



April 21, 2022

## Earth Day is April 22 – “Invest in Our Planet”

~ by Julia Gerwe, *Global Sisters Report*

This year's Earth Day theme is “Invest in Our Planet.” [EarthDay.org](http://EarthDay.org) which sets the annual theme and serves as the “world's largest recruiter to the environmental movement,” elaborates:

*Earth Day is the day to take action not just because you care about the natural world, but because we all live in it.*

*Every one of us needs a healthy Earth to support our jobs, livelihoods, health and survival, and happiness. A healthy planet is not an option – it is a necessity.*

I firmly believe that we all carry a responsibility to live more sustainably on this Earth.

“Sustainability” has its origins as an ecological concept referring to how biological systems endure, remaining diverse. Now, however, sustainability is commonly used “to describe the viability of interdependent human and natural systems over time,” as the North American Association for Environmental Education writes in its "[Guidelines for Excellence: Community Engagement](#)

Further, the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) asserts, "Sustainability is based on a simple principle: Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment." Sustainability is, in short, living responsibly and living well.



Unfortunately, the science has been telling us for decades that our pace of life and rate of growth are not sustainable. This is the world we inherit. Besides being metaphorically hard to swallow, our contributions to the current climate crisis as a species (however unintentional they may be) can also be difficult to comprehend amid the haze of a hundred-billion-dollar fossil fuel industry and sympathetic structures and systems that bolster extractive ways of life.

However, the story of the day and the narrative promoted by this year's Earth Day theme is simple: Individuals have power.

In fact, a September 2020 [report](#) from the Stockholm Environment Institute and Oxfam cited that the world's wealthiest 10% were responsible for almost half of global emissions in 2015. Who are the world's wealthiest 10%? Anyone with an [annual income of at least \\$38,000](#)

What can the world's wealthiest do with their power?

On a macro level, companies, governments, policies and practices need to change. We know that as individuals, we vote not only with our ballots, but with our wallets. This is what investing in our planet looks like.

Investing in our planet can also look like simplicity, connection and hope. By living more simply – namely, consuming and traveling less - we directly and indirectly emit less greenhouse gases.

But what about connection? What about hope?

Because I am connected to my local community, I prioritize buying locally grown and made products. Because I love my global community, I try to do conscious research before buying new clothing to ensure that those making the clothing are treated justly and the materials are sourced sustainably.

In this way connection lends itself to hope, which inspires action.

This Earth Day, I challenge everyone to follow this trajectory from connection to hope and to action. Just start by getting some dirt under your fingernails!

To read the entire article, please click [here](#)

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## For Catholic Sisters, Eco-missionary Activity is Integral to their Work

~ Sr. Susan Smith for EarthBeat

NEW ZEALAND – When most 19<sup>th</sup> century apostolic congregations of Catholic sisters were founded, responding to and being directed by bishops was the name of the game. But after the Second Vatican Council that mindset began to change as other criteria such as “reading the signs of the times” became important in discerning new missionary imperatives. Today, Catholic sisters all over the world are prioritizing care for creation as integral to their work.

In the years immediately following Vatican II, conciliar documents, Pope Paul VI's *Populorum Progressio* and the bishops' 1971 synod on justice in the world generated an enthusiastic response from many sisters to step up and respond to the cry of the poor, and not long afterward to the cry of the earth, too.

From the 1970s onward, Catholic sisters were influenced not only by bishops' environmental statements and scientific publications about environmental degradation, but also by the works of theologians such as Jesuit Fr. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, Columban Fr. Sean McDonagh and more recent eco-feminist publications such as St. Joseph Sr. Elizabeth Johnson's *Women, Earth and Creator Spirit* and *Ask the Beasts: Darwin and the God of Love* and the publications of Franciscan Sr. Ilia Delio and more.



Such eco-feminist publications encourage movement beyond earlier hierarchical, dualistic theologies that position humans at the apex of creation with all other creatures deemed subordinate. A pyramidal understanding of creation has meant a real pecking order in the life of planet Earth – the higher up the pyramid one is positioned, the more they can dominate and exploit those relegated to lower positions.

Long aware of the damage patriarchal and hierarchical ideologies cause, Catholic sisters understand that theologies grounded in those ideologies should be replaced by theologies that encourage mutuality, inclusivity and interdependence. We know that we need Mother Earth more than she needs us.

Growing numbers of sisters, along with millions of others, are aware of what is happening in our world today. Sisters who are directly involved in ministries with the economically and politically disenfranchised poor can easily see how environmental degradation more severely impacts oppressed communities. Climate change means more droughts, more cyclones, more forest fires, more exploitation of natural resources leading to deforestation, more invasions of land of indigenous people. Not only are Catholic sisters focusing on people living in poverty: they also are focusing on an impoverished Earth. To read the entire account, please click [here](#)

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## Pope Francis laments 'Easter of war' in Ukraine

~ by Christopher White, National Catholic Reporter

ROME – Pope Francis used his Easter message to again appeal for peace in Ukraine, saying the country has been “dragged” into a “cruel and senseless war” and warning that if the conflict escalates, it could lead to the destruction of humanity.

“May the leaders of nations hear people’s pleas for peace,” the Pope said on Easter Sunday. “May they listen to that troubling question posed by scientists almost 70 years ago.”

The Pope read from the 1955 Russell-Einstein Manifesto, “shall we put an end to the human race, or shall mankind renounce war?” which warned of the global destruction that could be caused by nuclear weapons.

“May there be an end to the flexing of muscles while people are suffering,” the Pope pleaded. “Please, let us not get used to war!”



Pope Francis celebrates Easter Sunday Mass at the Vatican. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

“I hold in my heart all the many Ukrainian victims, the millions of refugees and internally displaced persons, the divided families, the elderly left to themselves, the lives broken and the cities razed to the ground,” the Pope said on Easter Sunday.

The pope noted that despite the pain and destruction caused by war he was pleased to see countries throughout Europe opening their borders and homes to refugees fleeing the conflict.

and resources” the world is now facing an ‘Easter of war’. “We need the crucified and risen Lord so that we can believe in the victory of love, and hope for reconciliation.”

To read the entire article, please click [here](#)

Francis lamented that after two years of a global health crisis – where many people have come together “pooling our strengths

**Save the Date!**

Please join The Ignatian Volunteer Corps of New York, Long Island and Northern New Jersey in presenting the

**2022**  
**Madonna della Strada Award**

at

**An Evening of Celebration**

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022 5:30 - 8:00 pm**  
**Wines and Delicious Hors d'oeuvres**

Jesuit Conference Center Garden  
53 East 83 Street (between Park & Madison Avenues)  
New York, NY 10028

\$100 Tickets Invitation to follow

Reception benefits the work of  
IVC NY/LI/Northern New Jersey



**Honoring the Recipients:**  
Cabrini Immigrant Services of New York  
**Javier Ramirez-Baron**  
Executive Director  
Ignatian Volunteer  
**Julia Mucci**

*In recognition of outstanding service to the community*

More Information:  
**Maureen Fullam**  
NY/Metro Director  
mfullam@ivcusa.org  
917-859-0928

**Ignatian Volunteer Corps**



# War in Ukraine Contributes to Global Hunger

~ by Chris Herlinger, Global Sisters Report

In an issue of import to religious sisters and the wider church, Baltimore based [Catholic Relief Services](#) has warned that the war in Ukraine is having serious effects on global hunger.

During recent congressional testimony about the pending U.S. Farm Bill, Bill O’Keefe, Catholic Relief Services’ Executive Vice-President for Mission, Mobilization and Advocacy, said the war is compounding already-existing problems.

“After decades of progress, global hunger has steadily risen for seven consecutive years. The ‘three Cs’ – conflict, climate change and COVID-19 – are exacerbating chronic and severe food insecurity for people living in highly vulnerable and fragile contexts,” O’Keefe said. “We at CRS are not the hyperbolic type, but we are extremely concerned.”

O’Keefe told the panel that the Ukraine conflict “is having an undeniable impact on the state of global food security within Ukraine and around the world.”

Noting that Ukraine is a top exporter of wheat and sunflower oil, countries in north and east Africa and the Middle East “are already feeling the effects of food price spikes and global supply shortages,” said O’Keefe.

“Countries on the brink of famine, like South Sudan, Yemen and in the Horn of Africa, are particularly vulnerable to the worsening impacts of the ongoing war in Ukraine. While there is great uncertainty as to how significantly food prices and availability will be impacted over the next four to six months, it is clear that the worst is yet to come,” noted O’Keefe.



A woman collects grain at a camp for internally displaced people in Adadle in the Somali Region of Ethiopia.

(CNS/Reuters/Courtesy of the World Food Program/Claire Nevill)

## One Minute Meditation

It is impossible and pointless to lay blame for our earthly peril nor do we have time. We are all responsible for our earth and we are all called to the fullness of life in God.

When balance is restored within ourselves we can live with greater sensitivity to the environment and listen for possible solutions to the ecological crisis that will not merely compound it.

~ Maggie Ross, *Icon of the Heart*



*The Cabrini Lay Missionaries-Guadalupe Province  
invite you to join us for an  
Afternoon of Reflection*

**Saturday, June 4, 2022  
1:00-3:00 PM EST**

Join us in-person at the Cabrini Shrine, NYC or via Zoom  
(Spanish/English available via Zoom)

**Theme: Hope**



**Speaker: Lucille Larrivee Naughton**

Please register for the program by emailing:  
[Cabrinilaymissionariesgp@gmail.com](mailto:Cabrinilaymissionariesgp@gmail.com)

Please indicate if you will be joining us in-person or via Zoom

If attending in-person, lunch will be served at 12:00 Noon.

**WALK A MILE  
WALK TO LEARN ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS  
AND HOW WE CAN HELP**

# WHY WE WALK

It's time we open our eyes and see the victims of the sex trade, domestic servitude, and forced labor who've been in the shadows for far too long.

The purpose of the event is to shine a spotlight on the 27 million men, women, and children who are still trapped in slavery today.

It's happening right here in our community. Come out and learn more about the signs and how to help end trafficking in your zip code.

## **JOIN US**

**MONDAY MAY 2, 2022**

**The walk starts at 3:00 pm in front of Grace Hall.**

Donations of hotel sized toiletries such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. and gift cards for the Cabrini closet are appreciated!

## **REGISTER HERE!**



**THIS WALK IS SPONSORED BY THE ECG 200 ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING CLASS AND THE CABRINI CLOSET.**

**CONTACT KAROL BREWER AT 610-902-1038 OR  
CABRINIFORMATION@MOTHERCABRINI.ORG**

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# Prayer Requests

## ***John Damiano, Sr.***

Please unite in prayer for John Damiano, Sr., father-in-law of Cabrini University alumna Debbie Larkins Damiano. John has been hospitalized after a fall that caused multiple small fractures to his hip. Prayers for healing, strength and support for John, and decisions about rehab and the need for more skilled care, are requested.

## ***Patricia Prinz***

Ellen Cunningham, a staff member at the Cabrini Mission Foundation, has requested our prayers for a dear friend, Patricia Prinz, who has just been diagnosed with lung cancer. Patricia is a beautiful nurse who has helped people her whole life! She truly emulates the very best a person could be. Her husband, George, passed away just six months ago. Patricia has asked for the prayers of the Missionary Sisters. Let us unite in prayer on her behalf.

## ***Nancy Wilson,***

Prayers are requested for Nancy Wilson, the aunt of Cabrini University alums Robin Larkins and Debbie Larkins Damiano. Nancy is undergoing additional scans today to determine the extent of cancer found along her spine and possible treatment options. The family is still mourning the loss of two of Nancy's remaining siblings since November, and this week remembers the anniversary of the passing of Robin and Debbie's mother. Prayers for treatment options, relief from pain, healing, comfort and support for Nancy and her family, and the extended family are very much appreciated.

# With Grateful Hearts

## ***Miss Cora Maree McKimmy***



It is with great joy that we share the arrival of Cora Maree McKimmy, the daughter of former Cabrini Mission Corps missionary Ashley Block McKimmy and her husband, Clark. Cora Maree made her entrance into the world with “a mighty scream” on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> weighing 6 lbs. 15 oz., 19.5 inches. We are thrilled for Ashley and Clark and wish them every blessing as they welcome little Cora into their lives.



# In Loving Memory

## ***Joselyn Lamb***

The Cabrini University community shares with sorrow the passing of Joselyn Lamb, the mother of Megan Norris, the Associate Director of Field and Student Experience, who passed away on April 4, 2022. A Mass will be celebrated in the Bruckmann Memorial



Chapel of Saint Joseph on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:30 pm in memory of Mrs. Lamb. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Megan and her family.

***Thomas Pikunas***

The Cabrini University Community extends sympathy to Anne Schwelm, Director of Holy Spirit Library, on the loss of her father, Thomas Pikunas, who passed away on Tuesday, April 12, 2022. Mass in his memory will be offered on campus in the near future. Please continue to keep Anne and her family in your prayers.

