

JUSTICE, PEACE & INTEGRITY OF CREATION

I write today on the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. I am grateful for Deacon Tom Bello's letter today and was consoled that even though I could not be with him and many other Franciscans at the March for Life in our nation's capitol, our prayers join together in order that respect for life can be realized.

We previously covered the Respect Life campaign in October, Two Feet of Love in Action in November, the National Campaign for a Human Life Amendment in December, and Catholics Mobilizing Network for the End of the Death Penalty here in January.

Our regional fraternity JPIC Point People have done a great job getting the information to local fraternities and noting ways that folks are already supporting these issues.

The JPIC Rally at *Our Lady of the Snows* in Belleville, Illinois, is the first opportunity for many commission members and JPIC point people to meet each other. Our national fraternity covers a lot of territory and our Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation covers as much, what with the multitude of issues that comprise JPIC.

Besides striving to maintain the dignity of every person, realizing the common good and solidarity with all of creation, our JPIC rally will allow us the time to "...foster an atmosphere in fraternity, the privileged place, where with openness and trust, we may share with each other the manner in which our personal conversions are shaping our Franciscan lives."

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(From Justice, Peace & the Integrity of Creation Chapter by Pat Brandwein-Ball in the new Formation Manual)

And finally, all of these efforts are in preparation for our return together as a national fraternity family at the Q this summer in Chicago!

We hope and pray that many members of our Commission, JPIC Point People and friends of JPIC will come together at the Quinquennial in order to be recharged and renewed for the work we are called to do.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with comments or questions at the above email address.

Kent

