



MISSION MATTERS

monthly



No. 6 Vol. 1 | September 2, 2024 | Staff/BOT Edition

BLESSED MARY ANGELA SAYS: (Foundress of the Felician Sisters)

“Practice love of neighbor by being amiable and in general doing good to others.”

CATHOLIC Q&A

What Catholics believe about *everything*, in 10 minutes!

Click [here](#) for the answer

INTERFAITH CALENDAR

Click [here](#) for more information

- 9/01: Religious year begins - *Orthodox Christians*
- 9/06: Ganesh Chaturthi: *Hinduism*
- 9/08: Nativity of Virgin Mary - *Christian*
- 9/14: Exaltation of the Holy Cross - *Christian*
- 9/15: Birth of Muhammad - *Islam*
- 9/22: Ostara/Mabon - *Neo-Pagan*
- 9/29: Feast of St. Michael the Arch Angel - *Christian*



Campus Ministry Events for September

CAMPUS MINISTRY IS NOW ON INSTAGRAM!
COME FOLLOW US! ALL ARE WELCOME!

<https://www.instagram.com/villamariacampusministry/>

Friday, September 6: Service trip to St. Luke's Mission of Mercy 9 am - 12:30 pm. Sign up sheet can be found posted outside the VP for Mission office off the lobby of the Main Building across from the M & T Conference Room. Can only take a limited number of students.

Tuesday, September 10, 17, 24: Weekly Bible Study begins at 11:15 am in Campus Ministry Office. Open to students and staff. No prior Bible knowledge needed. Come as often as you can!

Wednesday, September 11: Interfaith Peace Prayer Service at 11:15 am in front of outside staircase of Main Building (or in the lobby if it rains)
Thursday, September 12: Mass of the Holy Spirit to begin the new semester at 11:15 am in college chapel.

Friday, September 20: Service trip to Little Portion Friary Homeless Shelter 9 am - 12:00 pm. Sign up sheet can be found posted outside the VP for Mission office off the lobby of the Main Building across from the M & T Conference Room. Can only take a limited number of students.

Friday, September 27 Free Field Trip to Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna: Free lunch at the Campus Ministry Office at Noon then off to the Basilica to experience this beautiful church. Sign up sheet can be found posted outside the VP for Mission office off the lobby of the Main Building across from the M & T Conference Room. Can only take a limited number of students.

BLOOD DRIVE ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 30. ALL TYPES WELCOME 9 AM TO 1PM

What is Work Anyway?

by Steve Donahue

What is work anyway? This is really a very complex question. In our modern society, work has lost much of its spiritual dimension. For many, if not most of us, our work is the way we get money so that we can buy the things we need to survive and, hopefully, buy some things we don't really need but would like to have. We compete with others for work and then end up competing with each other on the job. Thus, we hope to secure for ourselves and our families assurances for survival in this consumer society.

Work is dignified because of those who do it. Because it is people who do it, work can not be treated as merchandise. People are not to be treated as instruments. Human labor always is to take priority over capital (see *Laborem Exercens*, chapter 12). It is the reversal of this which leads to the degradation of work, the weakening of human solidarity. We have a duty to work. We have a duty to contribute to the common good of our community and to practice our creativity as those made in the image of the Creator. It is a gift. (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: 2427, 2428)

Needless to say, in our modern corporate society much of what the Church teaches about work seems out of touch. We can move toward a deeper understanding that our work is intimately related with the rest of our life and the lives of those around us. By integrating our work with prayer and a thoughtful listening to the Scriptures, we can know that our labors do provide not only for our needs but also for the progress of the human community and the furthering of the reign of God. That is the "Gospel of Work."

Click [here](#) for full article.



OUR CORE VALUES

Respect for Human Dignity



Compassion



SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLE IN NEED



Transformation



Justice and Peace

2024-2025 Focus

Solidarity With People in Need

Learning About Diversity through Catholic Social Justice teachings

INTRODUCTION:

Catholic social teaching is a central and essential element of our faith. Its roots are in the Hebrew prophets who announced God's special love for the poor and called God's people to a covenant of love and justice. It is a teaching founded on the life and words of Jesus Christ, who came "to bring glad tidings to the poor . . . liberty to captives . . . recovery of sight to the blind" (Lk 4:18-19), and who identified himself with "the least of these," the hungry and the stranger (cf. Mt 25:45). Catholic social teaching is built on a commitment to the poor. This commitment arises from our experiences of Christ in the eucharist. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church explains, "To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognize Christ in the poorest, his brethren."

Catholic social teaching is based on and inseparable from our understanding of human life and human dignity. Every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ and therefore is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family. Every person, from the moment of conception to natural death, has inherent dignity and a right to life consistent with that dignity. Human dignity comes from God, not from any human quality or accomplishment.

Future edition of Mission Matters Monthly will explore each of the themes below in more detail. Click [here](#) to learn more.



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period.

Click [here](#) to learn more



our new college mission statement:

Villa Maria College is a Catholic, Franciscan college, founded by the Felician Sisters, using innovative strategies to educate and empower a diverse student body to positively impact their communities.

CONNECT WITH MISSION MATTERS:



www.villa.edu

The Felician Sisters of Our Lady of Hope Province:

Click [here](#) for more information

The Association of Franciscan Colleges & Universities:

Click [here](#) for more information and resources

Sister Mary Josette Food Pantry:

Serving Staff & Students

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Villa Maria College is a Felician Sponsored Ministry

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