



# JUST Love

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

For the most of our lives, September has been a time of frenzied activity: back to school activities; a more intense work schedule after the lazy days of summer. September 2020 will surely be different. As COVID-19 continues to rage through the United States, we are far from going “back to normal.” Our activities continue to be curtailed; our contacts limited. The endless meetings that used to characterize social justice organizing are not possible in the same way. Veteran peacemaker Daniel Berrigan, SJ was once at a meeting to organize the future of the peace movement in the United States. Speakers detailed efforts for large mobilizations of people, big projects. When Fr. Berrigan was asked what he thought should happen, he said quietly, “I just think that we need to release the contemplative springs within.” The quieter, less frenzied, more home-based life that COVID-19 has forced on us is an opportunity to do just that – to release the contemplative springs within. September *JustLove* shares with you some resources to take a deeper dive into issues that are important to us; to look at root causes rather than just symptoms; to take a contemplative gaze at the brokenness of our world and to see what new energies and imaginative solutions might arise from a deep place in us.

A Frontline documentary from PBS that tells the story of the campaign waged by American women for the right to vote — a transformative cultural and political movement that resulted in the largest expansion of voting rights in U.S. history. Explores how and why millions of 20th-century Americans mobilized for — and against — women’s suffrage. The film brings to life the leaders of the movement and the controversies over gender roles and race that divided Americans then — and continues to dominate political discourse today.




 *Releasing the Contemplative Springs:* Listen to the song “We Are Standing on the Shoulders” and pray in thanks for the women who sacrificed their lives for the right to vote. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6xViB8Gg1I>

## BLUE GOLD - WORLD WATER WARS



Documentary that examines the environmental and political implications of the decrease in water supply on the planet, and postulates that the wars of the future will be waged on water. The film also highlights some success stories of water activists around the world and calls for community action.

 *Releasing the Contemplative Springs:* Slowly and gratefully drink a glass of water and pray for the millions of people in the world who do not have easy access to potable water.



Watch the wrenching NETFLIX series *Immigration Nation* (Even if you don't have NETFLIX you can sign up for a 30-day free trial). With unprecedented access to ICE operations, as well as moving portraits of immigrants, this docuseries takes a deep look at US immigration today.

<https://www.netflix.com/title/80994107>



*Releasing the Contemplative Springs*: Take a look at the mental health resources provided by United We Dream to help us deal with the anguish we experience over our broken immigration system. Learn to heal...and keep on fighting

<https://unitedwedream.org/2017/10/mental-health-toolkit/>



Pope Francis calls all Catholics to join other believers around the world in observing September 1- October 4 as a Season of Creation. Find resources here for celebrating the Season of Creation 2020

<https://seasonofcreation.org/>



Thanks to Sisters Luyen Pham, Linh Tran, and Patricia Reynolds for crafting this beautiful panel for the Peace Ribbon Project in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the US atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

## JPIC Dates to Remember in September

**1 World Day of Prayer for Creation.** Find a prayer service here <http://files.ctctcdn.com/af0d801a001/0477d734-6559-40f3-bc9c-d75b9538322b.pdf>

**7 Labor Day.** Pray for all workers affected by COVID-19.

**8 Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** Give thanks for the birth of Mary by praying her Magnificat, a song of liberation for the poor and oppressed.

**15 - October 15 Hispanic Heritage Month.** Check out these celebration resources from the NY Public Library <https://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/09/26/celebrate-hispanic-heritage>.

**22 World Car Free Day** – Reflect on using your car less and being gentler to Mother Earth. Combine trips; car pool with others; advocate for better public transportation; have a car free day each week; keep your engine properly tuned.

**29 International Coffee Day.** Is your coffee Fair Trade? Good for workers, good for Earth. <http://fairtradeamerica.org/Fairtrade-Products/Coffee>