

E-JusticePeaceIntegrityofCreationLetter

E-letter of the Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Office of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate – U.S. Province



Mission Statement

The Service of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation of the Oblate Congregation is an integral part of our missionary charism as it seeks to foster in and through its members, associates, partners, and institutional structures a vital and active presence where decisions are made affecting the poor (Rule9a). Through its animation programs the Service seeks to encourage and collaborate with Oblate ministries and institutions across the world to be in solidarity with the poor and marginalized.

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New GS-JPIC Director Named

Fr. Camille Piché, OMI (Lacombe) has been appointed Director of the General Service of Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC) in Rome for a period of three years. Fr. Piché comes with broad experience and a deep commitment to the JPIC agenda.

The main focus of the Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation ministry

is 'advocacy' and 'animation'. The principal role and function of the director of the JPIC Service is to initiate, coordinate and support programs and projects that will make this ministry a living experience within the congregation.

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Fr. Camille Piché, OMI
Director, GS-JPIC in Rome

World Social Forum

The World Social Forum "Another World is Possible" will convene in Belem, Brazil from January 27 - February 1, 2009. It will be preceded by a conference organized by the Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians.

The GS-JPIC has participated in many of the global sessions of the Forum and facilitated the presence and organizing of OMI participation in sessions

previously in Porto Alerge, Mumbai and Nairobi. The Oblates in Brazil and throughout Latin America have taken the initiative in securing housing and other amenities for the next session and a number of Oblates from Latin American have already decided to participate. If you are interested in participating and need further information, visit the

Forum's website at: <http://www.fsm2009amazonia.org.br/programme> and most of your questions should be answered. If you are interested in attending, please let your provincial know and contact both Lindomar A. Dantas, OMI (ldantas@oblatos.com.br) and Camille Piché, OMI (piche@omigen.org) as soon as possible.

Latin America JPIC Commission meets in Sao Paolo

The Oblate Latin America, (COLAPIC) Justice and Peace Commission met in Sao Paolo in late August 2009. Oblates from eight different OMI units in Latin America were joined by Daniel LeBlanc OMI (UN) and Séamus Finn OMI (GS-JPIC interim director) for the well organized meeting.

Reports from individual Oblate missions, as well as the GS-JPIC work were a part of the session. Reflections on the JPIC dimension of the CELAM meeting at Aparecida in May 2007 were an important part of the meeting as well as the integration of JPIC into first formation programs and into

all aspects of the Oblate mission. The commission also elected a new team for the next two years: Heinner Paucar (Peru), Marco Varbercht (Bolivia), Guido Acosta Ovelar (Paraguay), and Daniel Diaz (Cuba) as alternate.

JPIC Office in Washington hosts Oblates from Bangladesh, Czech Republic, Brazil & Sri Lanka

The JPIC Office in Washington had the pleasure of hosting Joseph Gomes, OMI from Bangladesh for six weeks in the spring and early summer, and Tomas Vyhnalek, OMI from Czech Republic for the summer. Both have used the time in Washington to explore broader aspects of JPIC work and to make new contacts. The JPIC staff enjoyed and learned from their presence.

Jose de Jesus Filho, OMI (Brasil) finished his year in Washington with an internship at the Inter American Human Rights Commission. This offered him a unique opportunity to become more adept on the issues and processes of the commission. It also afforded him an opportunity to learn more about the Organization of American States and the planning process for the Fifth Summit of the Americas in April 2009. Jose is now back in Sao Paolo putting his newly acquired language and advocacy skills to work in protecting the rights of



Jose de Jesus Filho OMI at the LAHRC

prisoners and addressing torture complaints in Brazil and in Latin America.

We await the arrival of Oblate J. J. Bernard, OMI (Sri Lanka) who will be in Washington for six weeks working on a research project related to issues in Sri Lanka.



Joseph Gomes, OMI, George Ngolwe, and Tomas Vyhnalek, OMI at the World Bank

Visit the newly redesigned OMI-USA JPIC website

www.omiusajpic.org



Feedback & Suggestions

Welcome

Warsaw JPIC Training June 2008

A JPIC Training Workshop entitled: “The Social Teaching of the Church – Challenges of the Present Time” was held in June 2008 in Warsaw, Poland at the Formation House of the Archdiocese of Warsaw, in Bielany, and at the University of Cardinal Stephan Wyszyński. 10 congregations were represented among the 59 participants.

The originators of this session were the Coordinators of Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation (JPIC) from Rome, from the following congregations: School Sisters of Notre Dame - Roxanne Schares SSND, Missionary Oblates of

Mary Immaculate - Séamus Finn OMI, the Order of the Fratres Minores - Joseph (Joe) Rozansky OFM.

The session’s Coordinators in Poland were: Samuel Ceglowski OFM and Leokadia Adamus SSND. Andrzej Jastrzębski OMI was the animator of that training and the liaison between the Roman and Polish Coordinators. The co-organizer of this training from the University was the Faculty of Missiology through its Professor and Chair of the Department – Father Jaroslaw Różański OMI.



Oblates at the Warsaw Seminar