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6 July 2023

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>>,

Warm greetings from Rome!

The annual meeting of the apostolic body of the social apostolate met here in Rome between 26 and 30 June 2023. It was an important moment of companionship, exchange and discernment on how to work together and respond to the current social challenges of our world, driven by the mission of reconciliation and justice.

There is no doubt that peace and fraternity are our world's greatest needs today. The Human Fraternity event, **#Not Alone**, organised by the Holy See in June, enabled the Church to reiterate that "peace is God's greatest dream for humanity". The commemoration of the second anniversary of the martyrdom of **Stan Swamy SJ** on 5th July and the first anniversary of the martyrs of Mexico, **Joaquín Mora SJ** and **Javier Campos SJ**, on 20th June remind us of the challenging mission of building a just society amidst the unjust socio-political and economic structures in the world. Amid Indigenous peoples who were victims of injustice, they knew how to walk alongside them and defend their rights to the point of giving their lives as a testimony of the greatest love.

Our challenge to build a better world will be incomplete if we ignore the cry of nature. Indeed, reconciliation between human beings and reconciliation with nature are closely linked. The appeal for the latter is more "urgent" than ever, as Dr Kennedy emphasises in his reflection on World Environment Day.

May the extraordinary lives of our 'martyrs' inspire us to continue God's mission so that "peace and justice may flow", as Pope Francis desired in his message for the World Day of Prayer for Creation.

With gratitude,

Xavier Jeyaraj, SJ
SJES Secretary

TESTIMONY

Maura Deloso Lipanda - Finding Hope in Culture-Based Education in the Philippine Uplands

I am a Pulangiyēn Indigenous Community member and live along the Pulangi River headwaters in the Eastern Valley of



Bukidnon, Mindanao. Our community possesses rich knowledge of the landscape and a deep understanding of our relationship with the land, forest, water, [Read more...](#)

NEWS



Rome - SJES Annual Meeting Discerns the Future of Social Justice & Ecology Mission

The Annual Meeting of the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat (SJES) gathered the six Conference Social Delegates, four Global Ignatian Advocacy Network (GIAN) Leaders, six Advisory Committee Members, and the four coordinators of the SJES Secretariat led by Fr. General's Secretary for Social Justice and Ecology, Fr. Xavier Jeyaraj SJ. [Read more...](#)

Global – Parolin on #NotAlone: The world Needs Hope and Fraternity

The World Meeting on Human Fraternity opens with working groups centred on Nobel Prizes, the Environment, Schools, the Weak, and Associations. Speaking on the sidelines of this event, Cardinal Pietro Parolin says Pope Francis is well and has already expressed his desire to resume work. [Read more...](#)





CPAL - First Anniversary of the Martyrs of Mexico

“On June 20, 2022, the Jesuit priests Joaquín Mora and Javier Campos died victims of violence in Mexico, in the Parish of San Francisco Xavier, in the Jesuit mission of the Sierra Tarahumara in Cerocahui, Chihuahua, Mexico. [Read more...](#)



JCAM – Journeying with the Zimbabwean Exemption Permits (ZEP) Holders in South Africa

The imminent scrapping or termination of the Zimbabwean Exemption Permit (ZEP) by the South African Department of Home Affairs (DHA) which is to be effected on 30 June 2023, has left many ZEP holders in a state of anxiety, confusion and panic. [Read more...](#)



JCAP – Clean Water and Dream Houses for Mekong Delta Communities

When I was sent to the communities in Minh Hoa in the summer of 2000, I was dismayed to discover that people were using contaminated water from nearby canals for their drinking, cooking, and other daily needs. Water pollution also affected agricultural production [Read more...](#)



JCEP - Vigil for Stan Swamy before his Second Death Anniversary

On 20th June staff at the Indian High Commission in London refused to engage with Jesuits priests and laypeople who attempted to hand in a petition calling for justice for a priest who died of Covid whilst in Indian custody. [Read more...](#)



PCCP - Working Together for Child Protection in Taiwan

The Society of Jesus and public institutions in Taiwan, including Taiwanese church hospitals, are collaborating for the protection of children. Fr John Lee Hua SJ, Director of the Chinese Province Office of Child and Adolescent Protection, presented on the progress of safeguarding in the Catholic Church in Taiwan. [Read more...](#)



REFLECTION : **World Environment Day**

John Kennedy, SJ: For a New Ethic of Survival

"Opting for mother earth is not a choice to be made among many other choices, but an urgent obligation to save and protect the entire universe from this looming danger. We shall sail or sink together in the spaceship Earth." [Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

July 30, UN – **International Day of Friendship.**

July 22-31, Portugal – **MAGIS 2023**



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