



# Sisters of the Precious Blood

Volume 2, Issue 11, October 2017

Please consider saving paper, ink and the environment —print only if necessary.

We have eliminated much of the heavy color areas to minimize the use of colored ink. Thanks



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

• White Privilege	1
• Solanas Casey	2
• Stanley Rother	
• Laudato Si	
• Death Penalty	3
• PBMR Garden	
• Prayer for Refugees	4
• Share the Journey	
• Ministry to Migrants	5
• Mushroom Hunters	6

## Enacted in our ASSEMBLY DIRECTIVES 2015 we will remember to...

- Continue to articulate and integrate our Spirituality in our sharing among ourselves and with others.
- Increase our use of social media to promote Precious Blood Spirituality.
- Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God's people.
- Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.
- Network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality.

## Stories from around our CPPS world

### WHAT IS WHITE PRIVILEGE?

On Saturday, August 26, some of the 60 participants came to the seminar at Salem Heights wondering: What is White Privilege? Through a dynamic process we left with a deeper understanding and feeling about this terminology. We noted experiences of how we were treated or saw others treated because of the attitude stemming from power over others or because of one's color. Energizing conversations grew out of questions following the viewing segments of the video, **"White Like Me"** by Tom Wise.

In our small group there was diversity of culture, race, ethnicity and broad life experiences. We appreciated everyone's openness to listen intently and share deeply. We seemed to concur that in describing another person the word "color" or mentioning the color of another be eliminated from our vocabulary. It was jolting to hear each one's experience of how people are/were treated just because of color.

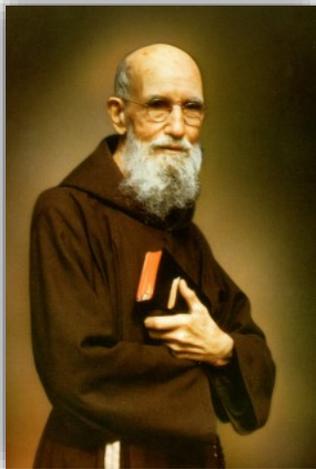
As follow-ups, Sister Jeanette coordinated a book discussion on September 14 with Jodi Picoult's book\*, **"Small great Things."** Then, on Monday, November 6, there will be a continuation of the sharing about White Privilege at 6:30 pm. Both of these are held at Salem Heights. \*a helpful resource for sharing this book can be found at <http://www.litlovers.com/reading-guides/13-fiction/10796-small-great-things-picoult?start=3> We are grateful to those who are providing these opportunities in the Dayton area: Catholic Social Action of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Weavers of Justice and the Sisters of the Precious Blood.

I cannot be blind to  
the invisible system of  
privilege I am a part of.



- Submitted by Marita Beumer, CPPS
- Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God's people.

## Fr. Solanus Casey - Beatified

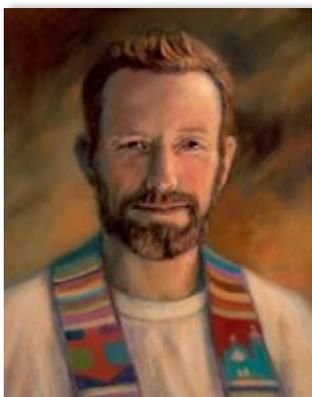


The Beatification Mass for Venerable **Fr. Solanus Casey** will take place Saturday, November 18 at 4:00 p.m. This momentous liturgy will take place at downtown Detroit's Ford Field which is able to accommodate 60,000 people. Fr. Solanus, a Capuchin friar, spent his life in the service of people. He served for 20 years in Detroit as the porter or doorkeeper of St. Bonaventure Monastery where he met thousands of people from every age and walk of life. He had incredible faith and his holiness is inspiring. His compassion and attribution to miraculous cures have endured him to many in Detroit and across the world.

How wonderful that Sr. Joanne Belloli has volunteered and been accepted to help with the Nov. 18 beatification Mass..

- Submitted by Martha Bertke, Cpps
- Network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality

## Fr. Stanley Rother - Beatified



About 20,000 gathered Sept. 23 2017 for the beatification of Fr. Stanley Francis Rother, a native of nearby Okarche, Oklahoma, who was martyred while serving in Guatemala. Rother served in Santiago Atitlán in Guatemala, from 1968 until his murder in his bedroom on July 28, 1981.

That bedroom is now a private memorial chapel. The parish church where Fr. Stanley was pastor and where his heart remains with his people in a special memorial is a powerful presence of the Shepherd among his people many who have shed blood.



Rother is the first recognized martyr in the United States, and the first U.S.-born priest to be beatified. To view a video on his life and service go to: <http://videos.oeta.tv/video/3000165426/> A memorial of where Fr. Rother was murdered is preserved in the village where he served.

- Catholic News USA
- make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence,

## A CHANGE OF HEART IS REQUIRED

Pope Francis' revolutionary encyclical *Laudato Si* calls for a "broad cultural revolution" to confront the environmental crisis. At heart, *Laudato Si*, addressed to "every person on the planet" is a call for a new way of looking at things, a "bold cultural revolution" (No. 3, 114). We face an urgent crisis, when, thanks to our actions, the earth has begun to look more and more like, in Francis' vivid language, "an immense pile of filth" (No. 21). Still, the document is hopeful, reminding us that because God is with us, we can strive both individually and corporately to change course. We can awaken our hearts and move towards an "ecological conversion" in which we see the intimate connection between God and all beings, and more readily listen to the "cry of the earth and the cry of the poor" (No. 49).

"To use religious language, what the pope is calling for is conversion." ..... James Martin, S.J.

- Emergent Future Directive: Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.

# Pope Francis: The death penalty is a “mortal sin” and “inadmissible”

[Junno Arocho Esteves - Catholic News Service](#) May 11, 2017

Taken from America magazine, May 11, 2017

Faith is a journey guided by the Holy Spirit, who helps the church grow in understanding the sinful nature of once-accepted practices like slavery and the death penalty, Pope Francis said.

While people once even used religious reasons to justify practices such as slavery, the death penalty and "wars of religion," over time the Holy Spirit has deepened the church's understanding of the Gospel, the pope said on May 11 in his homily during morning Mass at Domus Sanctae Marthae.

Slavery "is a mortal sin; today we say this. Back then, some would say that this could be done because these people did not have a soul!" he said. The number of people enslaved today is "even more, but at least we know that it is a mortal sin. The same goes for the death penalty; for a time, it was normal. Today, we say that the death penalty is inadmissible."

For current facts check— <https://deathpenaltyinfo.org/>



**PBMR Garden**

Just wanted to share with you some of the latest things we have been doing at the PBMR Community Garden. We just dug up the 4 sweet potato plants ...Submitted by Carolyn Hoying CPPS

# A Moment for Grace

## A Prayer for Refugees



God of our Wandering Ancestors,  
Long have we known  
That your heart is with the refugee:  
That you were born into time  
In a family of refugees  
Fleeing violence in their homeland,  
Who then gathered up their hungry child  
And fled into alien country.

Their cry, your cry, resounds through the ages:  
“Will you let me in?”  
Give us hearts that break open  
When our brothers and sisters turn to us  
with that same cry.

Then surely all these things will follow:  
Ears will no longer turn deaf to their voices.  
Eyes will see a moment for grace instead of a threat.  
Tongues will not be silenced but will instead advocate  
And hands will reach out—  
working for peace in their homeland,  
working for justice in the lands where they seek safe  
haven.

Lord, protect all refugees in their travels.  
May they find a friend in me  
And so make me worthy  
Of the refuge I have found in you.

**Amen**

## LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR: JOIN THE *SHARE THE JOURNEY* CAMPAIGN

Pope Francis is calling us and we're responding. This month the Holy Father launched *Share the Journey*—a global campaign to increase understanding of our neighbors who have fled their homes seeking shelter and safety. The U.S. Bishops are calling for **A Week of Prayer and Action** October 7–13. For educational and pastoral resources to respond to some of the most desperate of God's children connect here:

[https://www.sharejourney.org/?utm\\_source=crs-briefing-email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=crs-briefing-2017-10](https://www.sharejourney.org/?utm_source=crs-briefing-email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=crs-briefing-2017-10)

Encourage your local Catholic leaders across parishes, schools, and universities to animate their communities to participate in the week of prayer and action. Find resources at <https://www.sharejourney.org/resource-library/catholic-leaders/>



- Submitted Martha Bertke, CPPS
- Stand with the marginalized

## Ministry to Migrants

Chile has always been a country of migrants but within the past couple of years Our Lady of the Precious Blood Parish has received a large number of Haitians, whose color of their skin as well as their language of creole, make them very visible. This year Fr. Nicanor Azua, our pastor, began asked me to accompany the ministry to migrants with a team of three parishioners. With volunteer teachers we began offering classes of basic Spanish one night a week. The first Sunday of September we offered the second “Feast of the Cultures”, to celebrate the cultures of Peru, Brazil, Mexico, Paraguay, United States, as well as different cultures from different regions of Chile. There was a program of dances and songs as well as a tasting of food and drink.

For me this is a way to stand with the marginalized and to strive to effect reconciliation among God’s people since the migrant is not welcomed by everyone.

- Submitted by Edna Hess, CPPS

- Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God’s people.



**Our Haitian students learning Spanish.**

**Part of our Ministry to Migrants team and our volunteer teachers.**



**Two Paraguayan girls presenting a typical dance**

# A CHANGE OF HEART IS REQUIRED

## WHY IS CLIMATE CHANGE A MORAL ISSUE?

Creation is a gift from God to be revered by all men and women

The poor are disproportionately affected by climate change.

Greed is not good. The common good is important for all of us. You can't care for creation if your heart lacks compassion for your fellow human beings <https://Youtube.com/watch?v=45Mh1AR4k18>

Sister Marie Kopin works with Central Michigan University's Biology Department. These photos illustrate her venture with the College of Science and Engineering at the CMU Neithercut Woodland, and outdoor lab facility in nearby Clare County. This is her 14 year of sponsoring an educational mycology field experience for CMU faculty, students, members of the Michigan



Mushroom Hunter's Club, and interested parties. Of note this year is the finding of 54 different kinds of species with 15 participants bringing them from the 252 acre property. Note here a brochure describing the site and it's trails and attractions. [https://www.cmich.edu/colleges/cst/Neithercut\\_Center/Trail/Documents/Neithercut\\_Woodland\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.cmich.edu/colleges/cst/Neithercut_Center/Trail/Documents/Neithercut_Woodland_brochure.pdf)

- Submitted by Marie Kopin, CPPS
- Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.

Send us your articles (approximately 125 words or less) for our next issue.

Next issue articles for Grassroots are due **October 25th** so that we can meet our goal of having it in your hands by **11\_01\_2017**. Please submit to Marty Bertke [m.bertke@hometowncable.net](mailto:m.bertke@hometowncable.net)

.....or to Mary Lou Schmersal [cppsnews@bright.net](mailto:cppsnews@bright.net)

**Your contributions make all the difference!**

Thank  
you

We're on the Web!

[www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org](http://www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org)