

Faith & Justice August Newsletter



What is Angel Tree?

We are excited that during Advent 2022 St. Thomas More will for the first time participate in Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree program that enables parents to send a Christmas gift to their children. Similarly to our mitten tree, there will be a Christmas Tree with paper angels that parishioners can take with them, purchase a gift valued at @\$25 and then return it to church by a specified date. The sex and age of the child and suggested toy/item will be listed on each angel tag. We hope to distribute the gifts, along with a note from their parent and gospel materials, as the joy of Jesus's birth and the gift of salvation is the reason for the season, at Camden's Sacred Heart in December.

This faithful, charitable initiative is in keeping with the corporal act of mercy to visit the imprisoned, allowing parents to send love and cheer to their children during the most wonderful time of the year. We also hope to take photos of the children at the party that we'll send to the parents.

We look forward to the support of our parish families!

Knights of Malta Pen Pal Program with the Incarcerated

The Pen Pal Program is a two-way correspondence between you and an inmate. It is an anonymous relationship; you do not mention your last name and all incoming letters from your pen pal are mailed to an innocuous mail box, from which letters are forwarded to you. Most of the inmates we write to have been identified by a Prison Chaplain/Deacon or other Religious. **[Look for more information to follow.](#)**



Update on Refugee Families

St. Thomas More's Society of St. Vincent de Paul has been working with Catholic Charities to assist refugee families in need. Catholic Charities states that many newer refugees are receiving Government support however, refugees that have been in the US for a while are one innocent away from poverty, and it does not take much. An illness without medical coverage or a car accident can turn into unemployment and potential eviction and utilities being turned off. St. Vincent de Paul works with Catholic Charities to provide food gift cards and bags of food from our food pantry. Last month the Society assisted two Afghan, two Burmese and one Ugandan family.

US Conference for Catholic Bishops - Legislation on Environment, Drug Prices

The U.S. Senate passed the Inflation Reduction Act. Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development: "I am grateful to the Senate for their

efforts to support the environment and lower drug prices through the Inflation Reduction Act. It is also prudent that this legislation contains revenue provisions to offset the investments when concerns around inflation and the economy are high.

Climate change is a global challenge that requires courageous, long-term action from Congress, and I am grateful for the many substantial climate provisions that bring the United States closer to honoring its emissions reductions goals under the Paris Agreement, which Pope Francis has strongly encouraged us to meet. This is a meaningful effort to care for our common home. Provisions in this package will help to curb greenhouse gas emissions while seeking to safeguard the economy and give preference to the poor."

