Catholic Workers to Gather in Las Vegas

by Julia Occhiogrosso

In 1987, the Las Vegas Catholic Worker hosted the first National Catholic Worker Gathering at Bishop Gorman High School on Maryland Parkway. Now, almost thirty years later, for the fourth time we will come together to share, celebrate, act and renew our personal and collective commitments to the Catholic Worker vision of gospel nonviolence.

This year’s gathering is entitled, “Creating a New Society in the Shell of the Old,” and will include a variety of workshops bound to speak to an array of interests. Reflective of the Catholic Worker practice of “clarification of thought,” these Round Table Discussions will be facilitated by Catholic Workers and friends who bring experience, wisdom and passion to their topics.

Topics include the influences of the holy examples of St. Benedict and Theresa of Lisieux, St. Francis and Pope Francis.

Sharon Browning
JUST Listening
Listening is an act of Justice. JUST Listening fosters personal, organizational, and social change and transformation through the practice of conscious, intentional, compassionate, non-egoic and non-judgmental communication skills.

Terry and Anne Symens-Bucher
What is Mine to Do?
If your heart is breaking in the face of the “Great Unraveling” of ecological, economic, political and social systems, come join us for a brave and beautiful journey as we dare to see we are not separate from the suffering of our world. In the time of his own great unraveling, Francis of Assisi chose to turn toward gratitude, singing a song of praise known as the Canticle of Creation. Joanna Macy’s Work That Reconnects (www.joannamacy.net) invites us also to choose gratitude and put our attention instead on the “Great Turning,” the movement to a life sustaining society that she calls “the essential adventure of our time.” At the end of his life, Francis of Assisi told his followers: “I have done that which was mine to do, may Christ teach you yours.”

Using a Franciscan perspective and the Work That Reconnects, we invite you to renew your connection to “that which is yours to do” and to discover how your unique and authentic gifts are in service to Earth in this time of planetary crisis. We will use experiential practices, poetry, ritual, prayer, song, and silence to guide our journey through the four stages of the Spiral of the Work That Reconnects. We understand this Spiral to be archetypal and will explore it through the framework of the Christian liturgical calendar.

Presented by Anne and Terry Symens-Bucher, Prayer Room (upstairs, 502 W. Van Buren Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106) Friday, Oct. 7, 1 - 4:30 p.m. or Saturday, Oct. 8, 1 - 4:30 p.m.

Willa Bickham and Brendan Walsh
“The Long Loneliness in Baltimore.”

Willa and Brendan will tell stories and share images of Willa’s artwork from their 48 years at the Baltimore Catholic Worker.

This presentation will be from 7 - 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7 in the Big Tent behind the Las Vegas Catholic Worker (see address below).
Schedule

Friday, October 7, 2016
Big Tent on lot behind Catholic Worker
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.: Check In
11:00 a.m. - Noon: Welcome Ceremony
Noon - 1:00 p.m.: Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.: Round Table #1
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.: Round Table #2
5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Evening Prayer
5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.: Dinner
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.: The Long Loneliness in Baltimore (Willa Bickham and Brendan Walsh)

Saturday, October 8, 2016
Big Tent on lot behind Catholic Worker
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.: Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer
9:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.: Round Table #3
11:30 a.m. - Noon: Midday Prayer
Noon - 1:00 p.m.: Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.: Round Table #4
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.: Round Table #5
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.: Evening Prayer
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.: Dinner
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.: Open Mike hosted by Robert Majors
(Sharing by musicians, singers, storytellers and poets)

Sunday, October 9, 2016
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.: Breakfast
9:30 a.m.: Vans leave Las Vegas Catholic Worker
10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.: Liturgy in the Desert, Nevada National Security Site (NNSS)
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.: Peace Witness at NNSS gates
1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.: Lunch at Cactus Springs, Goddess Temple
3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.: Peace Vigil at Creech Air Force Base
5:30 p.m.: Dinner at Catholic Worker

Round Table Discussions

Round Table Discussions #1 (pick one):
A: Catholic Worker Farm Forum / B: Pope Francis: A View of Change Coming from the Periphery(Claire Schneller-Duffy) / C: The Work that Reconnects, What is Ours to Do?: Finding Our Soul Work in the Great Turning–a Franciscan perspective, please commit to second session, Round Table #5

Round Table Discussions #2 (pick one):
A: The Need for Catholic Workers to be Radicals Rather than Liberals (Scott Schaeffer-Duffy) / B: Border Issues and the Catholic Worker (John Heid) / D: War Resistance and the Catholic Worker: Past, Present & Future (Rosalie Riegel) / E: Catholic Worker Archives, Preserving the Legacy (Phil Runkel) / F: Permaculture and the Catholic Worker Life (Robert Majors and Ming Lai) / G: 911: An Inside Job (Kathy Boylan)

Round Table Discussions #3 (pick one):
A: On Welcoming the Stranger, Root Causes of Immigration from Honduras and Guatemala (Tom Webb) / B: Catholic Worker Farm Forum / C: Love in Action, tending (Sharon Browning)

Round Table Discussions #4 (pick one):
A: 3:00 p.m.: The Filthy Rotten Legal System (Kate Chartfield) / B: Catholic Worker Farm Forum / C: Radical Hospitality: St. Benedict’s way of love and the Catholic Worker (Liza Apper) / D: Radical Hospitality: St. Benedict’s way of love and the Catholic Worker (Liza Apper) / E: Golden Garbage, Soup Scraps into Soil (Julia Occhiogrosso) / F: A Walking Tour of the Historic Westside Neighborhood (Gary Cavalier)

Round Table Discussions #5 (pick one):
A: 3:00 p.m.: The Filthy Rotten Legal System (Kate Chartfield) / B: Catholic Worker Farm Forum / C: Love in Action, tending (Sharon Browning)

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS: Sept. 8 and Oct. 6 for Christ the King Catholic Community Hot Dog Party at our morning Soup Line

SOUP LINE CLOSED:
Nov. 24, 25 & 26, 2016
Jan. 4 - 7, 2017

Thirty-first Annual Christmas Breakfast to the Homeless (Hosted by Knights of Columbus)
Sunday, Dec. 25, 2016

PLease JOIN US:
Wednesday-Saturday, 6:00 a.m.: Morning prayer at Catholic Worker.
Wednesday-Saturday, 6:30 a.m.: Breakfast served to 150-200 poor & homeless people.
Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.: Hospitality Day, we invite 20 homeless men home for showers, to wash clothes and for a great lunch.
Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.: Vigil for Peace in front of Federal Courthouse, 333 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
Thursday, 10:30 a.m.: 50 lunches taken to the homeless.
Second Saturday of the month:
Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast to the homeless.
Third Saturday of the month:
Deliver food boxes to homes in need.

Practicing Nonviolence in Community (Julia Occhiogrosso) / D: Abolishing the land-based ICBM system and Nuclear Heartland (John LaForge) / E: History of the Catholic Worker with Racial Justice (Lincoln Rice) / F: Art and Resistance (Sue Frankel-Streit) / G: Reflections on Trip to Palestine (Jim Haber)

Round Table Discussions #4 (pick one):
A: Scenario Planning for Possible Creech AFB Scenario Planning for

Round Table Locations

A: North Side of Tent
B: South Side of Tent
C: Prayer Room, Upstairs, 502†
D: Living Room, Downstairs, 502†
E: Living Room, Downstairs, 500‡
F: Outdoor Carport behind 502‡
G: Outdoor Patio by Chicken Coop
† 500 W. Van Buren Ave.
‡ 502 W. Van Buren Ave.

All events at the International Catholic Worker Gathering are free. If you can volunteer at the event or help with airport pickups or housing please contact us at (702) 647-0728.

Contact Information
Las Vegas Catholic Worker
500 W. Van Buren Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89106-3039
(702) 647-0728
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www.lvcw.org

“The World tells us to seek success, power and money; God tells us to seek humility, service and love.”
-Pope Francis

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