

On Line and On Point

MARY MOTHER OF JESUS INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

marymotherofjesus.org

SEASONAL HIGHPOINT—[The Season of Creation began on September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and will end on October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.] Caring for creation is living out our Catholic faith.

The Church, following the teachings of Jesus, throughout time has exhorted believers to work for the common good, which calls for dignifying life in all its forms, caring for our common home, and committing to the construction of more just, supportive, fraternal and peaceful societies. These are some ways to achieve what Pope Francis calls integral ecology in his teaching letter, the Encyclical *Laudato Si'* (2015).

Often, when we speak of creation, it is related to nature, animals, landscapes, the sun, the moon, but we are also aware that the human being is the culmination of our Father's creative work, "God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good." (Gen 1:31), the Sacred Scripture states. As Pope Francis wrote in *Laudato Si'*, "Everyone's talents and involvement

are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God's creation.' All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents."

Pledge of Commitment to Protect and Heal God's Creation

We have come to renew our covenant with God and with one another in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

We have come to help protect God's creation.

We have come as followers of Jesus to commit ourselves anew to one another and to heal injustice and poverty.

We have come to stand together against all threats to life. We have come to discover some new beauty every day in God's creation: the sunrise and sunset, birds, flowers and trees, rainbows in the sky, the stars, the many forms of life in the forest. We have come to listen to the "music of the universe"- water flowing over rocks, the wind, trees bending in the wind, raindrops pattering the roof.



Mary Mother of Jesus Inclusive Catholic Community Mission Statement

We are a Christ-centered community of equals, consisting of women and men, ordained and non-ordained, empowered by the Spirit whose mission is to worship, to serve, to promote compassion, justice, peace and care for creation. Come join us.

Send articles/info by Wed to be published on weekend: rjbannerusa@gmail.com

We will remember always that God speaks to us through the beauty of his creation, and we will try our best to answer God's call to reverence all that he has created.—*From Prayers on the Care of Creation, USCCB*

OFFERINGS— If you have made a recent donation to our community, we thank you for your generosity. We are most grateful for your demonstrated care and concern. Please remember to make your regular donations to MMOJ, by sending your check to MMOJ % St. Andrew UCC, 6908 Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL 34238.

OUTREACH—The current recipient of our offered financial support is the **Community Foundation of Sarasota Season of Sharing**. With the ending of this month, September, we move to our final recipient, **Meals on Wheels of Sarasota** [Oct-Dec]. Since 1971, Meals on Wheels of Sarasota, a non-profit 501(c)(3) volunteer community service organization, has been providing nutritious meals and friendship to eligible clients. They include those 60 or older who are disabled, homebound, and who have no one available to aid with meal preparation, and are unable to leave home without the assistance of another person. Five hundred times a day, Meals on Wheels of Sarasota delivers nutritious meals that are cooked, prepared, packaged and hand delivered to members.

REPORT ON DONATIONS—At our annual meeting, we decided on four recipients receiving our 5% tithing. Here they are once again, posting the financial

donations to date: Total: \$507.35; Coalition of Immokalee Workers \$161.75; All Faiths Food Bank \$270.60; and, to date, Community Foundation of Sarasota Season of Sharing \$75. with the month of September still to be posted.

MOVIE CORNER

Thanks to Russ for this week's movie review. Ron Howard directed a winner in **THIRTEEN LIVES**, the moving depiction of an underground rescue mission that took place in 2018. Twelve boys and their soccer coach were rescued after being trapped for weeks in a Thailand cave. Those like myself who fed daily on the reports broadcast on TV of the cave rescue, will be immediately caught up in the drama. Very exciting. Very well done. Rejoice in the perseverance of humankind. The movie gives a gripping portrayal of why it was so difficult to get the boys out. It stars Viggo Mortensen and Colin Farrell and is available for streaming on Amazon Prime. On a point of local interest, one of the characters, Thanet Natisri, who refers to himself as the water guy, lives in Southern Illinois. He and his wife have a restaurant near Carbondale.—*Beth Ponce*. Send your suggestions of movies to watch, to ponce.beth@gmail.com

NETWORK educates, organizes, and lobbies for the racial, economic, and social transformation we need to realize a just and inclusive society. As an organization founded by Catholic Sisters, we engage in the ongoing work to become a multicultural anti-racist organization, value women's leadership, appreciate people from religious and secular backgrounds, and affirm members of the LGBTQ+ community.

STAFF—*Russ Banner, editor; Joan Pesce and Dorothy Sadowski, text review; Beth Ponce and Dotty Shugrue, features*

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