ecología. Podemos educar y desaprender costumbres de falta de cuidado del medio ambiente. A través de la buena forma de reciclar, reusar y comprar lo necesario sin alterar la

ecología podemos vencer nuestra mala educación.

Es importante que la iglesia domestica empiece a tomar conciencia de nuestra ecología. Es muy importante habitar en la tierra con nuestros hermanos indígenas cuidando las aguas, la tierra, los bosques, etc.

Tenemos que tener conciencia de que todos tienen derechos y responsabilidades. Nuestros hermanos/as de la amazonía también tienen derechos a tener una buena vida en nuestro mundo y en la casa común. Urge que cada uno de nosotros tome hábitos de responsabilidad. Hemos de cultivar valores en nosotros/as, en nuestros hijos, en las escuelas y colegios, en el transporte, etc. Hemos de promover una ecología integral en todo el nivel del estado e iglesia. *Gracias por permitirnos compartir este mensaje. Carlos y Mirella.*

UNA RESPUESTA A NUESTRA FAMILIA DOMINICANA PERUANA

por el Comité Dominicano de Justicia, Paz e Integridad de la Creación de Springfield

Qué agradecidos estamos por la participación de nuestros asociados peruanos en la preparación del sínodo y por su continua reflexión sobre el mensaje del sínodo.

Al buscar una Iglesia que primero escucha y luego anuncia, estamos muy conscientes de cuán diferente es esa imagen de evangelización, de lo que hicimos como Iglesia en los siglos pasados. En lugar de imponer creencias religiosas expresadas en una cultura ajena a quienes evangelizamos, se nota un profundo respeto por las personas indígenas y su cultura, por el Dios, ya presente entre ellos/as. Esto está conectado con la conversión cultural a la que el Papa Francisco nos invita. Estamos agradecidas de que nuestra Iglesia se ha estado moviendo hacia este sentido de integración.

Una frase muy commovedora es que todos debemos tener un corazón amazónico. De esto se trata. No importa quiénes somos o dónde estamos, necesitamos un corazón amazónico. Necesitamos un corazón del Pacífico, un corazón del Atlántico, un corazón del río Mississippi, un corazón antártico, un corazón del bosque de Bavaria, un corazón

del Gran Cañón, un corazón de la República Democrática del Congo ... Necesitamos corazones que protejan, preserven y celebren la belleza y la singularidad del increíble mundo en el que vivimos.

La profunda interconexión entre la Tierra, el aire, el agua, las plantas, los árboles, los animales y la humanidad debe sentirse de manera significativa. Esta es una verdad entendida, vivida y ritualizada intrínsecamente por nuestros hermanos y hermanas peruanas. Si bien podemos hablar de la Tierra, ellos y ellas viven en relación con la Tierra más profundamente de lo que es nuestra experiencia. El “grito de los pobres” no es solo el sufrimiento de nuestros hermanos y hermanas. También es el grito de la Tierra en su destrucción.

De esta conexión habla el Papa Francisco cuando escribe sobre una ecología integral, que refleja la multiplicidad de relaciones que preservan los sistemas intactos, completos y saludables. Él propone una ecología integral como nuevo paradigma de justicia. Este paradigma respeta nuestro lugar único como seres humanos en este mundo y nuestra relación con todo lo que nos rodea. Ningún problema es un evento

aislado, sino que forma parte de la red de relaciones.

Si bien muchos de nosotros/as en los EE. UU., estamos mejorando con respecto a la reutilización y el reciclaje, nos damos cuenta de que comprar solo lo necesario es nuestro desafío, en un país rico. Nuestra cultura del consumismo a menudo no deja espacio para la pregunta “¿Necesito esto?” ¿Cuál es el costo del consumo excesivo para nuestro hogar común? ¿Podemos practicar la virtud de comprar solo lo “suficiente”?

Queremos que nuestros hermanos y hermanas de la amazonía sepan que no están solos. Aceptamos la invitación a caminar con ellos y ellas. Buscamos hacer nuestra parte para proteger el agua, el aire y el suelo, y usarlo de manera responsable, siempre conscientes de las generaciones que nos seguirán.

Gracias por permitirnos compartir este mensaje Carlos y Mirella.

IN MEMORIAM

Please join us in prayer for our sisters who have entered eternal life:

Sister M. Francene Harbauer, OP • October 9, 2019

Sister Ann Therese Haupers, OP • November 21, 2019

Sister M. Xavier Kelly, OP • December 12, 2019

PARTNERS *In Mission*

YOUR GENEROSITY LEAVES A LEGACY

by Sister Kathleen Anne Tait, OP
Director of Mission Advancement



JUST Words turns twenty with this issue and opens a window of reflection on these last two decades. As the decade was starting, the Springfield Dominicans committed to collaboration with other Dominican Sisters' congregations to work together for the good of the Church. We also expanded relationships with Dominican Associates. The associate program began in 1992 and was taking hold in the new millennium with about 100 members. We wanted a way to communicate with these new associates and all the people with whom we ministered.

JUST Words was begun with a distribution list of about a thousand. There was not, however, a Partners in Mission feature in the magazine. This came fifteen years later with the establishment of the Mission Advancement office. Today we are in relationship with 450 associates and

the **JUST Words** print distribution list is over 4,000. Much of the increase is due to the growth of the associate program and the outreach of the Mission Advancement office.

Three factors contributed to the establishment of the Mission Advancement Office in 2015. First, it's linked to our commitment to deepening our relationships with our families, co-workers, and those we have served in our ministries in schools, parishes and health care settings. It is a critical support for strategic planning for the future of the congregation. And of course, the Mission Advancement office is vital for our ongoing ministries of education (in all its many forms,) health care, and spiritual formation, and care for our senior sisters.

Thanks to YOU, our **Partners in Mission**, donations to the Dominican Sisters have steadily

increased over five years. You have generously contributed more than \$1.8 million through our various giving programs. Many of our friends have left a legacy of giving through an additional \$3 million in bequests. These generous gifts are hard at work right now, providing values-based Catholic education for high school students, supporting sisters serving in impoverished communities, and providing encouragement, care, safety, and independence for our elder sisters while they continue their ministry of prayer for you.

As we begin a third decade of **JUST Words**, and a sixth year in the Mission Advancement office, we invite you to watch the mailbox for some helpful, trustworthy information about financial planning. Thank you for what we are assured will be another successful year!

EVENING PRAYER

SACRED HEART CONVENT EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE FOR 2020

6 p.m. | Sacred Heart Convent Chapel

**1237 W Monroe Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704**

Phone: 217.787.0481



Sunday, January 19, 2020 | Sister Rebecca Ann Gemma | Racial Justice

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 | Sister Judith Hilbing | Ash Wednesday

Thursday, March 19, 2020 | Sister Margaret Therese Hebert | Feast of St. Joseph

Monday, April 6, 2020 | Sister Mila Díaz Solano | Holy Week

Wednesday, April 29, 2020 | Sister Margaret Mary Byrnes | Feast of St. Catherine of Siena

Monday, May 25, 2020 | Sister Denise Glazik | Memorial Day

Saturday, August 8, 2020 | Sister Marilyn Jean Runkel | Feast of St. Dominic

Evening Prayer is the ancient Christian tradition of praying the psalms in communion with God's people throughout the world.

Breaking open the Word of God in preaching is an important expression of the charism, or gift of preaching, Dominicans bring to the church. Please join us!

Watch springfieldop.org for updates.

Congrats!



Lifting spirits

Sister Francella Vyverman was honored with the 2019 Humanitarian Award for her pastoral ministry to the people of Springfield. The award, granted by the Greater Springfield Interfaith Association at their annual Thanksgiving service, says Sister Francella "lifts the spirits of the lonely, the discouraged and the ailing, inspires them with hope, and brings into the lives of those overcome by desperation, anxiety, and suffering, a sense of dignity and meaning." She is a pastoral minister at Cathedral Parish and volunteers several days a week at Washington Street Mission. Congratulations Sister Francella!



In the fall, Sister Denise Glazik shared her love of Springfield Dominican history with Sacred Heart-Griffin High School Freshman. You'll see Sister Denise holding up the rear.

A Founder's Certificate

The Faith Coalition for the Common Good (FCCG) last fall awarded **Sister Mary Jean Traeger** with the Founder's Certificate of Appreciation for her contribution as a founding member of the Springfield faith-based community organizing group, an affiliate of the Gamaliel Foundation. Gamaliel provides training and consultation, as well as regional and national strategies for its affiliates. In 2019 FCCG marked its 10th anniversary in support of faith communities, civic communities, community organizations and individuals working collaboratively for racial equality, civic engagement, a fair economy, and participatory decision-making in the Springfield community and in the surrounding area. Congratulations, Sister Mary Jean!



Going global

Facing Cancer with Mary, Sister Catherine Stewart's book about her personal journey through a life-threatening cancer diagnosis, has gone global. The book has been translated into Portuguese and Korean. According to the publisher, Twenty-Third Publications, they actively advertise to Catholic publishers world wide, and attend global trade shows to showcase their titles. It was through one of these methods, though the company could not be sure which, that Sister Catherine's book was picked up by Catholic publishers in Korea and Brazil.



DOMINICAN SISTERS
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

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Dominican Sources

“Dreams and visions: The Spirit dances through them as we are drawn forward into an unknown future.”

– Sister Pat Farrell, OP
executive director’s address to the Dominican
Sisters Conference leadership gathering,
October 9, 2019

DATEBOOK

January	19	Evening Prayer with Preaching: Racial Justice, 6:00 p.m.
	24-26	Springfield Dominican Antiracism Team meeting
	26	Chapel Tour, Sacred Heart Convent, 1:30 p.m.
February	2	Associate Formation: Uncovering the Light of the Gospel
	2	World Day for Consecrated Life
	23	Chapel Tour, Sacred Heart Convent, 1:30 p.m.
	26	Evening Prayer with Preaching: Ash Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.
March	1	Associate Formation: Living the Liturgy
	8	Mother-Daughter Tea & Tour: Catholic Sisters Week
	14	Sisters to the Land at Jubilee Farm
	19	Evening Prayer with Preaching: Feast of St. Joseph, 6:00 p.m.
	22	Chapel Tour, Sacred Heart Convent, 1:30 p.m.
	30	Reading Light: The Art and Architecture of Sacred Heart Convent Chapel, 7:00 p.m.

Public events in bold typography. Visit springfieldop.org for details.