

CONTACT

QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION, OFM



Celebration of Season of Creation

Franciscan responses to the call of *Laudato Si'*

So many Franciscan Family members have celebrated the Season of Creation all over the world this year and some of them have shared the news of their various activities in Latin America and Asia. They all prayed in unison, “Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light” (*LS* 246).

1

SEASON OF CREATION

Bolivia - Chile -
Philippines - Mexico -
Hong Kong -
Guatemala - Paraguay

2

HUMAN RIGHTS

Colombia - Amazonia

3

PEACE

Syria - South Korea



**JPIC Meeting in
Central America**



**Italian friars'
Visit to Aleppo
and Damascus**



**Meeting of Inter-
Franciscan JPIC
commission,
Honduras**

New Website of JPIC Office

As the window of communication and collaboration for JPIC animation

We are so happy to share that the OFM JPIC website is available for all the animators of the Order and all those who walk with us in commitment to live and promote in daily life the values of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation.

We wish to promote greater possibilities of animation, formation, communication and action for our brothers and sisters, by offering unobstructed access to the **JPIC Resources**, sharing more news on the projects, processes and activities organized by JPIC offices of the numerous entities in the Order. We invite you to subscribe to the Newsletter Contact. Besides, you will find the **Contact** Bulletin and the documents of the **International Council** to verify what are the options of the Order in JPIC area.

We would like to inform about the **Initiatives** that the JPIC General Office is implementing, so that you can participate in them. Also, we have created new spaces that we would like to highlight:

JPIC Formation

In this section you will be able to access three main areas:

• **JPIC Course**: You can download the documents of the annual courses organized by the Office in PDF format. The program and basic information of JPIC Course 2019 will also be available.

• **JPIC Bibliography**: If you want to look for JPIC documents for a further study, to deepen your knowledge or to prepare a formation material, you can visit this space. You will find an essential bibliography on thematic issues, such as justice, social morality, peace and ecology, among other, and suggestions for books, articles and websites that can be useful for your work.

• **Virtual room**: During 2019 we will offer a series of *online* lectures on topics related to JPIC. In addition, it will be a space where we

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THE GENERAL OFFICE FOR JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF
CREATION

JPIC

NEWS

NEWSLETTER CONTACT

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ABOUT US

International Council

The International Council of JPIC is a biannual meeting of the JPIC coordinators of all the Conferences in the Order including the Custody of Holy Land. It is a "consultative group for the purpose of helping the JPIC Office, the General Definitory and the Conferences in the important task of formation, conscientization, animation, and commitment of the Order in the field of JPIC." The decisions of the

Download the final docs from the International Councils

Tarata 2010

Nairobi 2012

Jakarta 2014

Verona 2016

Verona 2016 Appendix

can hold virtual meetings and broadcast live events. If you want to use the virtual room to send or broadcast a seminar, a course, a chat or an *online* meeting, you can request it through our e-mail address.

Let's talk

In this section, you can get in touch with the JPIC General Office in case you have any doubts or any suggestions for our work. Likewise, we wanted to open the website to give the JPIC animators the opportunity to interchange materials between them. We know that several JPIC commissions have been

arranging materials that can be useful to others; for this reason, we have a space to **share your resources**, that is to say, to share PDF documents, Power Point presentations, videos, audios and pictures. All materials related to JPIC will be welcome and made available to everyone in **See resources**.

You can have access to it from the website of the Order, JPIC section:

<https://ofm.org/es/orden/curia/jpic/>

Or directly at: www.ofmjplic.org

We hope this new digital tool will help us all. If you have any suggestions or comments for us on the website, you can write us to: pax@ofm.org

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VIRTUAL ROOM BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Franciscan Peacebuilding in Colombia

School of WOMEN OF PEACE, PROMOTERS OF RIGHTS

-Escuela MUJERES DE PAZ GESTORAS DE DERECHOS-



Colombia, as located in the northwest corner of South America, has sea coasts in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and an excellent geographical position in the Amazon area, and it has a tremendous potential in water and biodiversity. In contrast to this reality, it has experienced one of the most intense and longest internal armed conflicts in the continent for the last 50 years. It was due to social inequality in the distribution of its riches, and particularly of the land.

Franciscan presence in Colombia dates back to 1550. The friars initially took up the work of evangelization of the people settled in the territory through popular missions. Then, since the 18th century, the Province took up formal education and parish service, primarily in large urban centers.

Shortly after Vatican Council II and the Second Episcopal Conference of Latin America, Medellín 1968, a group of friars of the Colombia Province, in 1978, seeking to respond to the reality of the country, and the Order's approval, started "*ad experimentum*" a movement towards marginalized places. And four years later, the second Franciscan Province in Colombia was born, which was named *la Provincia Franciscana de San Pablo Apóstol*.

Some brothers and some laypersons of the Province of San Pablo Apóstol launched the Franciscan Foundation *Santo Tomás Moro* in 2001 in the Caribbean coast of Colombia as a resource through which they would serve the population that were experiencing horrible conditions of human rights violations.



Paying attention to the words of the Christ of San Damiano to Saint Francis: *“Go and rebuild my house, which, as you can see, is falling into ruin”*, the founders of the Santo Tomás Moro undertook the task to reconstruct the life projects of the people and communities hit by the socio-political violence in Colombia. At that time, the moto was *“repairing the social fabric”* and later, with Pope Francis and the Encyclical *Laudato si’*, it became *“repairing the Common Home.”* Then, an initiative from very deep Franciscan origins sprouted in the Colombian Caribbean.

The official statistics of the social and armed conflict in Colombia, according to the national victims’ registry -*Registro Único de Víctimas* (RUV)- record the following data: the **forced displacement** gives the highest indicator with a total of 3,780,677 registered cases; then, the **femicides**, which have left 458,781 victims; and also 191,784 women have suffered threats, 77,100 were forcibly disappeared, 47,627 lost their goods or real estate, while 40,231 have been affected by terrorist acts, attacks, combats and harassment.

This is how the Franciscan Santo Tomás Moro Foundation takes primarily these two groups of people (the displaced and women) and also, for understandable circumstances, the population group of children and adolescents affected by violence.

The service strategy was based on the insertion of friars and laypersons in these people’s settings by building formation schools for each population group: the **Soy Mujer School** for the women of the served communities, the **Nuevas Masculinidades School** for adult men, the **Jóvenes con Futuro School** for teenagers, and the **Niños y Niñas Esperanza School**. Each school with its respective duty and emphasis that respond to the needs of those who are part of it.

To fund the schools, the Franciscan Santo Tomás Moro Foundation signed cooperation agreements with some international assistance programs, and particularly with the United Nations Population Fund Activities (UNFPA).

Soy Mujer School was successful due to the regional women’s massive participation in the process. The school changed its name into **MUJERES DE PAZ GESTORAS DE DERECHOS -- Women of Peace Promoters of Rights**, because there were some changes for the last 10 years, such as implementing a law to assist the population harmed by forced displacement -Law 387- and another law to assist all the other victims than the displaced ones - Law 1448 in 2010.





The change of the name reflected a new way of facing new situations. Colombia was going into a peace process that required committed citizens: women's leaderships grew stronger, emphasis was placed on the formation from the gender perspective with not only psycho-social accompaniment, but also with psycho-legal accompaniment too. Formation in spirituality was strengthened, strong emphasis was placed on the restoration of memory of history, on the enhancement of the rights of female victims, on the basis of comprehensive and collective reparation, and of the demand to the actors of war for a compensation for the harm caused.

Many students of the Women of Peace Promoters of Rights School preside in their contexts the tables of the women who were victims of violence, and today, from their organizations, they build, together with the Franciscan Santo Tomás Moro Foundation, the restoration of the memory of history that will provide input to the National Commission of Truth, institution created after the signing of the peace agreements in La Habana (Cuba) between the Guerrilla and the Colombian State.

The OFM JPIC Office has supported through the School women the peacebuilding in Colombia. They are aware of both the Rome JPIC Office solidarity and the Colombia Franciscan Family JPIC, to which the Franciscan Santo Tomás Moro Foundation belongs as an active member.

Br. Juan Rendón Herrera, OFM
Director, Santo Tomás Moro
Franciscan Foundation

Franciscan Family JPIC Honduras

Men and women in community, social and ecclesiastic engagement

The vision that moves us to carrying this project out is to place ourselves in Honduran life and history from the Franciscan JPIC spirituality in defense, care and sense of brotherhood with the people, and with the whole creation in this space of the COMMON HOME. Our mission is to accompany and serve, from the Franciscan JPIC spirituality, the ecclesiastic walk, embracing the cause and struggles of the people, of the indigenous communities, of rural communities, and of the Honduran groups taking care of and defending human rights, creation and mother Earth.

The JPIC process in Honduras takes a new momentum in 2009 after the coup d'état, when the OFM friars in the country draft a consensual document reporting human rights violations and the murders perpetrated by police and military groups led by the putschist president. In 2010, Fr. René Flores begins a JPIC animation process as

Franciscan Family; some religious sisters and laypersons joined this process. The first FF JPIC teams were created in the country during 2013.

In 2015 a new process is begun; it goes on with the formation of FF JPIC teams of sisters and laypersons, in a collective construction that ends up by establishing 7 JPIC teams at national level. In this process, the friars (who have appointed one friar for fraternity) have always acted from their local realities, and at the same time from their service they have integrated actions to processes of the Franciscan Family, all of them becoming a part of this family united by Francis and Clare.

Pastoral agents involved and committed in Franciscan JPIC teams are men and women in commitment with community, social and ecclesial engagement. Mostly they are believers, they believe in Jesus Christ (delegates of the Word, catechists, pastoral agents), not all are practitioners of the daily activities of the Catholic Church; other agents in ecclesial engagement are the religious persons (clergy and nuns). The Franciscan Family JPIC teams are in seven districts of the country: Santa Rosa de Copan, San Esteban, Culmi, Catacamas, Comayagua, Rio Esteban, and Tegucigalpa.



We are moved and challenged by situations that can be local and regional, emerging from social, political and economic contexts, as was the case, for instance, during the general elections in Honduras that took place on November 26, 2017. The period prior to the election day, broad sectors of the population questioned the credibility of the system and the electoral process. The suspension by the supreme court of the constitutional clause that limits the number of presidential terms to one and the consequent candidacy of President Hernández for a second term also provoked restlessness.

The prolonged delays and allegations of irregularities in the vote counting of the presidential election gave rise to allegations of fraud, and as of November 29 2017, a wave of protests was unleashed throughout the country, in which the national police and the armed forces enforced public order. Alleging that there had been waves of violence and looting on November 1, the President declared a state of emergency, establishing a curfew for a period of 10 days.

During 2017, at the Social Forum of External Debt (FOSDEH) it was disclosed that 65 percent of Hondurans live in poverty, that is, 5,700,000 people,

of which 3,700,000 are in precarious situation surviving with less than two dollars a day and 2 million without complete access to the basic necessities.

Furthermore, according to Casa Alianza, in the Juan Orlando Hernández government term alone (2014-2017) more than 2,780 violent deaths and/or arbitrary executions of girls, boys and young adults under 23 years were registered.

On the other hand, the suspension by the Supreme Court in 2014 / 2015 of the constitutional prohibition of a second presidential mandate, and the subsequent candidacy of President Hernandez to a second mandate, generated restlessness in one sector of the population.

And under these situations of the country, according to information from the collective of JPIC agents, different activities can be found emerging from the organized society or through faith institutions. Among these activities are: mobilizations and rallies in the streets motivated by the political and economic situation of the country, as well as by impunity in situations related to



advocacy against the destruction of natural assets by extractive companies (mining), against governmental corruption and impunity, and for disagreement with the pollution of the rivers of their local communities.

All these spaces generated critical awareness about realities such as governmental corruption, social and environmental degradation in communities. During this year, some of our activities were:

- The National Meeting of FF JPIC Teams, February 23, 24 and 25, in Comayagua, for a 2018 planning and organization day, with the participation of 4 regions of the country.

- Participation in the 2018 JPIC Course, in Guadalajara, Jalisco, April 09-16, on Migration, Causes, Walls and Franciscan Perspectives, promoted by the Rome OFM JPIC Office.

- In Santa Rosa de Copán, the regional team holds a one-hour radio broadcasting space per week to speak about JPIC related issues; and the team carries out the ongoing organization with the communities affected by an American church against the privatization of their water sources.

- On September 7, San Esteban Olanchito undertook a Town-hall Meeting on the environment conducted by the OFM JPIC and the parish team, in which they determined several consensual topics to appoint a municipal commission for the environment, and to follow up several proposed actions, among which was that of a plebiscite.

- Tegucigalpa. The Way of the Cross of Honduran reality is an annual act for the Franciscan Family of the region.

- On September 21-23, the National Meeting of the Franciscan Family was held on issues of JPIC, and the motto: *Franciscans in mission to Care of the Common Home*.

- In daily practice, we have implemented bulletins, communiqués and articles on the national reality of the country for the Franciscan Family.

- On May 22 2018, for the first time we were invited to a first meeting of structuralization of commissions of the Environmental Networks Coalition.

- In July, we had a representative participation in the meeting of the Central America Franciscan Family JPIC

- An event to go is the HFF JPIC National Meeting for December 15-16, 2018.



Ana Victoria López
Honduras Franciscan Family JPIC Coordinator



Franciscans in Bolivia for Season of Creation

The Franciscan JPIC Movement of Bolivia has programmed various activities to promote and educate the people about the care of creation.

Welcoming Pope Francis's invitation to carry out actions that would favor the care of our Common Home, that seeks for all of us to be able to "renew personal adherence to our very vocation as custodians of creation," the Franciscan JPIC Movement of Bolivia has programmed various activities to promote and educate the population about the care of creation.

On September 1, we started the signing of Commitment *Laudato si'*. This experience as Church going out and in the company of other creeds people has given us the chance to verify the growing interest of the population about the importance of collaborating with small actions in diminishing the factors that degrade the environment.

In the same line, on September 2, when the Pedestrian Day –or day without motor vehicles- was in progress, we also went into the streets to speak with the people to invite them to have special care for our planet. During those face-to-face encounters with persons walking through the streets, we shared with them the message that it is necessary to live in harmony with ourselves, with our fellow persons and with nature, to offer a better world to future generations, and to change our consumer life style.

Every day we have been inviting the members of the Franciscan Family of Bolivia and the general population, through an info pane and different media, to make a gesture of solidarity and care, from September 1 through October 4, aware that if we add small personal, community and family actions, we will achieve a significant change and will take a step towards a more integral ecology.





Chile, Celebrating the Season of Creation

The JPIC Office of the Province of Chile, welcoming the invitation to celebrate the "Season of Creation", has organized and coordinated various activities.

The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office of the Franciscan Province of Chile, welcoming the invitation to celebrate the "Season of Creation", has organized and coordinated various activities to be held between September 1 and October 4, in cooperation with different institutions.

The activities began on August 31, in the city of Angol, with a reflection and testimony round table named "Discussion, What is Solidarity?" and attended by people from various organizations from Angol, which aimed to: solidarity with elderlies, migrants, and environment care. On September 1, people accomplished the "Guided Echological Trekking" along the Rewe path, where furthermore native trees were planted. All these activities were carried out jointly with the "*Fraternidad Solidaria*" and the "Angol Environmental Committee."

In Santiago city, on September 1, together with the "Ecumenical Coalition for the Care of Creation", the Pilgrimage "The River's Clamor", was held

starting from the Franciscan Recoleta Convent. Several documentaries were screened, reporting the reality of water in Chile, both in the political Constitution and in grassroot communities, denouncing cases of violation of the right to water by the Chilean State and by private agents that affect the inhabitants and the environment. Subsequently, the pilgrimage began with the blessing of water.

A second moment was the reflection along Mapocho River, which goes through the entire city of Santiago, around the significance of the river in the history and life of the city, and around the importance of water in the development of the humankind, as well as of the urgency for care and protection of the vital element. Finally, the pilgrimage concluded with a prayer for the Earth,



around the three “*araucarias*”, native trees and symbol of the Mapuche people, calling for the care of Creation, seeking justice for the indigenous people and for the peacebuilding among all of the nation’s inhabitants.

During the rest of the Season of Creation, our JPIC Office organized various activities in different fraternities; Session of reflection: “The ecological self, road towards an integral ecology” at San Felipe de Jesús Fraternity, Santiago; “Mass for Creation” in San Antonio de Padua Parish, Santiago; Session of formation at Santa Clara de Placilla High School, V Region, about Recycling.

On October 13, there will be a prayer gathering for the care of creation and the cleaning of the Placilla lagoon (V Region); Ecological experience *Laudato si'*, coordinated with San Felipe de Jesús Youth House, near Río Clarillo, with a walk and reflection on integral ecology. We are inviting to participate with prayers, and those who can are also invited to be part in these activities, and particularly you are invited to take every day more care of the creation and construction of a more fraternal, just and peaceful humankind.

Fraternally.

Br. Máximo Cavieres Iturriaga, OFM
JPIC Animator - Chile



Philippines, Season of Creation

In the Philippines, Season of Creation is an inter-congregational and inter-NGO project that upholds the importance of our common home. The church people are one with all sectors of society in the fight for climate justice. Ecological Justice Inter-Faith Movement (ECOJIM) which is headed by Bro. Angel Cortez, OFM; Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Commission (JPICC) of the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP) which is headed by Sr. Cres Lucero, SFIC and the Global Catholic Climate Movement in the Philippines (GCCMP) which is led by Fr. John Leydon, MSSC are the three religious groups that spearheaded this project/campaign.

Below are the series of the activities for the Season of Creation:

a. Sept 1, 2018; Walk for Life, an opening of the Season of Creation at Christ the King Seminary, at 6 am Mass.

b. Sept 2, 2018; 9:00 A.M. Mass and whole-day exhibit about ecological projects and activities in National Shrine of Our Mother of Perpetual Help in Baclaran, Pasay City.

c. Sept 5, 2018; 9:00 A.M. Press Conference for the “RISE for Climate, Justice, and Integrity of Creation and CARE for the People. Promotion of Climate justice and renewable energy sources by different sectors at Max Restaurant in Quezon Memorial Circle.

d. Sept 8, 2018; “*Araw ng Kalikasan alay kay Maria*” (Day of Creation for Mary). It is also the launching of the icon of Mary, Star of the New Evangelization. It will start with a Eucharistic Celebration at 9:30 AM and followed by the blessing of the new icon of Mary Star of the new evangelization at Stella Maris College, Cubao, Q.C. It will be followed by a march towards Quezon Memorial Circle joining other groups in the promotion of the integrity of creation.

e. October 4, 2018; Final Day of Season of Creation and Final day of mobilization.

Br. Al Villanueva, OFM
JPIC Animator – Manila, Philippines



Paraguay, Season of Creation

Every year, from 1 September to 4 October, Christians from all over the world celebrate the “Season of Creation.” This initiative began in 1989 and is recognized by the ecumenical family in general. The “Season of Creation” represents a call to people to understand more deeply the teachings of Jesus on the gift of creation and to reflect on the care we are responsible for. In this way, we are offered a precious opportunity to stop for a moment in our daily lives to contemplate the wonders of creation in which we live. In the Encyclical *Laudato si'*, Pope Francis urges us to take care of our ‘Common Home,’ underlining that the ‘ecological conversion’ is a conversion that involves gratitude and sensitivity, growing in awareness of our universal communion and realizing that every creature carries in itself a reflection of God.

We caused the pain of many brothers and sisters and the destruction of our mother earth, and even more, we also neglected them. With a conscious and committed practices in the daily events of our reality, we could find ourselves in this vast and wonderful world in which it is necessary for us to recover a simple and coherent lifestyle.

The Secular Franciscan Order (OFS) of Paraguay becomes part of this initiative by adhering to and continuing the “Franciscan Pilgrimage of the Americas” (undertaken in 2017 throughout America to promote the encyclical *Laudato si'*), on the occasion of the which the icons of St. Francis and St. Clare make stops in the communities of the national territory to sensitize and spread the teachings of the Holy Father. Dear brothers, let us take advantage of this “Season of Creation” to be able to admire again the wonders of the Earth, our Common Home, and protect it.

Roque Amarilla, OFS
Team JPIC - Paraguay





Season of Creation - Province of the Holy Gospel, Mexico

This year's theme was "Walking Together" as brothers and sisters, and as pilgrims and protectors of the Creation.

One of the agreements that we assumed at the Conference of Santa María de Guadalupe Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean was to participate the celebration of the "Season of Creation" from September 1 to October 4. This year's theme was "Walking Together" as brothers and sisters, and as pilgrims and protectors of the Creation. In his opening message for the Season of Creation, Pope Francis asked us to pay particular attention to water, and the global problems surrounding it.



The JPIC Commission of the Province made two videos to sensitize, organize and invite to our events; banners were also made with a unique logo of this celebration on them and distributed in all the parishes, convents, houses of formation and schools. Besides, a booklet was distributed for the Eucharistic celebration and the holy hour for the creation, and another subsidy to reflect on the care and protection of the sister Water. Some photos were also edited with phrases from *Laudato si'* and with prayers for our sister, Mother Earth.

At the provincial level, we began the Season of Creation with the mass presided by the Provincial Minister Br. Juan Medina, OFM together with several other friars and the OFS of the region of *el Señor del Sacromonte* in the Parish of San Juan de los Lagos in the city of Nezahualcóyotl. This year, many fraternities of the province participated in the event together with the OFS and the YOUFRA.

This year's activities were Eucharistic celebrations, holy hours, Franciscan Crown, the way of the cross, all with the intention of integral ecology. The participants celebrated them in their churches, on the streets and even at homes, trying to reflect on the care of the sister Mother Earth as suggested in the encyclical *Laudato si'*. Also, there were some other simple but creative activities performed. For example, the participants recycled the sacks of flour, transformed them into shopping bags, decorated them with the logo of the Season of Creation hand painted, and decorated paint cans to turn them into waste bins which were given away to the fraternity. The friars installed PET recycling containers in their convent.

Ecological marches were performed where the streets and community green spaces were swept away. Some marches in schools and convents also included the program of greening their gardens, etc. In other fraternities, there were workshops on recycling, herbal and traditional medicine, homemade water filters, organic compost for gardening. As a result, the noviciate house decided to grow vegetables in an organic way. Some sessions of special reflection on the care of our Common Home were organized for children, youth and adults in the parishes of the indigenous people. There were also held ecological conferences in some other communities. They organized programs on the encyclical *Laudato si'* which they broadcast on the radio in the town.

There were many more activities that I still didn't get informed. The Franciscan celebration of the Season of Creation this year was grand, and it raised awareness of our responsibility to take care of and protect our Mother Earth. I hope and pray that God will help us to take up this initiative with enthusiasm and become His instruments of God for the care of our Common Home.

Peace and all Good!

Br. Samuel López Padilla OFM
JPIC Animator, Province of Holy Gospel – Mexico



Guatemala:

"Ecological March 2018"

Since the environmental crisis derived from the exploitation of natural assets and the destruction of biodiversity in Guatemala, it is getting absolutely critical to defend life and the land. This situation faced by communities and places where extractive industries, hydroelectric projects and agroindustrial mega-projects are installed, where communities are already organized around this issue, we believe that the articulation of all sectors is necessary to weave joint proposals that may contribute to a full life.

The JPIC commission of the Franciscan Family in Guatemala, has been involved as a result of common concerns that arise from the grassroots. We have joined different groups and social and religious institutes to walk together and express our displeasure with the irresponsible way that the State is handling the situations regarding the care of natural assets, the killing of community leaders who defend Mother Earth and the land, but also to call all good will people to reflect on the way each one is contributing to the socio-environmental crisis.

Regarding its scope in the Guatemalan population, it is estimated that 70% of the population suffers from this problem. According to the Mediation Department of the Human Rights Defender's Office, since August 2017, there have been 1,190 conflicts related to socio-environmental issues. Conflicts that affect communities, but also with hope struggle to preserve the Common Home.



CHALLENGES:

Keep on denouncing:

- *Corruption and impunity
- *Violation of the right to water
- *Privatization of the energy sector
- *Violation of human rights
- *The Mining Law
- *The currently active Forestry Law that favors loggers
- *The murders of leaders as well as their criminalization and incarceration
- *The cancellation and granting of mining exploration and/or exploitation licenses, and any concession of public resources for extractive industry while there is not an integral environmental assessment of the country.
- *The investigation by the Public Ministry of violence actions and judicial persecution that environment defenders are suffering.

Br. Armando González, OFM

JPIC Animator, Province of Central America



Hong Kong, Season of Creation



As a response to *Laudato si'*, we built a stable in St Bonaventure College by reusable materials with the help of Legion of Mary last Christmas. We started to run the Green Auditing Scheme for St Bonaventure Parish and St Joseph Primary School.

We have strengthened our works in redistribution of various resources: excess SBOFM HK printed materials to secular Franciscan in China, excess papers as memo paper for St Bonaventure Parish and Legion of Mary, furniture after the exhibition to the parish, school and friary, a sample of jeans to our primary schools' students. We encouraged and helped parishioners of St Bonaventure Parish to response to the Land Debate launched by the Hong Kong Government with the help of social concern group.

We have 5 lectures on Franciscan JPIC from late September: St Francis of Assisi; Option for the Poor; Peacemaking; Integrity of Creation / Environmental Justice; Human Rights: Individual and Collective. We co-organized the Season of Creation activities with the Justice and Peace Commission and other parish groups. The program started with a prayer meeting in the Cathedral, followed by a talk about animal protection, a prayer meeting in open area near the Central Government Offices, the animal blessing in 2 parishes, an ecological spiritual exercise in the countryside and a mass in nature celebrated by Bishop Joseph Ha.

Br. Raymond Mary Yim, Yeung, OFM
JPIC Animator – Hong Kong

Ecology Program in *P. LERCHUNDI* Center Larache, MOROCCO

Composting in Larache Friary- started on April 27, 2017

It begun with the participation by Sora Tajoursi (house cook) and her husband Hassan who collect unsold-spoiled vegetables and fruits from the markets in Larache. After two-three months, compost soil is ready for filtering and putting it in the milk cartoons and for use in the garden. Presently, there are three compost sites in the friary.



Recycling=Zero Basura in Larache Friary since May 27, 2017

3 R's-Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle in the friary leads to Zero Basura, out of tin cans, papers, and bottles turn into decors. In the convent, we have the Zero basura program. The plastic bottles, yogurt, and milk cartoons are used to grow plants.



First Ecological Orientation-Composting

Sr. Cleotilde gave a session on Ecology-composting to Amal Tasmin, Sora Tajoursi, Sara Tajoursi, and Melito Pinili on September 26, 2017 in Asilah, Morocco. As a result of this orientation, the participants became the Ecological Animators who planned to have Ecological formation in P. Lerchundi Cultural center with the students on March 15-May 15, 2018.



FORMATION ON ECOLOGY-COMPOSTING AND RECYCLING-March 15,-May 15, 2018

In preparing for the formation, several meetings for planning, inviting the students in the P. Lerchundi center has done by the animators: Melito Pinili, Amal Tasmin, Sora Tajoursi, Maroua Boukour and Maryam boukour. The main speaker was Sr. Cleotilde who discussed the topic of Ecology and Composting while Melito shared about Ecology-recycling. The participants also have their outing in the beach, eating breakfast together during Ramadan. Fifteen participants received the certificates.



Summer Children Ecological Activities

On July 15-27, 2018, Monday to Thursday from eleven in the morning up to two o'clock in the afternoon, the animators: Maroua Boukour, Marym Boukour, Sora Tajouarsi, and Melito Pinili invited the children aged from 7-12 years old to participate for the Summer Children Ecological Activities in P. Lerchundi Center, Larache, Morocco. Twenty children joined the programs like playing games, painting, recycling, alphabetization, feeding, outing in the beach, singing, and knowing to play chess. At the end, the children received gifts like bags and school supplies.



Br. Melito Pinili, OFM
Team JPIC

A Fraternal Pilgrimage in Syria

We wanted to listen, to communicate our spirit of solidarity to the friars and the people who have been living in war for the last 7 years.

On a proposal from the JPIC national council, a group of 10 friars representing the Friars Minor of Italy went to Syria from September 16 to 23. The objective was to meet the brothers in Syria and to show a concrete sign of fraternity. We wanted to listen, to communicate our spirit of solidarity to the friars and the people who have been living in war for the last 7 years.

It was the extraordinary experience of grace, with warm hospitality from the Syrian friars both in Aleppo and in Damascus. We brought to those communities a cross which was a gift from the friars of La Verna and a stone taken from the spot of stigmatization with the hope that their wounds could be transformed into wounds of salvation.

We stayed in Aleppo for 3 days. We have seen the terrible wounds of the war, with destroyed houses, churches and the historic center reduced to

rubble. The city had 3.5 million inhabitants but today it was reduced to 1.5 million. The number of the Christians also has decreased from 350,000 to 30,000. Br. Ibrahim gave us the opportunity to meet all the parish groups, from adults to university students, and we were deeply moved by the fact that the community was very lively and full of faith. We were able to see the numerous projects of community revival that revolve around the convent: the distribution of food packages, the reconstruction of the houses, the arrangement of the cemetery, to the financing of projects to rebuild the basic facilities such as: pastry, butchery, tailor...

So far, 500 projects have been financed, while another 300 are still waiting for financial assistance. It was non-repayable loans that could create a virtuous circle of resurrection in such a helpless situation. We as the members of the national JPIC council will strive to support these revival projects. Also, it was very interesting to see that the various Christian sects coexisted in harmony like a mosaic. There are 6 Catholic and 3 Orthodox rites only in Aleppo. We stayed in Damascus for three days. We were able to learn more about the reality thanks to the help of the local friars. We confronted and understood the great complexity of the situation, which often the Western press simplifies or falsifies. We had the opportunity to visit the beautiful Umayyad mosque in the historic center of





Damascus, which once was a Christian basilica, and some Christian villages with ancient monasteries.

Syria is like a huge mosaic of religions, rituals, traditions, where diverse parts have been coexisting with harmony. At the same time, Syria is in a strategic geopolitical position both for energy resources and for the control of the territory, which means the interests of Russia, USA, France, Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Israel overlapping in the Syrian issue. It also explains why this war seems to have no end. Everyone wants his own shares and therefore, finances the war from which bigger share is required. A world war was carried out here on a regional scale at the expense of millions of innocent lives. We pray that the Syrian people may soon get back to live in peace so that the Syrian youth can dream again for the brighter future. Now we have open eyes, attentive ears, and our hearts will never be indifferent to the violent reality.

For those in need, we are preparing a video footage of our journey in Syria, which was a pilgrimage to make known the serious wounds of war and the signs of rebirth of this land.

Br. Francesco Zecca, OFM
JPIC Animator & Coordinator COMPI,
Province of Assumption B.V.M. – Lecce



The first football tournament memorial of Br. Juraj Vrančić

The council for Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation of the Province of Saints Cyril and Methodius organized the first football tournament in memorial of “Br. Juraj Vrančić” on March 3, 2018 in Samobor. The tournament was organized in memory of the first anniversary of the death of our friar Br. Juraj who left us last year suffering from the serious illness. He was 40 years old and it was his 16th year in the Order.

Stairs of the sports hall in Samobor were filled with those who loved him, first of all, his father Tihomir and his sister Nikolina, then the friars, friends, etc. and also lovers of the game. All of them have supported for the teams that participated in the special tournament. At the end of the day, the best team was of the City of Samobor, then followed the team of the student friars of Zagreb, the team of the Gifrini, and the last place went to the Croatian national team of the homeless. The signs of recognition for participation in the tournament were given to the representatives of all the teams by our Provincial, Br. Ilija Vrdoljak. Also, the Provincial gave the signs of thanks to the two teams that played a special match immediately after the tournament. The first was the National team of the priests, and another was the National team of journalists who eventually won the match. The organizers finally thanked all the benefactors with whom this tournament could be organized for the good and joy of everyone present and for the entire public.

Other than the spirit of sport, this tournament also had a humanitarian purpose since it began collecting donations. This collection is based on the donations that can be given in exchange for the sports shirts of which the late Br. Juraj was a great collector. Offering more than 400 sports jerseys of different types of sports began raising money for the shelter home for the homeless, “The Roses of St. Francis,” and for an association for the care of orphans and poor families. After the tournament, this humanitarian action of the sale of sports jerseys



continued with the auction called “The love for love” in the Franciscan house in Samobor. The organizers are thinking that the tournament could be mobile, that is, every year could take place in the different city after the first tournament in the home city of Br. Juraj – Virovitica. Everything that’s connected with the memorial tournament and humanitarian action, “Fr. Juraj Vrančić” can also be found on the website: <http://www.ofm.hr/jurajvrancic/>

Br. Juraj was born in Virovitica where he graduated elementary and high school. He received the Franciscan habit on the 1st of September 2001 at the Shrine of Mother of God Trsatske. As a little brother of St. Francis, he served as a sacristan in Trsat, Zagreb’s Kaptol, and the last year in Samobor where he died. With his life and deeds, he left a deep mark in our Franciscan and social community.

He was a great football lover and actually played in the Catholic Football League with the youngsters of the YOUFRA and the parish. In the years 2009 and 2010, Br. Juraj played the role of assistant coach and spiritual assistant of the Croatian football Team of the homeless in their participation in the world tournaments of the homeless in Milan and Rio de Janeiro.

Br. Tovislav Faletar, OFM
JPIC Animator

Province of SS. Cyril and Methodius - Croatia

National JPIC Camp, Italian Conference (COMPI)

From 27 August to 1st September 2018 the JPIC OFM national camp was held in Genoa. The theme was “Where is your brother?” which is the question in the book of Genesis that God addresses Cain after the killing of Abel. Every participant of the camp was confronted with this question through the reflections and the testimonies of the speakers in the morning, and through the experience of meeting with the others who are different from me (people with psychiatric illnesses, the disabled, the elderly, the homeless, the migrants, the inhabitants of the public housing in Genoa) in the afternoon.

We can summarize the experience of Genoa with these words: meeting the others that are foreign to us with an attitude of amazement and understanding; to reflect and speak from the heart; to keep the fraternal relationship and stay in it; to overcome the fear of those who we don't know and build healthy relationships approaching them with

“meekness and consistency”; to know how to live in fragility, which generates a vision that takes into account the need of others; finally, to engage oneself every day and live our vocation with responsibility. We should become citizens and Christians with concrete actions in the society.

This experience has become an important turning point in our journey towards the others, suggesting that those who have nothing may need something material but more importantly a relationship, a smile and someone who asks him how he is.

In our small way, we will try to live in everyday life with this experience that has taught us so much, and we believe that it can bring about a healthy “contagion.” As Brunori Sas sings, “*Non sarò così tanto stupido da credere che il mondo possa crescere se non parto da me* (I won't be so stupid to believe that the world can get better even if it doesn't start from myself).”

**Valeria Dottore
Rossana Gennaro**



Peace Camp in Sosung-ri village

St. John Paul II emphasizes that “The Church's social teaching proposes the goal of ‘general, balanced and controlled disarmament.’

The Inter-Franciscan JPIC Commission in Korea holds the Franciscan Peace Camp on the solemnity of St. Francis in Sosung-ri, a remote village in the southern region of Korea where the American missile defence system, THAAD, was installed in a violent manner against the will of the inhabitants in the region by the US government, causing a tremendous political and military tension among China and Korea. Ever since its installation in 2016, the people of Sosung-ri have been leading peace campaigns against the US militarism behind the THAAD along with peace activists. The Franciscan Peace Camp 2018 will be held on 2 – 4 Oct. on the subtopics of Human Rights, Democracy, and Ecology through which the commission tries to give shape to the Franciscan peace movement in Korea.

The venue of this year's peace camp is significant because the THAAD, which is set up close to the village, is not only affecting the health of the village people, but also a strategic weapon that would cause ongoing arms race among China, Japan, and Russia. The excuse of the US government was that it would defend South Korea from the North Korea's nuclear threat. But in fact, it raised political and military tension around the country. And moreover, when the new South Korean government successfully led the inter-Korean peace talk in 2017, it has lost its purpose and relevance.

St. John Paul II emphasizes that “The Church's social teaching proposes the goal of ‘general, balanced and controlled disarmament.’ The enormous increase in arms represents a grave threat to stability and peace. The arms race does not ensure peace. Far from eliminating the causes of war, it risks aggravating them. Policies of nuclear deterrence, typical of the Cold War period, must be replaced with concrete measures of disarmament



based on dialogue and multilateral negotiations.” (Compendium of Catholic Social Doctrine, 508) The Church teaches that it's important to look for multilateral dialogue and negotiations in order to secure the peace avoiding any further arms race in the region.

The peace camp will begin with a talk on the Franciscan peace by the Provincial, Br. Carolo Ho, and will be continued with sessions on ‘Human rights and Women in *Military Campsidetowns**,’ ‘US Military bases in East Asia and Peace,’ ‘Reality affected by THAAD in Sosung-ri,’ and finally, ‘Climate Change and Agriculture.’

Br. Aloysio Kim, OFM
JPIC Animator – South Korea

*** *Military Campsidetowns*** are villages that appeared around the US military camps in South Korea. These towns were formed soon after the Korean War (1950-1953). The inhabitants' livelihood is dependent on the expenditures of US soldiers. And they are exposed to the violence of US soldiers and frequently victimized by them.

Cine-Talk on Climate Change, in South Korea

Since it's the reckless human greed and desire that threaten the life of the other species and 70% of the global population has religions, we need to remind the whole faith community that they have environmental/ecological responsibility.



The JPIC commission is holding a series of the seminar with the movie screening to raise consciousness on climate change among the public in collaboration with some NGOs, e.g., ICE network (Inter-religious Climate and Ecology), Green Asia, etc. This monthly seminar/movie screening started in May 2018. The OFM JPIC commission has a partnership with ICE Network, which is a Pan-Asian platform of 90 NGOs of 17 Asian countries for reduction of poverty, inequality, and climate vulnerability, organized in 2017, Seoul. One of the representative directors is a Franciscan friar.



Starting with an American documentary, <Disruption> which contains the warning messages from global climate change toward the human, the list of films goes on <Before the Flood>, <Sizzle: A Global Warming Comedy>, and <Voice of Transition>. After the one-hour movie screening, there follows a talk on the theme of the film by a climate specialist and Q&A session with the audience. The Cine-Talk program gave a good opportunity to environmental NGOs and civil activists to reflect on the countermeasures to the climate crisis in solidarity with people on the ground.

The JPIC commission along with ICE Network is planning to produce a documentary film on the ground reality of the climate crisis in Korea with the help of crowdfunding. The commission is working on this issue because climate change is an ethical and religious problem. It can't be justified because it's caused by the irresponsibility and greed of our generation and it's the future generation that will get harmed by it. Since it's the reckless human greed and desire that threaten the life of the other species and 70% of the global population has religions, we need to remind the whole faith community that they have environmental/ecological responsibility. It's obvious that the faith community has to cooperate with the civil society to act effectively for climate justice. The civil society could provide creative and concrete ways to religious communities. We hope that our collaboration could be a good example.

Br. Aloysio Kim, OFM
JPIC Animator – South Korea



Assembly of the JPIC Coordinating Commission Central America

Franciscan Family of Central America

The motivation of the birth of the Franciscan Family JPIC Network was the longings for working together, encouraging one another, preparing from the Franciscan spirituality, and sharing the accomplishments by JPIC commissions in the countries of Central America. Brothers and sisters who are living out their faith in the Kingdom announced by Jesus, by animating and promoting the JPIC values from the Franciscan spirituality.

The first meeting was held in 2013, convened by the Franciscan Center and the OFM JPIC Office in Honduras, in order to commence the project of creating the Inter-Franciscan JPIC Network of Central America. Representatives from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua participated. The newly born Network met again the following year in El Salvador, where they launched the first coordinating team for the integration process as Franciscan Family JPIC of Central America, with the addition of Costa Rica and Panama.

Over the next few years, it was possible to discern and make joint decisions in regard to organization and action. The meetings were set on an annual basis with the participation of two representatives per country, thus forming a work coordinating commission representing the Franciscan Family JPIC of each country. Along with the annual meeting of the Network, monthly meetings through videoconferences were established. This process has allowed to gradually consolidate an organized structure at the service of animation, and the creation of JPIC commissions in the Franciscan Family of the countries members of the Network.





The meeting of the Coordinating Commission was held on July 11-15 this year. Panama was the host country, and the OFM fraternity of La Pintada accommodated all of the participants. One of the envisioned challenges for the meeting was to consolidate the structure of the JPIC Commission of Franciscan Families in Central America to improve the articulation process and develop a work plan that would include joint projects in the future. Brothers and sisters from Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala and Panama participated.



During the meeting, I met the people who are part of this coordinating team and the work they carried out in the JPIC commissions in their countries. Likewise, I also had the opportunity to disseminate the initiatives that the OFM JPIC Office is developing for the coming years with the purpose of inviting them to collaborate by working together in the region. I thank our brothers of N.S. de Guadalupe Province in Central America, Panamá and Haití, who generously accompanied these processes. I also thank those who could not participate due to unexpected events and had to remain in their countries. I'm grateful of those whom I met in the meeting: Fr. Rafael Noriega, OFM who has fraternally welcomed us; Fr. Antonio Pérez who traveled from Costa Rica, and Fr. Armando González, the JPIC animator of the Province.



Br. Jaime Campos F., OFM
Director, JPIC General Office - Rome



Human rights Pastoral in the Amazon

During the first half of this year, Br. José Caro, OFM, of San Francisco fraternity in Caballo Cocha - Amazon Project - has been appointed Director of the Human Rights Pastoral of the Vicariate San José del Amazonas: - “... in March this year, in the context of the Assembly of the Vicariate, the Bishop offered me to take the responsibility of the Human Rights Pastoral, and I immediately told him that it depended on the consultation with the fraternity.”

After consulting with his fraternity, Fr. José gave a positive response to the Bishop's request. As he remarks, there is a favorable atmosphere to accept such a commitment. In addition, the issue of Human Rights challenges the fraternity that lives and accompanies the communities along the Amazon River in Peruvian territory, very close to the border with Colombia and Brazil: - “All of us in the Fraternity and myself feel that there is trust from the Bishop's side when one is entrusted with this task, and the missionaries of the Vicariate, for the most part, also say so; so far, there is a good atmosphere

around the subject, subject that is of highly political content and is, therefore, controversial, challenging and full of different conceptions in their understanding and in the interests behind everything.”

Have you felt supported by the Vicariate missionaries?

“I have been welcomed and well accepted into the service. So, immediately, when the Vicariate Assembly was about to finish (with nearly all the



missionaries and some laypersons from the different sites of mission), I got ready to assume the task once the Bishop mainstreamed the issue in the Assembly, and right away I delivered a written survey to each of the participants inquiring what and how they wanted the Human Rights Pastoral.”

We know that the human rights issue is not a recent concern for the Fraternity, since a proposal was being developed jointly with the communities. Would you give us a comment on the steps of the proposal?

“[Yes; our proposal suggests] getting to have in every mission site a work team with a plan on what they call “Human Rights Promoters” (a team of at least three laypeople and one missionary). [Likewise] sectoring the Vicariate in these immensely large regions: one sector in Putumayo, one at the Triple Frontier, another in the center of the Vicariate near Iquitos, and another one in Napo. Each defined sector would comprise the nearby mission sites or the ones that converge in such a space. [Also, we have thought that] each sector will set the meeting dates, and share plans or whatever they have done in their respective mission sites, heard in their communities and, grounded on this, they will develop a plan for the Human Rights sector. [Finally] in the context of the 2020 Vicariate Assembly (in March or April), each sector will submit their working plans, requirements, etc., from which the Vicariate’s Human Rights plan or project will be designed.

On August 7, this work proposal on Human Rights for the Vicariate of San José del Amazonas was approved, and the proposal begins to be processed in order to make it work. The purpose is to qualify and empower the leaders or the people who are initiating this work by giving them the necessary tools so that they know how to do their job in defending their land, and for this to be assumed by the communities since it is they who are risking their survival in the Amazon region.”

How is the process going today [September]?

“All parish/mission sites have already chosen their “promoters”, and they, together with a missionary, are developing their work plan in consultation with their communities and within the context they are in their small territories issuing their proposals. During the meeting we had in the Vicariate, a work manual was delivered with orientation to do practice, and we gathered in sectors according to the accepted proposal. Each sector appointed a coordinator for itself, and some even adopted a name, and set dates to meet as a sector providing time until each mission site completes its plan. So, in the first sectorial meeting, every attendant’s plans will be shared, and one only plan will come out, which will have to be considered to support, accompany and qualify in issues and requirements indicated by each sector. In the end, there will be four work plans that will be shared at the Vicariate Assembly in the first half of 2020, which will result in the Vicariate Human rights Project.”

Br. Jaime Campos F., OFM
Director, JPIC General Office - Rome



World Youth Day - Panama 2019 Franciscan Eco-Village



In partnership with the Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM), the JPIC General Office is organizing a series of activities to promote the encyclical *Laudato si'* during the World Youth Day that is to be held on January 22-27 2019 in Panama City. The International High School of María Inmaculada will be the meeting point and the venue of the various events of the Franciscan Family during WYD-2019, such as the International Meeting of Franciscan Youth, and the commencement of the “Universal Missionary Fraternity” project, promoted by the General Secretariats of Mission & Evangelization of OFM, OFM Conv., OFM Cap. and TOR. The Fraternity is convoking 5 friars for Obedience to experience the roaming during WYD-2019.

The main focus of GCCM and OFM JPIC will be the promotion of the “Live *Laudato si'*” campaign and “New Lifestyle.” To achieve these two objectives, we have worked for organizing a series of activities during the last few months. The Franciscan Eco-Village, for example, is a concrete expression of these objectives; it will be installed inside the María Inmaculada International School, and it will open up the a lot of activities of WYD-2019 along with ‘*Laudato si'* volunteers,’ and at the same time, the social media channel will be open with the support of GCCM. Also, we are organizing other initiatives: *Laudato Si'* Concert

with the group *Alfareros* from the Dominican Republic; an Ecological March with the San Antonio de Miraflores Parish; and an itinerant photo exhibit.

If any young people would like to participate in WYD-2019, we invite to join us in this initiative; they can be *Laudato si'* volunteers. Information and registration as well as participation in all activities with the Franciscan Family is here: dddd.com. We will send more information in the coming weeks.



We invite you to apply to be a *Laudato Si'* Volunteer during WYD. You will have the opportunity to participate in the formation course on January 19 - 21, including a conference at the Catholic University of Santa Maria La Antigua, a retreat and workshops. After this formation program, you will be helping us during World Youth Day to spread out the messages of *Laudato Si'* in the Eco-village, at the *Laudato Si'* concert and around the whole city!

To participate in this program, we invite you to READ CAREFULLY [this information document and FAQ](#), and, if you have any additional questions, please write to:

jmjlaudatosi@catholicclimatemovement.global

Once you have read the information, [anyone interested can apply here](#) before October 15th.

We only have 100 posts available for volunteers, [so apply today!](#)

Br. Jaime Campos, OFM
Director, JPIC General Office - Rome

Franciscan Participation in COP24 (3/3)

In the last few issues, we've already published about the Climate Change and COP24. Although a small number of scientists, multinational entrepreneurs, and conservative politicians deny this global phenomenon, climate change is affecting our lives to the point where its destructive impact is already inevitable and irreversible. It not only implies that visible and local events such as super typhoons, rising sea levels as the glaciers melt, but droughts and floods would also occur more frequently. But it also means that the whole ecosystem is severely being affected on the microscopic and macroscopic levels which are invisible to us. It's due to the density of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere exceeds 400ppm, which is a worrying level, much earlier than scientists predicted. The matrix of life is being subjected to irreparable damage, to which the human being is responsible. The Encyclical *Laudato Si'* tells us that this is the scientific, ethical, and theological truth we have to recognize.

We Franciscans attending the Climate Conference (COP) will organize several events to share and show this vision in the spirit of dialogue and of solidarity.

Events

The first event we organize is a two-day formation meeting with the Polish brothers and sisters to share the necessary information and perspectives of the Church and Franciscan spirituality on this global issue. The conference is for the friars of initial and ongoing formation (Nov. 23rd) and laity of the parishes, schools, OFS, YOUFRA, scouts, etc. (Nov. 24th). The main speaker is Br. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM from the Holy Name Province, USA, who is a member of the JPIC Animation Committee. He will give three-session course on Christian and Franciscan perspective over climate change. We expect a good number of participants to this meeting.



COP24 KATOWICE 2018
UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

On Dec. 2, there will be interfaith events and a climate march. The formats are not yet finalized, but there would be spiritual moments, prayer services, network meeting, some stunts, and statements, etc. The interfaith group organizes them in Geneva. The Franciscan delegates will take part in them.

The third event is a Franciscan climate conference on Dec. 3. The theme is "Climate Crisis and the Role of the Faith Community for Climate Justice." The confirmed panels are, Br. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM; Br. Stanisław Jaromi, OFM Conv.; Junghee Min (ICE Network); Budi Tjahjono (Franciscans International); Igor Bastos (GCCM); and Br. Rodrigo Peret, OFM (the moderator). And we expect one or two more panels from international NGOs, such as *Friends of the Earth International*.

We ask your prayer, support, and participation in our events during COP24. And we were hoping you could stand in solidarity with the victims of environmental inequality and injustice.

Br. Rufino Lim, OFM
Assistant, JPIC General Office – Rome

International days – October / December, 2018

October 2	International Day of Non-Violence
October 10	World Food Day
October 17	International Day of the Eradication of Poverty
October 27	The Spirit of Assisi Day
November 6	International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict
November 18	World Day of the Poor
November 25	International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women
December 2	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
December 5	World Soil Day

Agenda

11 – 12 October – Dublin

JPIC Animation meeting in the Province of Ireland



pax@ofm.org

22 – 27 October – Guatemala

The 3rd Convention of Franciscan Mission



28 Oct. | 2 Nov. – Argentina

UCLAF Meeting

16 November – Rome

New General Visitors' Meeting

<https://www.facebook.com/ofmjpica/>

12 – 17 November – Johannesburg

JPIC Continental Meeting – Africa



23 – 24 November – Katowice

Seminar on Climate Change and COP24 – Poland

26 – 29 November – Katowice

JPIC Animation Committee of the Order – Poland

www.ofmjpica.org

30 Nov. – 2 Dec. – Katowice

Meeting of JPIC Delegates of Europe

2 – 6 December – Katowice



General Office for Justice,
Peace and Integrity of
Creation
General Curia – OFM