CATHOLIC AGITATOR
A REVOLUTION OF THE HEART

PURSUING NONVIOLENCE

RESISTANCE UPDATES p.7
We are Catholic Workers. We too are pacifists. We are still pacifists. We too are afraid of the possibility of more terrorist attacks, but with restorative justice. We will not cooperate with incitements to become that which we most oppose, namely, perpetrators of violence. We will honor the deeper wounds inflicted upon us and the woundedness that our nation has inflicted upon others.

We are Catholic Workers, and we are still pacifists. We have helped to bury the dead—the impoverished on our streets who die in obscurity, unloved and unremembered by society. We continue, therefore, even in the wake of our own fears and grief, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, and visit the sick and the imprisoned. We hope for the day when our nation provides adequate funding for these, the forgotten in our midst, rather than use our money for the proliferation of more and more weapons of mass destruction upon our earth and into the heavens.

We are Catholic Workers, and we are still pacifists. We dream impossible dreams, see unbelievable visions. We conjure up such hopeful images as U.S. planes dropping not bombs, but food bundles, and messages of hope to the long-suffering people of Afghanistan. We view this paradoxical moment in history as a pause wherein we—every one of us—can desire and work for the well-being of all. We pray for hearts to change: the hearts of our leadership, the hearts of our opponents, even our own hearts when we are tempted to incline toward self-righteousness or despair. We invite you to participate with us in all of our wildest dreams and visions for peace. For now, we sadly know that our affluence, our power, our weapons, our possessions cannot serve as protection from harm. We invite you to clamber off the wheel of violence. It is the only worthy legacy we can offer to those who have died. We invite you to join us as we reexamine our consciences, our spiritual paths, our concepts of God, our commitment to a better world. We are Catholic Workers, and we still believe...the only solution is love.

Below are the signatories to this statement of conscience:

Los Angeles Catholic Worker, Las Vegas Catholic Worker, Santa Ana Catholic Worker, Beatitude House Catholic Worker, San Bruno Catholic Worker, Fresno Catholic Worker, Peru Alta Street Catholic Worker, San Pedro Catholic Worker, Magdalene House Catholic Worker, House of Grace Catholic Worker, Norfolk Catholic Worker, The Open Door Community, Vera Cruz Mexico Catholic Worker, Viva House Catholic Worker, Des Moines Catholic Worker, Peralta Street Catholic Worker, San Bruno Catholic Worker, House of Grace Catholic Worker, Norfolk Catholic Worker, The Open Door Community, Vera Cruz Mexico Catholic Worker, Viva House Catholic Worker, Des Moines Catholic Worker, Peralta Street Catholic Worker, San Bruno Catholic Worker, House of Grace Catholic Worker, Norfolk Catholic Worker, The Open Door Community, Vera Cruz Mexico Catholic Worker, Viva House Catholic Worker, Des Moines Catholic Worker, Peralta Street Catholic Worker, San Bruno Catholic Worker, House of Grace Catholic Worker, Norfolk Catholic Worker, The Open Door Community, Vera Cruz Mexico Catholic Worker, Viva House Catholic Worker, Des Moines Catholic Worker, Peralta Street Catholic Worker, San Bruno Catholic Worker, House of Grace Catholic Worker, Norfolk Catholic Worker, The Open Door Community, Vera Cruz Mexico Catholic Worker, Viva House Catholic Worker, Des Moines Catholic Worker, Peralta Street Catholic Worker, San Bruno Catholic Worker, House of Grace Catholic Worker, Norfolk Catholic Worker, The Open Door Community, Vera Cruz Mexico Catholic Worker, Viva House Catholic Worker, Des Moines Catholic Worker, Peralta Street Catholic Worker, San Bruno Catholic Worker, House of Grace Catholic Worker, Norfolk Catholic Worker, The Open Door Community, Vera Cruz Mexico Catholic Worker, Viva House Catholic Worker, Des Moines Catholic Worker.
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHN SALTMAN

The following is a letter written to the Internal Revenue Service by longtime war tax resisters David and Janet Harrington. War tax resistance is a legal, nonviolent, and nonviolent form of protest against war funding. It is a way of saying, in effect, “Rather than give my money to support the military, I choose to give it to organizations working for peace and justice.” The Harringtons have been war tax resisters for over 30 years, and their work has been widely recognized and appreciated. They have worked closely with the War Resisters League, a national organization of war tax resisters, and have been active in numerous other peace and justice organizations. Their work has been instrumental in shaping the movement for war tax resistance, and they have been a source of inspiration and encouragement to countless others who have taken up the struggle against war.

Hi - I’m one of the persons who signed the letter at the beginning of this article. I am writing to express my appreciation and support for the Harringtons’ work. As a war tax resister myself, I have long admired their commitment and courage, and I have been inspired by their example. They are true leaders in the movement for peace and justice, and they have made a significant contribution to the struggle against war.

Thank you for standing up for what is right, and for giving your time and energy to this important work.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
We can all do more to nourish, study, cultivate, and promote nonviolence as a way of life. As a spiritual path, as the basis for people power, as a political methodology for change, and as a hermeneutic for Christian discipleship, active nonviolence is the best hope for humanity.

**NONVIOLENCE AS PEACE JUSTICE: GLOBAL GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS**

While we practice nonviolence toward ourselves, all people, all creatures, and Mother Earth, we also join and support the global grassroots movements of nonviolence for justice, disarmament, and environmental sustainability.

This is why we practice nonviolence.

We are nonviolent: in our hearts, in our minds, and in our actions. We are nonviolent: in our words, in our deeds, and in our lives. We are nonviolent: in our thoughts, in our intentions, and in our lives.

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As Catholic Workers, we have often built a name for ourselves speaking truth to power, confronting the harm caused by the biggest systems and the most powerful actors: governments, the Church, corporations, and more. And so these purveyors of harm need to have their acts of violence brought to light, questioned, and challenged; systemic violence should never go unchallenged when inflicted on “the least of these.”

CAROL AND CLARY BURR’s Bid

It has been an honor to commemorate a young man just 27 years old. Matt’s death, becomes his heart towards the cause of peace. The young Romero House, and I feel that our actions have been done not for the sake of anything other than to make that change. We are here for the change. For the people who have been affected by the violence. This is how we can bring change and help to those affected. The Romero House is committed to creating a just and peaceful society. We are hopeful that we can move past the fear and division that has held us back. We strongly believe that this is possible. We believe that we can move past the past and create a better future. This is the path we are on and we will not stop until we achieve our goal. The Romero House stands united for the future.
A REVOLUTION OF THE HEART

By ALBERTO OROPEZA

When it is still dark before dark walk outside and stand there with your feet your heart your one eye and allow the sun to paint a portrait of you with hope in your face

When it is still dark, go outside and feel the sun giving a massage to your heart with the pulse of a new day

When it is still dark, go outside and see above your head: A crescent moon becomes the fingertip of the sky pointing to the Birthplace of the sun, The Nascence of the world.

MILLER cod’t from p.5

of mine that say we need to “pursue passionately, but carry loosely.” I think this encompasses all the struggles we have encountered along our journey with us to Los Angeles. In 2019 he accepted a job working for the Getty Research Institute, where he manages several ongoing projects. The location of this new job (in Chinatown) allowed him to position himself in the district election and to create a new neighborhood council for Skid Row.

After attending several meetings at Los Angeles Community Action Network (LA CAN), he became familiar with the Hippie Kitchen across the street and started volunteering by bringing in food on Saturdays before becoming a full-time volunteer at the start of the pandemic. When he is not working on our serving line, or talking with guests at the kitchen, or working on our grill, he usually spends his time long-distance cycling, getting better at his Spanish, and working in his garden. Oh, and he even does the dishes!

Better Know A Volunteer is written by Jed Poole.

A HOLY THOUGHT

By ARNAL KENNEDY

Man has put his faith Behind the bloody sword For centuries To embrace the cataract For centuries Behind the bloody sword To embrace the cataract For centuries...
KINGS BAY BLOWSHARES 7 UPDATE

Mark Coville, the last of the KBP7 defendants sentenced, reported to the Brookland Federal Detention Center on June 8. Mark’s release date is September 11.

Clare Grady remains in the federal prison at Alderson, WV, and will be released on September 10.

Patrick O’Neill has lived in one room with 115 other men at FCI Elkon in Lisbon, OHI, since January. Patrick expects to be released to a halfway house in Raleigh, NC, on August 24. All three would greatly appreciate letters of support.

For more info and addresses, see the Kings Bay Blowsshares Facebook page, their website kingsbayblowsshares7.org, and nukeresister.org

DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE ACTIVIST SENTENCED

One of two former Des Moines Catholic Workers responsible for millions of dollars in damage to the Dakota Access Pipeline was sentenced by a federal court on June 30 to eight years in federal prison. Sentencing guidelines recommended up to 20 years in prison.

Climate activists Jessica Reznicki, 39, and Ruby Montoya, 31, were indicted on nine federal charges each in September 2019, including charges for damaging an energy facility, use of fire in the commission of a felony, and malicious use of fire.

Reznicki and Montoya both pleaded guilty to a charge in return for a plea agreement that included the dropping of an energy facility. The remaining charges were dismissed.

In July 2017, the women claimed credit for a series of acts of sabotage, including burning pipeline construction equipment at a Buena Vista County worksite in November 2016 and using oxyacetylene cutting torches to damage oil pipeline sites around the state near the March and May 2017. At the time of their admission, they were affiliated with the Indigenous Environmentalist Worker. Ruby Montoya will be sentenced July 30.

—desmoineesregister.com

DRONE WAR WHISTLEBLOWER

Daniel Hale, a former U.S. Air Force intelligence analyst who worked with the National Security Agency, released documents (beginning in 2013), which were published by The Intercept as the 8-part series called “The Drone Papers” in October, 2015. They revealed dev- tating failures in the U.S. drone war program, among them the widespread killing of civilians (usually innocent bystanders, and routinely classified as “enemies killed in action”) and specific details about the creation and mainten- ance of Obama’s huge secret “kill list.”

Hale was prosecuted under the Espionage Act, pled guilty (rather than face 50 years in prison) to violating the Espionage Act, and is now being held in the Alexandria, VA, Detention Center awaiting sentencing.

—whistleblower.org

LINE 3 PIPELINE NEWS

On July 8, the Four Necessity Valve Turners (Brenda Cussen-Angiada, Michele Naar-Obed, Allyson Polman, and Daniel Yildirim—all Catholic Workers) who acted out of their com- mitment to the spiritual and political and environmental justice, were given jail terms between 15 days and 60 days. The judge sentenced them to one year of unsupervised probation, 15 days jail time, and a $75 fine.

They must also avoid all contact with Enbridge Energy Corp. and the Line 3 Pipeline property. Their conditionalrelease was signed February 4, 2019, was in defense of water and to serve Indigenous justice and climate justice.

For more information and to read their powerful story of solidarity see tournecessee.org. There have been ongoing acts of resistance at the pipeline construction site by various groups on a near-daily basis. The following are a few websites to keep updated.

stopline3.org; ran.org; planline3.com; indigenousclimateaction.com;

GLOBAL HEALTH CRISIS

The global disparity in access to the COVID-19 vaccine is alarming and unconscionable. Supply is not the foremost reason some nations are able to vaccinate their populations while others experience severe dis- ease outbreaks—distribution is. In the race between infection and injection, injection has lost.

Lack of access to vaccines could prolong the pandemic indefinitely, including in places that currently have broad vaccine access.

At current rates, vaccine vac- cination will not be achieved across poor countries before 2023, if at all. Poor countries estimate that approximately 70% of the world’s 7 billion people must be fully vac- cinated to reach herd immunity and end the COVID-19 pandemic. As of June 21, 2021, only 10% of the global population had been fully vac- cinated, nearly all of them in wealthy countries. Only 0.9% of people in low-income countries have received at least one dose. Where is justice? Where is respect for the dignity of every human life?

—deconversation.com

On The Line is compiled and edited by Mike Wisniewski.

You have been reading about it for months now, but with construction still ongoing, our house is looking better than it has in decades. Rotten siding has been replaced with new boards, windows have been replaced for L.A. Catholic Worker hospitality has also gone up! Becky Melendez was recently given a week away from her new life in Philadelphia to visit her LACW family. Due to a death in her family, Theresa Grady spent a week at Hennessy House getting to know us and learning to dominate like a pro.

Tenise, Dennis, and Rozella, from Beatitude House, stopped in to recon- nect. Everyone was thrilled when Jed’s “friend from out of town” turned out to be a surprise visit from former community member Theo Kayser.

From Indiana, Sue Cruz joined us for the first time to see what “life at the LACW is all about. After a few week and a new start in NYC, Irene Vasquez- Howard has delighted us with her presence for a week stay. Visiting friends, both new and old, always lift our spirits, and is great to be back to hosting people again!”

We are also taking the opportunity to do a little traveling. We plan to each do a little traveling. We plan to each take a train to beautiful New Mexico. We are also taking the opportunity to do a little traveling. We plan to each take a train to beautiful New Mexico.

With our moods raised, we have been able to give this community member his retirement. And, perhaps in this house’s lifetime, there will be an end to the despicable treatment of our fellow Angelenos. We have continued to join Unite Here! picking the Chateau Marmont hotel, who laid off nearly their entire staff during the pandemic, including long-time workers, to add to the list of abuses against their laborers.

We again had the opportunity to do one of our favorite chores, picking oranges for the kitchen on the coast at Santa Ana View Gardens with Farmer Nick.

Initiated by a number of Catholic Workers around the country, including our Matt Harper, we have joined a national roundtable discussion series with other Catholic Worker com- munities. We have the opportunity to create inter-community relationships as we gather digitally for clarification of thought in this modern age. There are gatherings every month into autumn. I cannot begin to imagine what co-founder Peter Menig might think, seeing the scores of faces on the computer screen.

We have heard only good things from former community member Maggie Miller, who left to spend the summer at the Mustard Seed Catholic Worker Farm. Such good things, in fact, Andre Giesemann has spent five months with us chose to join her working on the farm in Iowa.

With our moods raised, we have found reasons for celebration within our household. The official summer heat has inspired many Friday evening ice cream soaks in our home. On Skad Row, our friends at neighbor- ing restaurant Catch 21, were given a large donation in share with the folks on the street. With that generosity they threw a block party on June 27, that they teased was only a precursor to the bash they had planned for the neigh- borhood on July 4. Unfortunately, we were not able to check out that highly anticipated event, because we were all dressed up in our 1920s best to ring in what seems like the beginning of a new roaring decade at Ann Bohm’s for an historic costume party. Many of the folks donned fringe and gowns while the guys sported dapper suits.

Matt was dressed as a newsboy pro- testing, and Clare came all in white as a suffragette. Former community member Jesse Lewis looked especially dapper in red, but no one got more attention than Trace Farmer's red flapper dress for the occasion.

We hope to continue to balance our work and struggle toward justice with rejuvenation, prayer, relationships, build- ing, and celebration, as we have over the past few months. We wish you, our extended community, the same in the months to come. Be safe. Stay healthy. Many blessings.

House Journal is written by Megan Ramsey.

CATHOLIC AGITATOR 7
LACW IN-PERSON LITURGIES HAVE RETURNED

Yes, after more than a year, we have finally brought back in-person Wednesday evening liturgies at Hennacy House. For the time being, they will be bi-weekly and held outside in our yard. We will also continue using Zoom for those afar, or for whatever reason you want to remain home. Call 323.267.8789 or e-mail info@lacatholicworker.org to request dates and Zoom links.

SPECIAL NEEDS

We are in need of disposable razors, and LARGE bars of soap. Also, CANES—used or new. And backpacks—used or new. A big THANK YOU to all who have and continue to donate needed items. We, and our guests, sincerely appreciate your love and generosity. Many blessings.

THE CHURCH ANDcolonization

If you are troubled with the Catholic church’s institutional role in colonization (and mistreatment of Indigenous communities at Missions and boarding schools), we would like to talk with you. Please e-mail us at info@lacatholicworker.org if you are open to learning or doing more.

THE CATHOLIC WORKER

The Los Angeles Catholic Worker, founded in 1970, is part of the international Catholic Worker movement founded in 1933 by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin. We are a resistance community that operates a free soup kitchen on Skid Row, a house of hospitality in Boyle Heights for some of our unhoused friends from the Row, and publishes this bi-monthly publication – the Catholic Agitator. Visit our website - https://lacatholicworker.org and Los Angeles Catholic Worker on Facebook.