



27 September 2023

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

A warm greeting from the Secretariat!

SJES is delighted to share its first newsletter after the summer break. As you can see, we have made some changes in the design of HL according to the suggestions you made in the survey. We hope you will like it. We will continue to improve the design and presentation in the coming months.

At the start of this mission year, I am honoured to welcome **Fr. Roberto Jaramillo SJ**, the newly appointed SJES Secretary. Fr Roberto is from Colombia and was the President of the Conference of Latin American Provincials for the last six years until April 2023. He will start his new mission on January 8, 2024. After many years at the service of the Universal Society, I am happy to pass on the mission to Roberto, who led CPAL with greater emphasis on discernment, collaboration and networking. A warm welcome to you, Roberto!

We have published a new book from the Secretariat, '**Cannonball Moments: Testimonies of Conversion**', in English and Spanish. It is an anthology of 25 testimonies from members of our apostolic body about their moments of conversion to social justice ministry. It is available on our website. Feel free to download and share it with your friends and colleagues. The official launch will take place on November 10 through a webinar.

In this newsletter, ecology and migration are the two major themes highlighted. During this *Season of Creation* month, I am glad to see that many ecological activities have taken place in many parts to remind the call to ecological conversion. Secondly, we have chosen to highlight with the Church the *World Day of the Migrants and Refugees*, celebrated on September 24. I want to highlight the reflection offered by Javier Cortegoso, the leader of

GIAN Migration Network and the testimony of Fr. Tom Smolich, the former International Director of JRS, on his work with the excluded. Enjoy reading, and we will always be delighted to hear from you.

With deep gratitude,

Xavier Jeyaraj, SJ  
SJES - Rome

## TESTIMONY



**Love that Makes What We Do Possible**

***Thomas Smolich, S.J***

Before beginning as International Director, I spent early 2015 with JRS in Masisi, a remote town in northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Dirty hands and feet were the rule in “temporary” camps that regularly turned to mud. [Read more...](#)

## SJES NEWS



**Rome – Roberto Jaramillo SJ, Next Secretary of the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat (SJES)**

Father General has appointed **Fr. Roberto Jaramillo**, from Colombia Province, as the next Secretary of the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat. He will succeed Fr. Xavier Jeyaraj, from Calcutta Province, who has been serving at the General Curia since 2017. [Read more...](#)

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**Rome – SJES Publishes a New Book 'Cannonball Moments'**

On Tuesday, September 19, the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat published on its



website the digital version of the book, “**Cannonball Moments: Testimonies of Conversion.**” This new publication, available in English and Spanish, presents an anthology of conversion stories within the Jesuit social apostolate from the six Jesuit Conferences worldwide. [Read more...](#)

## GLOBAL CHURCH NEWS



### **Global – Czerny: Expand Regular Migration Channels to Replace Dangerous Routes**

The Prefect of the Dicastery for Integral Human Development celebrated the Mass for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees at the Notre Dame de la Garde Basilica in Marseille: "Allow people to become full citizens. He called to overcome prejudices and fears [Read more...](#)

## CONFERENCE NEWS



### **CPAL – Jesuits Participated in a Peaceful Demonstration in Bogotá against the Actions of the Nicaraguan Government**

On August 30 afternoon, the community of Bogotá's Centro Interprovincial de Formacion Teologica (CIF), together with other Jesuits and a group of Nicaraguans, sat in front of the Nicaraguan embassy in Bogotá [Read more...](#)



### **JCAM – African Faith Leaders Discuss Strategies to Navigate Contemporary Crises**

Catholics and experts of various faiths gather in Nairobi, Kenya, to set concrete proposals and collaborations in order to achieve sustainable development and support Africa's



recovery. [Read more...](#)

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### JCAP – JCIM sends two representatives to Asian Lay Leaders Forum in Bali

Two representatives from the Jesuit Companions in Indigenous Ministry (JCIM) participated in the Asian Lay Leaders (ALL) Forum's Asian Youth Academy (AYA) and Asian Theological Forum (ATF) [Read more...](#)

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### JCCU – Brophy College Preparatory Students Use Gratitude-Based Learning to Lead Sustainability Initiatives

They have installed solar panels on campus, reduced waste misplacement in the cafeteria, audited irrigation systems, and hosted advocacy events to protect sacred Native land from development. [Read more...](#)

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### **JCEP – Ecosummer Camp 2023, Hope for the Ecological Crisis**

With the theme "*From wild consumption to responsible engagement*", Eco Summer Camp 2023 allowed the participants to take a fresh look at the tumours eating away at Mother Earth. [Read more...](#)

## **GIAN NEWS**

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### **Ecojesuit - Welcoming and Sharing of Efforts in Caring for Our Common Home at the Ecojesuit Meeting 2023**

Ecology coordinators journeyed on the first week of August to the [Ecojesuit Meeting 2023 on Commitment, Communication, and Collaboration](#) at Balay Laudato Si' in the ancestral domain of the Pulangiyen community in Bendum, Malaybalay City, Mindanao, Philippines. [Read more...](#)

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### **GIAN-Migration - Migration and Refuge – A dead end? Continental Research**



After an intensely rich, complex and clarifying process, the Red Jesuitas Migrantes presents the final version of the Migration and Refuge Research. This is a publication based on academic and fieldwork in which 10 universities, [Read more...](#)

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### **GIAN-Right to Quality Education - Literacy With Fe y Alegría**

There is only one assumption: learning to read and write is never too late. Learning to read and write is the first step towards accessing other citizenship rights. Learning to read and write is the first step towards accessing other citizenship rights. [Read more...](#)

### **REFLECTION - INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES DAY**



## Javier Cortegoso Lobato – Free to Choose Whether to Migrate or Stay — A Possible Horizon?

Far from concluding this research process along the lines of the slogan proposed by the Vatican, our conclusion leads us to consider the situation of forced migration in the region as a dead end. Firstly, the violence that leads to expulsion is increasing. Secondly, [Read more...](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **02 October**, [UN](#), International Day of Non-Violence.
- **04 October**, [Church](#), Closing of the Season of Creation and publication of the Apostolic Exhortation "*Laudate Deum*".
- **10 November**, [SJES](#), Webinar "Conversion in Social Justice" for the official publication of the book *Cannonball Moments: Testimonies of Conversion*.

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