

Memoria y Resistencia

Virtual Commemoration of the Martyrs
Celebrating Human Rights
Defenders across the Americas



Sunday, November 15, 2020



**Sister Dorothy Kazel,
OSU**

Sister Maura Clarke

Jean Donovan

Sister Ita Ford

**Mother Mary of the
Annunciation Beaumont**

Saint Angela Merici

B
**Beaumont
School**

Educating
young
women for
life,
leadership,
and service
to follow in
the footsteps
of great
women

**WHERE YOUNG WOMEN
LEARN TO CHANGE
THE WORLD**

BEAUMONTSCHOOL.ORG



**FORTY YEARS
OF SOLIDARITY,
AND REMEMBERING
OUR SISTERS**



In gratitude for the mission and ministry of IRTF

Community of Saint Peter

"Preserving and renewing a living tradition"

communityofstpeter.org

IRTF HISTORY

The Cleveland InterReligious Task Force on Central America (IRTF)

brings together people from faith and secular communities to stand in solidarity with oppressed peoples in southern Mexico, Central America, and Colombia through consciousness-raising, education, advocacy, organizing, and direct action.

IRTF was formed as a nonviolent response to the horrific violence of December 2, 1980 when two members of the Cleveland Mission Team in El Salvador were murdered: Jean Donovan and Sister Dorothy Kazel. People of faith and conscience initiated IRTF as a way to carry forward their legacy—standing in solidarity with oppressed peoples as they struggle for peace, dignity, and justice.

IRTF's solidarity mission includes:

- protesting urgent human rights abuse cases
- working to end US military training in civilian-targeted warfare
- advocating for an end to the armed violence & forced displacement in Colombia and an inclusive and comprehensive peace and reconciliation process
- supporting people's pro-democracy movements
- joining with indigenous & Afro-descendant communities to protect their lands, waterways, and cultures
- protesting institutionalized racism and state-sponsored violence that targets communities of color
- standing with women & LGBTQ persons to end gender-based discrimination
- promoting fair trade and sweatshop-free buying to support living wages
- generating youth leadership for social justice

Our solidarity is as important today as it ever was.

We invite you to be part of it.

AFRO-DESCENDANT
& INDIGENOUS
SOLIDARITY

ANTI-MILITARISM
& NONVIOLENCE

ENVIRONMENTAL
HUMAN RIGHTS

EXPLOITED LABOR
SOLIDARITY

FAIR
TRADE

MIGRANT
JUSTICE

LGBTQIA+
SOLIDARITY &
GENDER JUSTICE

YOUTH
EMPOWERMENT

RAPID RESPONSE
NETWORK

IRTF calls together people of the US to walk in solidarity with oppressed peoples in Central America and Colombia to achieve peace, justice, human rights, and systemic transformation through nonviolence.



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MISSION & VISION

The InterReligious Task Force on Central America (IRTF) brings together people from various faith and secular communities to act in solidarity with oppressed peoples in southern Mexico, Central America, and Colombia through consciousness-raising and direct consumer and political advocacy to build long-term structural change.

IRTF was formed as a nonviolent response to the horrific violence of December 2, 1980 when two members of the Cleveland Mission Team in El Salvador were murdered: Jean Donovan and Sister Dorothy Kazel. People of faith and conscience formed IRTF so that we here in Ohio would live out their legacy—standing in solidarity with oppressed peoples as they struggle for peace, dignity and justice.

IRTF's solidarity work includes:

- protesting urgent human rights abuse cases
- working to end US military training in civilian-targeted warfare
- advocating for an end to the armed violence in Colombia and an inclusive and comprehensive peace and reconciliation process
- supporting people's pro-democracy movements
- joining with indigenous & Afro-descendant communities to protect their lands and cultures
- protesting institutionalized racism and state-sponsored violence that targets communities of color
- standing with LGBTQ persons to gain broader inclusion into their societies
- promoting fair trade and sweatshop-free buying to support living wages
- generating youth leadership for social justice

IRTF mission statement:

IRTF calls together people in the U.S. to walk in solidarity with the oppressed peoples of Central America and Colombia to achieve peace, justice, human rights, and systemic transformation through nonviolence.

IRTF program areas:

Afro-descendant & Indigenous Solidarity

Promoting dignity and equality for Afro-descendant and native peoples, resisting state-sponsored violence and institutionalized racism

Anti-Militarism & Democratization

Resisting militarism and upholding self-determination, freedom, democracy, and social and economic justice.

Environmental Human Rights

Resisting assaults on land, sovereignty, natural resources, and local cultures

Exploited Labor Solidarity

Engaging consumers to reform trade policies and empower workers for improved wages and working conditions

Fair Trade

Promoting living wages, self-determination, gender equality, and transparency through democratic processes

Migrant Justice

Organizing for humane and welcoming immigration policies that promote family re-unification and recognize the right to seek political asylum

LGBTQIA+ Solidarity and Gender Justice

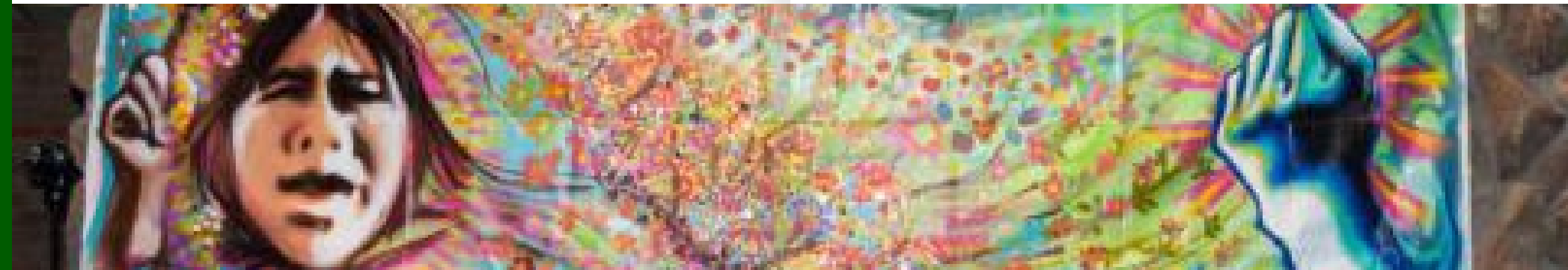
Supporting LGBTQ+, women and nonbinary people and their families to gain broader societal inclusion and stop hate crimes

Youth Empowerment

Accompanying, empowering, and supporting youth to become a new generation of leaders for peace and justice

Rapid Response Network

Protecting people living under threat, demanding investigations of human rights crimes, and bringing human rights criminals to justice.



We proudly support IRTF and all people of goodwill who believe that our strength is in our diversity.



"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want ... That is what love looks like."

St. Augustine



www.SrsOfCharity.org

In support of the IRTF and your work for human rights in Central America and Colombia



Church of the Resurrection

32001 Cannon Rd., Solon, Ohio 44139

www.churchofresurrection.org

CRISPAZ WISHES TO EXPRESS OUR DEEP GRATITUDE TO THE INTERRELIGIOUS TASK FORCE ON CENTRAL AMERICA FOR THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF EL SALVADOR

Christians for Peace in El Salvador (CRISPAZ) has been in ongoing solidarity with the people of El Salvador since 1984

SOLIDARITY • FAITH • JUSTICE

www.crispaz.org



Women Speak Out for Peace & Justice

the Cleveland branch of
WILPF
Women's International
League for
Peace and Freedom

*believing in women
since 1915*



*still breaking the glass ceiling
in 2020*



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Office of Campus Ministry



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Focusing on issues impacting the Latin community in Texas.

Jolt is the most effective grassroots organizer of the Texas Latin community.



St. Paul's Community Church

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4427 Franklin Blvd. Cleveland
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Zoom / Facebook Live Church
Sundays 1:00 pm

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscommunityucc/>

St. Paul's Community Outreach

Open Tue-Fri
9:00-12:30
nurse, clothing, food

Supportive Community

All Are Welcome!

Rev. R. Stephen Vellenga
Pastor



ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

242 N. State Street
Painesville, OH 44077
Ph: 440.354.6200
Fax: 440.354.9174



www.stmarysvi.org
e-mail: rsvellenga@dioceseofcleveland.org

MARSHY MEADOWS FARM

*is proud to continue our support
of the IRTF on the occasion of
the Commemoration of the
Martyrs of Central America &
Colombia.*

We sell 100% grass-fed
beef raised on OEFFA
certified organic
pasture on our farm in
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Marge & Mardy Townsend
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Adelante IRTF!



CRLN

Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America



Sister Dorothy Kazel, OSU



Jean Donovan



Sister Ita Ford, MM



Sister Maura Clarke, MM

1980-2020

*As we commemorate the 40th anniversary
of their deaths, we are remembering with
compassion, transforming lives through
contemplation and recommitting to justice.*

*Let us honor their memories by making
efforts to alleviate the sufferings of the
people of Central America.*



**URSULINE SISTERS
OF CLEVELAND**
www.ursulinesisters.org



Nickie J.
ANTONIO
OHIO STATE SENATOR 23RD DISTRICT

Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-466-5123 • Email: Antonio@ohiosenate.gov

st. Noel Church

In memory of Jean, Dorothy, Ita, Maura
and all who have given their lives to the
spread of the Gospel.

Let Peace & Justice Reign

FAIR TRADE SALE

Vendors include:

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Amani Children
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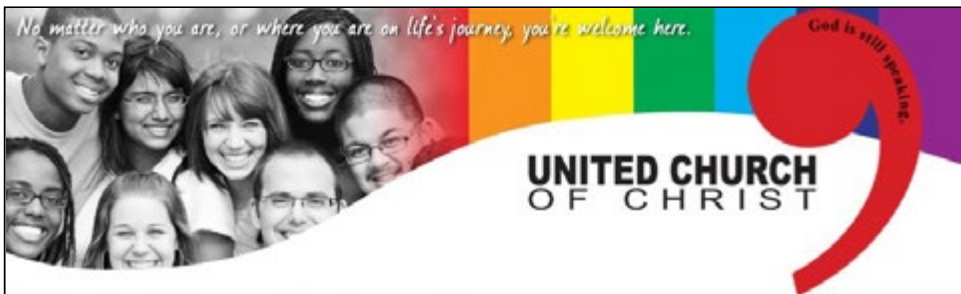
35200 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills, 44094 | www.stnoel.org

Walsh Jesuit
remembers these
women for others
who committed
their lives to achieve
peace, human rights
and transformation
through nonviolence
in El Salvador.

walshjesuit.org

WALSH JESUIT

MEN AND WOMEN FOR OTHERS



Pilgrim Congregational UCC is a proud, longtime supporter of IRTF ... a Just Peace, Open & Affirming congregation in Tremont.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Sunday Service 10am at www.pilgrimalive.org/live-streaming (sometimes posted Thursday evening); communion the 1st Sunday each month; coffee hour Sunday 11:30am by Zoom. 2592 W14th St • 216-861-7388 • pilgrimalive.org • FB @pilgrimalive • TW @pilgrimalive

Heights Friends of Immigrants

is an all-volunteer organization that supports and advocates for immigrants in northeast Ohio, especially those being targeted by ICE and the Trump Administration.

Please consider joining us ... all are welcome!

We meet via zoom the first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. When it's safe to meet in person again, we'll resume gathering alternately between Forest Hill Church Presbyterian (Cleveland Heights), Saint Dominic (Shaker Heights), and St. Paschal Baylon (Highland Heights).

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 1 at 7pm

Our activities include organizing volunteers to observe at Immigration Court, material support for immigrants and their families, transportation assistance and participation in vigils and protests in collaboration with IRTF and other organizations working to defend the right of immigrants.

For more information and to sign up for our listserv:

Anne Hill, anne.hill2@gmail.com



STUDENT INTERNS 2020

The InterReligious Task Force on Central America & Colombia provides high school and college students a place to develop their passion for justice. IRTF accompanies, empowers, and supports young people on their path to leadership for positive social change.

Case Western Reserve University

Jordan Deskins (2022)
Eleanor Gaddy (2021)
Fatima Rahman (2021)

Cleveland State University

Darlene Moorman (2020)

College of the Holy Cross

Raphaella Mascia (2021)

Kent State University

Lily Shannon (2021)

Laurel School

Katherine Cassese (2021)

Magnificat High School

Mariana Andujar-Ramos (2021)

Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Jake Heskett (2020)

Miami University of Ohio

Kyle Smith (2021)

Shaker Heights High School

Alexa Range (2020)

**Thank you for volunteering with IRTF.
We truly appreciate your incredible dedication.**



1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
Tel: 215-241 7249
info@actionreconciliation.org

For over 50 years ARSP has been committed to working toward reconciliation and peace, as well as fighting racism, discrimination and social exclusion. Every year around 180 volunteers, mostly aged between nineteen and twenty-five are active for ARSP in thirteen different countries on a variety of educational, historical, political and social projects. Visit us at www.actionreconciliation.org

Together we make the world more peaceful. Every day.

Honoring the work of the
InterReligious Task Force on Central America
and the legacy of the martyrs of
Central America and Colombia.



Dominican
Sisters of Peace
Sisters and Associates
in Mission
www.oppeace.org

*If you want peace,
work for justice.*
- Pope Paul VI



Handcrafted accessories made from natural and recycled materials by artisans in El Salvador. Each purchase from Revy helps our artisans fund:

- ◆ Environmental cleanup efforts
- ◆ Organic farming
- ◆ Better education
- ◆ Opportunities for women
- ◆ Preservation of culture



TOGETHER WE DO MORE
IRTF IS A PROUD MEMBER OF
COMMUNITY SHARES

DONATE TO IRTF THROUGH
COMMUNITY SHARES
TEXT "SHARES" TO 91999

Cleveland Jobs with Justice salutes the Interreligious Task Force on Central America

Cleveland Jobs with Justice is proud to stand with
IRTF as we unite in the struggle for immigrant rights,
economic justice and workers' rights!



Join us as we
continue the fight
together!

clevelandjwj.org



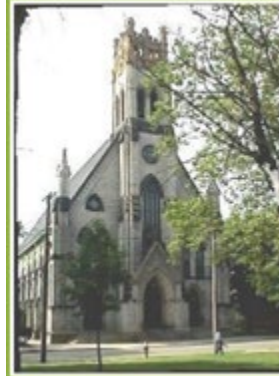
Thank you IRTF for your
faithful dedication to the
people of Central
America & Colombia. We
love working with you!
Adelante!

 **John Carroll**
UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS MINISTRY



LATIN AMERICA WORKING GROUP

www.lawg.org



ST. PATRICK PARISH

Bridge Avenue

Moving Forward with Our Mission

#weGIVE
CATHOLIC
December 1, 2020
Northeast Ohio's Online
Day of Catholic Giving

*With gratitude to the
Interreligious Task Force on Central America
for 40 years of commemorating the martyrdom of the Cleveland
women in El Salvador and for working to promote peace, justice,
human rights, and systemic transformation through nonviolence.*

humilityofmary.org



@SistersofHM

In solidarity with the
people of Colombia

Mark Weber



**AT EQUAL EXCHANGE,
WE ALL ACT LIKE
WE OWN THE PLACE.**



And actually, we do.

Our roastery has over
100 worker-owners with
an equal stake and an
equal vote in our business.

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farmers who grow our food and the precious land
that nourishes it deserve the utmost respect, so we
conduct business in the most fair, most sustainable
way possible. The results are pretty delicious.

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equalexchange.coop



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TO THE
VOLUNTEERS
WHO MADE THIS
EVENT POSSIBLE &
TO THE GENEROUS
SPONSORS
& **DONORS**
WHO SUPPORT US
THROUGHOUT
THE YEAR.

West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church

*Our Mission is to inspire more people to lead
lives of meaning and purpose. We affirm and
promote the inherent worth and dignity of
every person. We promote justice, equity and
compassion in human relations.*

www.wsuuc.org

**Worship Service &
Religious Education
Sunday at 10:15 a.m.**

Rev. Anthony Makar
Senior Minister

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Rocky River, Ohio 44116
440.333.2255

ONE CHURCH  MANY PATHS
West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church



THE NORTHEAST OHIO SIERRA CLUB (NEOSC)
SUPPORTS IRTF IN ITS PURSUIT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.

The NEOSC is a group of about 5,000 members who are
fighting against climate change and for clean water and
clean air in Northeast Ohio.

We have a Water Sentinel program
and the following active committees:

Energy and Ecology
Health and Environment
Water Quality
Fracking
Rainforest
Political

We welcome new members with fresh ideas!

JOIN THE SIERRA CLUB NOW!

Visit: www.neosierragroup.org

Questions: Contact Steve McPhee, 440.891.0714



Church of the Gesu
is proud to celebrate 40 years of solidarity as
we commemorate the martyrs of Central America and Colombia.

Ida B. Wells Foundation



***The Ida B. Wells Foundation
Seeks to Promote Justice,
both Economic and Social,
in Cuyahoga County, Ohio***

FOR DONATIONS OR
A GRANT APPLICATION:
THE IDA B. WELLS FOUNDATION
C/O CHARLES HURST
9907 LAKE AVENUE, #205
CLEVELAND, OH 44102



MAGNIFICAT

A girls' Catholic, college-preparatory high school



We remember the many women of faith
who have gone before us as witnesses for peace and justice.

Dorothy, Ita, Maura, and Jean

Presenté!

20770 Hilliard Blvd. | Rocky River | 440.331.1572 | magnificaths.org

Thank You IRTF
for your critical work

calling together people to
walk in solidarity with the
oppressed peoples of Central
America and Colombia
to achieve peace, justice,
human rights, and systemic
transformation through
nonviolence.


FutureChurch
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so that all Catholics may participate fully
in Church life and leadership.*

visit us online at:
www.futurechurch.org
www.futurechurchnews.org
www.catholicwomenpreach.org

FEATURED PARTNERS

BLACK LIVES MATTER CLEVELAND was established in December of 2015 one year after the murder of Tamir Rice. Inspired by the 21st Century "Black Lives Matter/Hands Up Don't Shoot" Movement which was sparked by the systemic culture of violence in America which disproportionately claims the lives of Black and Brown people alongside a fatally biased cradle to the grave prison industrial complex.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT Martin Luther King Jr. pointed to racism, capitalism and militarism as the three evils that plague an American society. More than 40 years after his prophetic witness, his words remain true. The New Jim Crow, per Michelle Alexander, looms from cradle to the grave in marginalized communities and provides evidence of such racial and socio-economic disparities in America.

PROPHETIC WITNESS Black Lives Matter Cleveland seek to expose and confront the normalized culture of racism and violence in America which has resulted in state sanctioned murders of civilians, including the killings of Cleveland's 12-year old Tamir Rice; 37-year old Tanisha Anderson; 43-year old Timothy Russell; 30-year old Malissa Williams, 18-year old Brandon Jones, 22-year old Desmond Franklin, and 22-year old John Crawford III of Beavercreek, OH (near Dayton). In addition to our sons and daughters of Ohio, the deaths of Trayvon Martin (Florida), Michael Brown (Missouri), Renisha McBride (Michigan), Eric Garner (New York) and Miriam Carey (a Connecticut woman killed by police on Capitol Hill with multiple shots from behind including a shot to the back of her head) prove a ubiquitous pattern across the nation of racial profiling, normalized culture of racism and abuse of police force respectively. Not to mention the militarized policing (in the form of tear gas, rubber/ wooden bullets, and profiled arrests) applied against citizens of Ferguson, MO exercising their first amendment right to free expression, assembly, and the right to petition. In the words of the late Eric Garner, this systemic culture of violence against humanity must stop--"it stops today!"



IT STOPS TODAY: A CALL TO ACTION BLMCLE is committed to closing the socio-economic divide which results in a culture of violence, including state sanctioned murder by exposing police brutality. BLMCLE is committed to pro-active steps to prevent

police brutality through systemic police reform, investigation, legislation, training, vetting, transparency and education.

<https://www.blmcle.org/>

REGIONAL CORPORATION FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS (CREDHOS, BARRANCABERMEJA, COLOMBIA, S.A.) is an organisation dedicated to denouncing human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law committed by paramilitary groups and members of the security forces, as well as accompanying victims and survivors of violence in the region of Magdalena Medio of CREDHOS has spoken out against the influence of paramilitary groups and the various acts of intimidation and harassment targeting members of the Corporation. As a result of their legitimate human rights work on behalf of victims and survivors, several members of CREDHOS have been intimidated, attacked, threatened with death, judicially harassed, unfairly imprisoned on unfounded charges and even killed.



<http://credhos.org/nosotros>

<https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/profile/credhos>

<https://ecapcolombia.org/en/2016/11/credhos-demands-guarantees-for-human-rights-defenders/>

<https://pbicolombia.org/accompanied-organisations/credhos/>
<https://www.irtfcleveland.org/search/site/credhos>

FRIENDS OF THE ATC (ASOCIACIÓN DE TRABAJADORES DEL CAMPO, NICARAGUA) is a solidarity network with the Rural Workers' Association (Asociación de Trabajadores del Campo [ATC]), an organization of struggle that defends the rural workers and peoples of Nicaragua. We organize at local and international levels to spread awareness, form solidarity, and facilitate support for the struggles and initiatives of the ATC and the international movement La Vía Campesina. In the spirit of internationalism, we believe in the necessity of supporting ongoing struggles for justice in our own communities and around the world. Our main activities include:

- Sharing information and news about the ATC, the CLOC, and La Vía Campesina
- Organization of events (exchanges, delegations, and speaking tours)
- Logistical support for relationships between the ATC and other organizations and individuals around the world
- Securing resources for initiatives of the ATC, CLOC, and La Vía Campesina



<https://viacampesina.org/en/asociacion-de-trabajadores-del-campo-atc/>

THE CENTRO DE INTERCAMBIO Y SOLIDARIDAD (CENTER FOR EXCHANGE AND SOLIDARITY, EL SALVADOR) The struggle of the Salvadoran people for democracy and peace with justice has created strong solidarity on an international level. In order to strengthen people-to-people solidarity ties and contribute to the construction of a new El Salvador, organizations from the Salvadoran social movement and international organizations that have supported the process of peace with social justice, came together to create the Centro de Intercambio y Solidaridad (Center for Exchange and Solidarity).



The CIS is a multi-faceted organization, with many programs supporting education, organizing, and social justice. We are looking for people committed to solidarity and social justice to participate in our programs.

<https://www.cis-elsalvador.org/index.php/en/>

THE CIVIC COUNCIL OF POPULAR AND INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS OF HONDURAS (COPINH) is an Indigenous Lenca organization made up of 200 Lenca communities in the western Honduran states of Intibuca, Lempira, La Paz, and Santa Barbara. COPINH was born in 1993 when the Indigenous and popular movements in the Honduran state of Intibuca came together to stop logging and advance popular struggles. Today, COPINH encompasses 4 states in western Honduras and struggles for the rights of the Lenca people, including environmental, cultural, economic, social, health, education, and Indigenous rights. COPINH defends the Lenca territory and our natural resources as part of our Lenca cosmovision of respect for Mother Earth.

For over 20 years, the Lenca people organized in COPINH have defended our communities and natural resources from logging, dams, mining projects, and other megaprojects that would destroy our way of life and environment. We have stopped at least 50 logging projects that would have deforested our land and forests and 10 hydroelectric dams that threatened Lenca communities, including the huge Tigre Dam project on the border of Honduras and El Salvador. Together with other Indigenous organizations we successfully pressured that the Honduran government to ratify ILO Convention 169 on the Rights of Indigenous People, which includes the right to free, prior, and informed consultation of Indigenous communities about projects that affect us. COPINH has also successfully fought for the creation and funding of health centers and schools in Lenca communities.



<https://copinh.org/en/>
<https://www.irtfcleveland.org/search/site/copinh>

SOA WATCH began in 1990 to denounce the 1989 School of the Americas (SOA) graduate-led massacre at the University of Central America (UCA) in El Salvador. The SOA, renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC) in 2001, is a US military training school based in Fort Benning, Georgia. The school made headlines in 1996 when the Pentagon released training manuals used at the school that advocated torture, extortion and execution. Despite this admission and hundreds of documented human rights abuses connected to soldiers trained at the school, no independent investigation into the facility has ever taken place.

Over the past 30 years, SOA Watch has grown to become the largest grassroots Latin America solidarity organization in the United States. In 2016 SOA Watch moved to Nogales Arizona/Sonora to call attention to militarized US foreign policy as a principal root cause of migration, as well as the devastating impact US security and immigration policy has on refugees, asylum seekers and immigrant families all over the continent.



<https://soaw.org/about/>

EQUIPOS CRISTIANOS DE ACCIÓN POR LA PAZ (ECAP COLOMBIA) is a diverse team of trained national and international peacemakers who feel called to work for justice in the face of violence and human rights violations.

CPT arrived to Colombia in 2001 by invitation from the Colombian Mennonite Church to accompany communities and organizations in the Magdalena Medio region, the midsection of the Magdalena River which flows north into the Caribbean sea. Their home and office are located in the small city of Barrancabermeja, the unofficial capital of the region.

ECAP accompanies community processes and grassroots organizations who embody nonviolent resistance as a tool of defence against the violent framework that dominates politics, economics, and culture.

Accompaniment is a word that can be interpreted many different ways according to different experiences. They define accompaniment as being "present" with communities at risk and walking with their leaders who have taken on the dangerous task of orchestrating the movement. ECAP's call to peacemaking means living, working, and worshiping in community, drawing from a variety of spiritual traditions that ground us in a common goal for peace.



<https://ecapcolombia.org/en/>

MAURA CLARKE, MM

Maura Clarke was born on January 13, 1931, and lived in Queens, New York. She joined Maryknoll in 1950. In 1959 she was sent to Nicaragua where she taught school and did pastoral work in a Capuchin parish in Siuna, a remote city in eastern Nicaragua. She remained there until 1977. In Nicaragua, she was known by the people as "the angel of our land."

On August 5, 1980, just two and a half weeks before Sr. Carla Piette died during a flash flood, Maura Clark went to El Salvador to explore the possibility of working there. It was a hard decision - to leave behind 20 years of relationships in Nicaragua at such an exciting moment in its history, and to take on the human and pastoral challenge of El Salvador in a time of persecution. After Carla's death on August 23, Maura decided to take her place working at Ita Ford's side.

She was quickly immersed in the emergency work among the victims of the repression. The days were often difficult and the internal struggle radically challenging. Despite the increasing violence, Maura decided she would remain in El Salvador, "to search out the missing, pray with the families of prisoners, bury the dead, and work with the people in their struggle to break out of the bonds of oppression, poverty, and violence" (words written by friends of Maura).

She told them the days would be difficult and dangerous, but assured the other sisters of her "certain confidence in God's loving care of her, Ita, and all the people."

"I want to stay on now," she wrote. "I believe now that this is right...Here I am starting from scratch but it must be [God's] plan and [God] is teaching me, and there is real peace in spite of many frustrations and the terror around us and the work, etc. God is very present in [God's] seeming absence."

On December 2, 1980, Maura gave her all, even her very life, for the people of El Salvador.



DOROTHY KAZEL, OSU

Dorothy Kazel was born on June 30, 1939, and joined the Ursuline Sisters, a teaching order in Cleveland, in 1960. Dorothy taught for several years and later became involved in ecumenical and interracial community programs. She was teaching at Beaumont School while discerning her call to join the Cleveland diocesan mission team in El Salvador. She did so in 1974.

The mission team's main tasks had involved visiting parishioners and preparing people for the sacraments, but that changed by the late 1970s because of increased repression and political violence. Dorothy wrote home about the corpses that daily were being found along the roadsides and described the mutilations as "sick, demonic."

While the danger of the repression was closing in on the mission team, Dorothy and the others wrestled with what they should do. On October 3, she wrote to a friend,

"We talked quite a bit today about what happens IF something begins. Most of us feel we would want to stay here...We wouldn't want to just run out on the people...I thought I should say this to you because I don't want to say it to anyone else - because I don't think they would understand. Anyway, my beloved friend, just know how I feel and 'treasure it in your heart.' If a day comes when others will have to understand, please explain it for me."

Dorothy never made it back to the US. On the evening of December 2, 1980, she and Jean Donovan got into their van and drove to the airport outside San Salvador to pick up the Maryknoll Sisters, Ita and Maura, returning from their regional assembly in Managua. Tragically, on the way home, soldiers raped and killed the four women.



ITA FORD, MM

Ita Ford was born in Brooklyn, New York on April 23, 1940. After college at Marymount, she joined the Maryknoll Sisters in 1961. In 1973 she was assigned to Chile, arriving there only a few months before the September 11, 1973, US-backed military coup that overthrew the democratically elected government of Salvador Allende. Ita remained in Chile until 1980, when she and fellow sister Carla Piette responded to a call for help from El Salvador's Archbishop Oscar Romero.

In June of that year, the two sisters began working with the Emergency Refugee Committee in Chalatenango. In this work Ita saw first-hand the Salvadoran reality, working with the homeless, the persecuted, the victims of savage repression and counterinsurgency war, the violence of a military dictatorship determined to wipe out any trace of opposition with incredible ruthlessness.

On August 23, Carla and Ita were caught in a flash flood as they were crossing a river. Ita survived, but Carla did not. While the impact of the loss of her dearest friend was profound, she found friendship in her new partner, Sr. Maura Clarke.

Both women attended a liturgy on December 1 in Managua, during which Ita read a passage from one of Romero's final homilies:

"Christ invites us not to fear persecution because, believe me . . . the one who is committed to the poor must run the same fate as the poor, and in El Salvador we know what the fate of the poor signifies: to disappear, be tortured, to be held captive - and to be found dead."

The following day, December 2, 1980, she and Maura boarded a plane to return to El Salvador.



JEAN DONOVAN

Jean Donovan, the youngest of the four church women killed on December 2, 1980, was born on April 10, 1953. After graduate work at Case Western Reserve University, Jean took a lucrative management position at Arthur Andersen, one of the "Big 5" accounting firms. However, her heart called her somewhere else.

Jean arrived in El Salvador in July 1979, a time when the repression was intensifying and the church had become a major target. She became Caritas coordinator for the diocesan mission program. In addition to keeping the books, she worked in La Libertad with Sr. Dorothy Kazel, distributing food for the poor and the refugees and carrying out family education programs.

Jean was very devoted to Msgr. Romero, often coming to the cathedral on Sundays to hear his homilies which at that time were the only source of news and truth left in El Salvador. After his assassination, Jean and Dorothy were among those who took turns keeping vigil at his coffin. And they were present in the cathedral when the overflow crowd in the plaza attending his funeral on March 30, 1980, was attacked by security forces, resulting in a panicked stampede. The massacre left 44 dead and hundreds of wounded. As Jean sat crowded among the desperate people who fled into the cathedral for safety, she fully believed that she might die that day.

Two weeks before she was murdered, with the bloodbath already begun, she wrote to a friend in Connecticut:

"Several times I have decided to leave El Salvador. I almost could except for the children, the poor bruised victims of this insanity. Who would care for them? Whose heart would be so staunch as to favor the reasonable thing in a sea of their tears and helplessness. Not mine, dear friend, not mine."



ANTI-MILITARISM & DEMOCRATIZATION

Resisting militarism and upholding self-determination, freedom, democracy, and social and economic justice.

Nonviolence & Democratization

- to support people's pro-democratic, nonviolent movements
- to support people's sovereignty and democracy instead of military and coup-imposed governments
- to advocate for public policy and US accountability to people's pro-democratic movements

US Foreign Military Influence

- to end US training of Latin American military and other security forces in Central America and Colombia and on US soil
- to end the US militarization of humanitarian, economic, environmental and other foreign assistance to Central America & Colombia.
- to eliminate long-term US military presence in Central America & Colombia, including personnel and bases

IRTF envisions a world where US relations with Central America and Colombia have moved beyond mostly military-to-military ties toward relationships that develop and uphold self-determination, freedom, democracy, and social and economic justice. By shifting money and human resources away from militarism—both in the US and in Central America and Colombia—more resources are devoted to meeting human needs.



ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Resisting assaults on land, sovereignty, natural resources, and local cultures

Degradation & Mega-Projects

- to stop the forcible exploitation-for-profit of lands and resources from so-called development projects: mining, logging, industrial agriculture, oil drilling, and infrastructure (highways, dams, power grids)
- to create transparency and accountability for foreign investors, including US-backed international financial institutions
- to allow people to have sovereignty and autonomy over their lands
- to create ethical investment opportunities in public and private sectors

Resistance Solidarity

- to stop the criminalization of organized opposition and peaceful protest
- to stop the repression and lethal violence targeted at opposition leaders
- to raise awareness about government policies and corporate practices that impede people's environmental defense movements

Climate Crisis Response

- to demonstrate imbalances in climate crisis impact on communities based upon their geographic location, occupation, race, socio-economic class
- to advocate for climate change adaptation strategies and policies that are community-based and community-oriented
- to recognize and bring attention to peoples and communities displaced by the climate crisis, also known as climate refugees

We stand with all those who feel the effects of the climate crisis, a crisis caused by capitalist colonialism that preys especially on poor, Black, and Indigenous communities of color in Latin America.

EXPLOITED LABOR

Engaging consumers to reform trade policies and empower workers for improved wages and working conditions

Global Economic Policy

- to create international and domestic legally enforceable workplace and environmental standards and trade policies through legislative advocacy and consumer campaigns.
- to build union-to-union relationships among workers in the US and Central America and Colombia for solidarity as resistance to the race to the bottom.

Worker Rights

- to support workers in organizing larger numbers of independent unions and democratizing their workplaces.
- to support workers who want to start alternative, democratic models of production and economic relationships.

IRTF envisions a world where the economic system has been transformed to allow workers better housing, healthcare, nutrition, education and other basic needs for their families. Workers control the conditions under which they work, maintaining a value of labor that upholds the human dignity of the worker.



FAIR TRADE

Promoting living wages, self-determination, gender equality, and transparency through democratic processes

Support for Cooperatives

- to support the growth of Fair Trade cooperatives as an alternative economic model
- to promote community-to-cooperative relationships between northeast Ohio and Central America/Colombia
- to educate northeast Ohioans on policy questions that impact local economies in Central America and Colombia

Consumer Advocacy

- to strengthen popular support for fair trade
- to institute more fair trade products into local businesses
- to get corporations to use more fair trade sources in their products

IRTF envisions a world where people work for themselves and do not have to be dependent on the dominant economic model that perpetuates inequality and exploitation of people and the environment. Instead, self-determination, gender equality, transparency, and democratic organization are the norm.



LGBTQIA+ SOLIDARITY & GENDER JUSTICE

Supporting women & LGBTQ+ people to end discrimination and stop hate crimes

As women and the LGBTQ+ community in Latin America have become more vocal and visible, they increasingly become the target of human rights abuses—especially those who are social and political activists.

To strengthen the LGBTQ+ rights movement in Ohio, we are learning from our Latin American friends:

- tactics and strategies (political, social media and other) they are using to promote acceptance of LGBT persons
- personal stories of coming out and the impacts on familial and other personal relationships
- how we might form networks of support to help our families become more welcoming toward their LGBT sisters & brothers

Build Allyships

- to connect faith congregation partners in Latin America with congregations in Ohio
- to connect community groups, such as local PFLAG & GLSEN chapters
- to create cross-border ally associations, with professional groups and others
- to connect women & LGBTQ leaders in Latin America with leaders of other issue movements in their countries

Stop Hate

- to advocate for hate crimes legislation that includes gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation
- to protect those in immediate harm through an emergency response network
- to support legal defense when gender/LGBTQ rights activists are criminalized

IRTF envisions a world where all people are guaranteed their basic human rights, where women & LGBTQ+ persons no longer face fear or discrimination in the workplace, education, healthcare and other institutions.



AFRO-DESCENDANT & INDIGENOUS SOLIDARITY

Promoting dignity and equality for Afro-descendant
and native peoples, resisting state-sponsored
violence and institutionalized racism

Cultural Preservation

Goals:

- to stand with communities (particularly Indigenous and Afro-descendant) to secure safe space to thrive and carry forward their cultures from generation to generation
- to stop the repression of communities (particularly Indigenous and Afro-descendant) as they organize their lives according to traditional values and ways
- to support economic ventures that preserve traditional cultures, promote environmental sustainability, and meet local human needs

Racial Justice

Goals:

- to link the struggles for dignity, equality and liberation among Afro-descendant and Indigenous peoples in the US, southern Mexico, Central America and Colombia
- to promote solidarity between majority populations and Afro-descendant/Indigenous populations within and among nations
- to stop state-sponsored violence against Afro-descendant and Indigenous peoples
- to create safe space and economic opportunities for Afro-descendant and Indigenous peoples

MIGRANT JUSTICE

Organizing for humane and welcoming immigration policies that promote family re-unification and recognize the right to seek political asylum

At this moment, amidst the incredible suffering being caused by inhumane immigration policies, we call on people here in the US to look at immigration from the perspective of poor and marginalized peoples. To see them as Sister Dorothy Kazel and Jean Donovan did when they served on a mission team in El Salvador—with love, mercy, and compassion. To understand the root causes of their migration.

IRTF is known and respected in circles of immigrant support and defense. Our perspective on immigration has never been so much about immigration policy but on policies affecting emigration. It was US foreign policy that fueled the civil wars in Central America during the 1980s, and US policies continue to fuel violence in the region today.

IRTF (together with Cleveland Jobs with Justice) played a lead role in convening the Immigration Working Group CLE in early 2017. The Immigration Working Group is a collaborative of organizations and individuals that meets regularly to share information and coordinate strategies to meet the needs of immigrants in our communities (particularly those at risk of deportation).

Please consider volunteering with one of these initiatives:

- Safe Hotels Campaign
- Bond Packets
- Bus Reception
- Public Actions
- Help for ICE Raid Victims
- Faith Leaders for Immigrant Support
- Rapid Response Team
- Court Monitoring
- Overnight Hospitality
- Sponsor Families
- Legislative Advocacy

Immigrants, especially the undocumented, are extremely vulnerable at this time. This takes an incredible toll—emotional, psychological, economic—on them and their families. Please keep them in your prayers.

NORTHEAST OHIO RAPID RESPONSE NETWORK

24-hour hotline and supportive structure to respond to immigration enforcement actions, offering legal, moral, material, and spiritual accompaniment to vulnerable immigrant families

The NEO Rapid Response Network (NEORRN) is a collaborative effort composed of faith-based groups, immigrant support and empowerment organizations, nonprofits, activists, and concerned individuals.

NEORRN seeks community partners. Listed below are 7 ways that partners can help support this effort. We hope that you will give this thoughtful consideration and reply to us at neohiorrn@gmail.com.

- spread the word
- reach out to vulnerable immigrant communities
- host an information night (you choose the online platform)
- find volunteers for off-site dispatch or on-site response teams
- identify bilingual volunteers (Arabic, Spanish, English)
- invite volunteers for our emotional/spiritual support teams
- offer your building as a training site for NEORRN volunteers

NEORRN is part of a national effort to offer legal, moral, material, and spiritual accompaniment to vulnerable immigrant families. This is a critical and dangerous time, as families and communities across Ohio are being targeted for detainment by ICE and CBP.

Across the U.S., networks such as NEORRN have played an important role in combating fear by:

- providing a trusted and non-partisan source to verify ICE/CBP enforcement actions
- offering solidarity and support to individuals and families impacted by enforcement activities
- recognizing and ensuring the inherent dignity, freedom, and inalienable rights of every neighbor in their midst



OHIO FAIR TRADE NETWORK

Through education, networking, and advocacy, the Ohio Fair Trade Network brings consumers together with dedicated fair trade and Alternative Trade Organizations (ATOs) to expand the fair trade movement and markets for artisan and small-scale farmer products throughout Ohio.

IRTF has its roots in the Central America solidarity movement of the 1980s. Supporting fair trade is an act of solidarity. When the armed violence formally ended by the mid-1990s, campesino communities asked us to support their farm and artisan cooperatives. That's when we introduced Equal Exchange fair trade coffee to NE Ohio; Heinen's became the first grocery chain in the US to sell it in all its stores. We also began supporting workers' anti-sweatshop campaigns and their opposition to corporate-dominated "free trade." By making conscientious consumer choices and pushing for changes in trade policies, we have organized Ohioans to support living wages, healthy work environments, and environmentally sustainable production methods.

IRTF played a lead role in organizing the Ohio Fair Trade Network in 2006 when several fair trade organizations—volunteer, for-profit businesses, non-profits, and faith congregations—gathered at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Cleveland, OH, for Ohio's first-ever Fair Trade Summit. In 2009, the Ohio Fair Trade Network held the first annual Ohio Fair Trade Teach-In & Expo at John Carroll University. In addition to educating hundreds of Ohioans about fair trade each year, this annual event provides a sales outlet for dozens of fair trade vendors, generating tens of thousands of dollars in much needed income for artisans and farmers across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.



Throughout the year, the Ohio Fair Trade Network:

- educates Ohioans on the principles of fair trade
- provides resources for consumers and retailers interested in fair trade
- organizes fair trade sales to generate more income for producers
- creates opportunities to host producers on speaker tours
- collaborates with teachers to offer workshops and increase the availability of fair trade products on high school and college campuses
- holds monthly fair trade meet-ups for networking among fair trade organizations, consumers, and advocates

The Ohio Fair Trade Network website has resources on:

- how to source fair trade products
- how to run a fair trade party, bazaar, or other event
- how fair trade cooperatives operate and why their strength/integrity is vital to fair trade
- how fair trade products are made/distributed and where the money goes
- how fair trade products and cooperatives are certified
- the roles that national and international fair trade organizations play and what membership in those organizations means
- how implementation of fairer trade policies benefits both workers in the US and workers overseas

Meetings:

The Ohio Fair Trade Network holds monthly meet-ups.

www.OhioFairTrade.com

RAPID RESPONSE NETWORK

Protecting people living under threat, demanding investigations of human rights crimes, and bringing human rights criminals to justice.

*What if \$4
could save a life?
It can. It does.*

IRTF responds to 72 urgent human rights cases each year in southern Mexico, Colombia and Central America to:

PROTECT people living under threat
DEMAND INVESTIGATIONS into human rights crimes
BRING HUMAN RIGHTS CRIMINALS to justice
ENSURE that human rights abuses are not happening in the dark

HOW DOES THE RRN WORK?

- 1 IRTF receives an urgent human rights alert from the victim's organization.
- 2 IRTF writes a letter urging protection and investigation.
- 3 IRTF attaches RRN members' names and addresses.
- 4 IRTF faxes, emails and mails the letters to government officials in the US and the countries where the death threats and other abuses are occurring.
- 5 IRTF posts the letters at IRTFcleveland.org and sends summaries to RRN members, their congresspersons and US senators

**Save a life. Demand justice.
Become an RRN member today!**
www.IRTFcleveland.org

*"We cannot do everything, and there is
a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do something, and do it very well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning,
a step along the way,
an opportunity for the Lord's grace
to enter and do the rest."*

Archbishop Oscar Romero, San Salvador



*Your partners in peace and
Colombia Solidarity*
The Bridge Foundation, Inc.
and the
**Commission on Catholic
Community Action**

LITANY OF THE MARTYRS

Since we gathered one year ago, we have written dozens of letters to express our outrage and call for justice in the deaths of dozens of people in southern Mexico, Central America, and Colombia whose lives were cut short because they dared to speak truth to power.

In southern MEXICO

Dec 1 assassination of Arnulfo Cerón Soriano, a Nahua indigenous lawyer of the La Montaña region in Guerrero.

Response: **¡presente!**

In HONDURAS

Nov 14 assassination of journalist Buenaventura Calderón, killed by armed gunmen in front of his house on November 1. His wife was also killed in the attack in Puerto Lempira.

Jan 11 assassinations (after forced disappearances) of indigenous community leaders Santos Felipe Escobar (Olancho Dept) and Efraín Martínez (Francisco Morazan Dept).

Feb 1 assassination of Karla Ignacia Piota Martínez, the 70-year-old sister of Garífuna spiritual leader Amada Piota Martínez, a member of the governing board of OFRANEH (Black Fraternal Organization of Honduras) (Cortéz Dept)

Feb 22 homicides reach 98 in the first two weeks of 2020. Torture victim: José Leopoldo Navarro, a 60-year-old campesino (Colón Dept). Homicides include: Humberto Hidalgo Niño, age 23, and his niece, Auri Michelle Rivera Dubón, age 18 (Copán Dept); and Edwin Amílcar Mairena, a moto-taxi driver, age 28

Apr 3 killing of land rights defender Iris Argentina Álvarez Chávez when security guards employed by the La Grecia Sugar Mill burned homes and used gunfire to forcibly evict families of the Cerro Escondido campesino cooperative in Choluteca Dept.

May 23 death of Edwin Noel Flores Sacaza, a Garífuna man from Sambo Creek, whose body was discovered inside a container at the Ensenada thermoelectric plant (owned by El Grupo Laeisz), where he worked as a security guard (Atlántida Department).

Jun 1 killings and attacks on civil liberties by security forces under the guise of health emergency protections: Marvin Rolando Alvarado Santiago (El Paraíso, Omoa, Cortés Dept.) was killed

Jul 22 assassination of journalists German Gerardo Vallecillo and Jorge Posas, whose vehicle was riddled with bullets while on assignment for TV 45 (La Ceiba, Atlántida Department)

Jul 24 assassination of Garífuna community leader Antonio Bernárdez, age 71, whose body was discovered with bullet wounds and signs of torture, six days after being disappeared (Punta Piedra in Colón Department)

Sep 22 assassination of human rights defender Julio Andrés Pineda Díaz, age 35, a member of the global Humanist Party and of World without Wars and Violence (Movimiento Mundial de Mundo Sin Guerras y Sin Violencia, or MSGySV) (Cortés Department)

Oct 1 assassination of independent journalist Luis Almendares, age 35, on September 27 in Comayagua, Comayagua Department

Oct 23 assassination of environmental defender Arnold Joaquin Morazán Erazo, one of 32 criminalized Guapinol environmental defenders in Tocoa (Tocoa, Colón Department)

Response: **¡presente!**

In GUATEMALA

Apr 2 assassination of Dominga Ramos Saljoj, an active member of the Committee for Campesino Development (CODECA) and a leader in the organized resistance against the electric monopoly ENERGUATE Company. She was shot eight times in front of family members at her home in Santo Domingo, Suchitepéquez Department.

Response: **¡presente!**

In COLOMBIA

- Nov 26 killing of student demonstrator Dilan Cruz who was hit by tear gas canister thrown by riot police on November 23. He died from head injuries two days later, Bogotá.
- Dec 22 assassinations of three people during this time of national strike: a former FARC member, Manuel Santos Yatacue, the mayor of Sutatausa, José Humberto Rodríguez, and a community leader from Cases Grandes which was a FARC stronghold during the conflict, Elicerio Mendoza.
- Jan 26 assassinations of more than 20 social leaders this month, including these documented in 8 departments: Antioquia: Carlos Cardona, Sergio Manuel Narváez Tapias, Hernando Herrera; Cauca: Benjamín Banguera, Cristian David Caicedo, Virginia Silva, Amparo Guejia Mestizo, Juan Pablo Dicué, Nelson Enrique Meneses, Jaiber Alexander Quitumbo; Cesar: Henry Cuello; Chocó: Anuar Rojas Isaramá; Córdoba: Jorge Luiz Betancourt; Huila: Mireya Hernández Guevara, John Freddy Álvarez, John Fredy Vargas; Norte de Santander: Tulio César Sandoval; Putumayo: Gloria Ocampo, Óscar Quintero, Gentil Hernández Jiménez, Yordan Tovar. The United Nations Security Council on January 15 characterized this as "a grave situation of security" and demands that the Colombian government take "effective actions" to stop these egregious crimes against social leaders.
- Mar 21 assassinations of three more social leaders in Colombia: Didian Arley Agudelo, age 38, former city councilor and head of farmer organizations (Antioquia Dept.); Amado Torres, age 49, treasurer of the community council of La Miranda (Antioquia Dept.); Julio Gutiérrez Avilés, founder of the local Association of Rural Workers and president of the community council in El Esmero (Huila Dept.).
- Mar 23 killing of 23 inmates at La Modelo prison in Bogotá by Colombian Armed Forces who used indiscriminate gunfire to stop inmates' protest against unhealthy conditions, overcrowding, and lack of protections against the COVID-19 coronavirus.
- Mar 24 assassinations of five social leaders: Ivo Humberto Bracamonte Quiroz, online news director, Puerto Santander (Norte de Santander Department); Marco Rivadeneira, campesino leader, Puerto Asís, (Putumayo Department); Angel Ovidio Quintero González, President of the City Council of San Francisco (Antioquia Department); Omar and Ernesto Guasiruma, Embera indigenous leaders, Bolívar (Valle del Cauca Department).
- Apr 5 assassination of Carlota Isabel Salinas Pérez, an active member of the Popular Women's Organization of Colombia (OPF, Organización Femenina Popular), at her home in San Pablo, Bolívar Department
- May 1 assassinations of rural community leaders, including: Teodomiro Sotelo Anacona, a rural organizer and a council member for the Afrorenacer del Micay association, which promotes the rights of African-Colombian communities; Andrés Andrelio Cacimanca Burbano, who was killed in place of his wife, a well-known community leader; Mario Chilhueso, age 44, the president of ASTCAP, a rural association for small-scale farmers; Hugo de Jesús Giraldo López, age 64, member of the Patriotic March and past president of the rural association of community action boards ASOCOMUNAL (Cauca Dept)
- May 12 systemic assassinations of social leaders, including: Hamilton Gasca Ortega, age 33, member of the Trade Union Association of Peasant Workers of Piamonte, an affiliate of FENSUAGRO, assassinated along with his sons Robert Gasca and Kevin Gasca; Alvaro Narváez Daza, president of the Community Action Council in El Vado, his wife María Daza, son Cristian Narváez Daza and 15-year-old granddaughter Jeny Catherine López Narváez; Uenseslao Guerrero de La Cruz, age 57, the former president of the Community Action Board of the Curacas district in San Joaquin Township (Cauca Department)
- May 25 killing and injury of farmers by Colombian army protesting the military's forced eradication of their coca plantations. Killed was Emerito Digno Buendía Martínez, age 44; injured: Miguel Hernández León, Juan José Orozco, and Jimmy Alberto González.
- Jun 19 massacre of several persons in the Quebrada del Medio rural zone of Ituango, Antioquia (including Camilo Sucerquia Durango, age 15, Carlos Barrera, age 17; William Pérez) and imminent threat of violence to Ituango residents due to the resurgence of the armed paramilitaries Autodefensas Gaitanistas de Colombia (AGC)
- Aug 23 killing of two Nasa Indigenous men (José Abelardo Liz Cuetia and José Ernesto Rivera) and serious injury to two others (Julio Cesar Tumbo and Leónidas Perdomo) during a two-day military and police campaign to forcibly remove Nasa Indigenous residents from ancestral territory (Cauca Dept)

In COLOMBIA *continued*

- Aug 24 assassination of three indigenous Awá leaders and members: Rodrigo Salazar (alternate governor of the Piguambí Palangala Reservation); Fabio Alfonso Guanga García (the second Indigenous governor of the Nambí Piedra Verde Reservation) and his partner Sonia Lorena Bisbicus Ortiz; assassination attempt on Francisco Javier Cortés Guanga (spokesperson for UNIPA, Unidad de Pueblos Awá); threats to Segundo Jaime Cortés Pai (governor of Piguambí Palangala Reservation) (Nariño Dept)
- Oct 24 assassination of two members of agricultural workers trade union FENSUAGRO (Federación Nacional Sindical Unitaria Agropecuaria) in Cauca Department: 18-year-old Jayder Quintana and Nelson Ramos Barrera
- Oct 25 assassinations, within 24 hours, of four indigenous leaders in two departments: Avelino Ipia, Héctor David Marín, and Gustavo Herrera (in Cauca), and Eduardo Alarcón (in Huila). Two other leaders survived assassination attempts in two other departments: Aurelio Jumí Domicó (in Córdoba) and Hernando Benítez (in Sucre)

Response: ***¡presente!***

The martyrs of El Salvador killed in 1980:

SAINT OSCAR ARNULFO ROMERO

JEAN DONOVAN

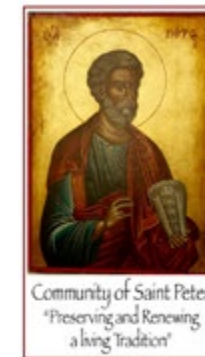
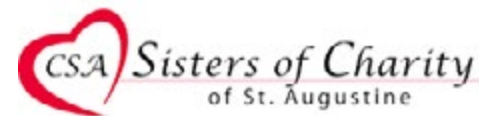
SISTER ITA FORD

SISTER MAURA CLARKE

SISTER DOROTHY KAZEL

Response: ***¡presente!***

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Jean Donovan
Sr. Ita Ford
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The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph
is grateful for and supports the
essential work and leadership of the
InterReligious Task Force on Central America

As we observe the 40th Anniversary of IRTF and the
martyrdom of Jean Donovan and Sister Dorothy Kazel
of Cleveland, and Sisters Ita Ford and Maura Clarke,
we honor their memory, sacrifice and
crucial work in El Salvador.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to continuing their
work on behalf of the people of Central America,
and to peacemaking through justice.



Art by Sister Mary Southard, CSJ



**DO EVERYTHING SO THAT
LIBERTY IS VICTORIOUS OVER OPPRESSION,
JUSTICE OVER INJUSTICE,
LOVE OVER HATE.**

IGNACIO ELLACURIA, S.J.

**Thank you for your continued
work for solidarity in the
spirit of the martyrs.**

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