



Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat of the Society of Jesus

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...to exchange social justice and ecology news, stimulate contacts, share spirituality and promote networking...

Narrative

The Jesuit community in Scampia

Fabrizio Valletti SJ (ITA)



"Progetto Scampia" was launched in the year 2001, in response to the requests of the Superiors of the Society, who greatly wanted an apostolic presence of the Jesuits in this district located in the North of Naples, renowned for its very high crime rate. At the beginning, this project mainly involved the scholastics of the Theologate in Naples, afterwards, other Jesuit fathers serving the parish churches of the neighbourhood also offered their support. The Jesuit community in Scampia was set up in 1990, when the church of Santa Maria della Speranza (our Lady of

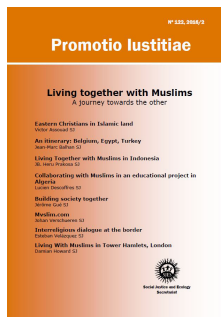
Hope) was designated as parish church and entrusted to the pastoral care of the Jesuits.

The distinguishing characteristics of this commuter town, made up of high-rise residential blocks, represented a serious object of pastoral, social and cultural interest for the Jesuits. The previous General Congregations had been urging for renewed efforts in favour of the disadvantaged and the marginalised.

The residence of the Jesuit fathers in Scampia was located in a block of apartments, in close contact with ordinary people, with whom they shared everyday problems and hopes. Getting to serve people directly meant giving value to their compassionate and popular character, by attempting to deepen the Word of God and to encourage a profound comprehension of the religious sacraments, not only in their ritual and formal aspect, but also in relation to the principal moments of family life. [Read more...](#)

Flashnews

Rome - Promotio Iustitiae 122: Living together with Muslims



In this edition of Promotio Iustitiae, a number of Jesuits who live together with Muslim communities in various parts of the world describe their experience of sharing life with people of Islamic faith, in very distinct circumstances. They speak about the challenges and opportunities presented by dialogue with these communities in everyday life. They describe what they have learned and how they have been rewarded by these encounters. Moreover, they reflect on what Muslims and Christians can offer each other in this complicated world that we live in. We hope that these pages can help us to better position ourselves faced with the challenge of living together, Christians and

Muslims. [Download PDF](#)

India - Lok Manch, National Platform for food security, launched in New Delhi



120 activists representing around 100 organizations from 12 States have come together on April 6 at Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, for the launch of Lok Manch, which is a national platform for ensuring food security. The launch of Lok Manch was part of a three-day workshop wherein the participants deliberated on the various entitlements enshrined in the National Food Security Act 2013. The participants also explored effective strategies to capacitate the grassroots communities enabling them to know, and understand the various provisions of the Act and to use them well as rightful citizens. High on the agenda of these activists is a program of leadership formation at the grassroots so that the people would take charge of their lives to live with dignity. [Learn more...](#)

North America - Meeting of the social apostolate



Close to 100 Jesuits and lay partners working in the social apostolate coming from Canada, US, Central America, Mexico, Antilles and Guyana gathered together on April 5-8 in Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) to discuss about shared social concerns: migration and solidarity with migrants; conflicts caused by extractive activities; violence; growing economic inequality. At the end of the meeting, they came out with some proposals for further development of collaboration in these areas. Most of the Provincials from the involved Provinces also joined the group.

Asia Pacific - Dialogue with Buddhists on ecology and faith



Jesuits and Buddhist monks and nuns came together in early March to share and dialogue on ecology and religions in a workshop organised by the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific. The three-day workshop was held in India, in the city of Bodhgaya where the Buddha is believed to have attained enlightenment, and which is one of the holiest of Buddhist cities. Fourteen Jesuits participated from India, Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Taiwan, the Philippines, and USA. [Read more...](#)

USA - Jesuit student government leaders take stand against racial injustice



Student government presidents at the 28 Jesuit colleges and universities across the United States joined on March 28 to take a stand against racial injustice. They made a commitment to stand in solidarity with the students of color around the country whose lives are threatened, who feel unsafe or undervalued. They called on all

institutions of higher education to take action in advocating for an end to racial inequality in its many manifestations. Fairfield University president Fr. Jeffrey von Arx, S.J. joined the campus demonstration. [Read more...](#)

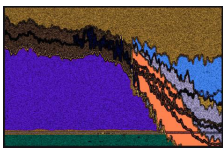
Central America - UCA calls for justice in 1989 murders of Jesuits



[more...](#)

More than 25 years after six Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter were [killed at the University of Central America](#), or UCA, in El Salvador, there is hope for justice: warrants have been issued for the arrest of former Salvadoran military officials tied to the 1989 murders. Last month, Salvadoran police arrested four military officers in response to extradition requests from Spanish National Court. [Read](#)

USA - Collaboration for Sustainability on Jesuit Campuses



Loyola University Chicago hosted its third annual Climate Change Conference, entitled "Global Climate Change: Economic Challenges and Solutions" (March 17-19, 2016). The gathering focused on new economics, policies and activism taking place around the world to address climate change. The keynote address was presented by award-winning author and climate activist, Naomi Klein. A large part of the conference was dedicated to how Jesuit colleges and universities can make a difference concerning climate change and sustainability. [Read more...](#)

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