



## Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

Human Concerns Commission - Monthly Digest March 2018

### United States Conference of Catholic Bishops statement on Gun Violence - March 5, 2018

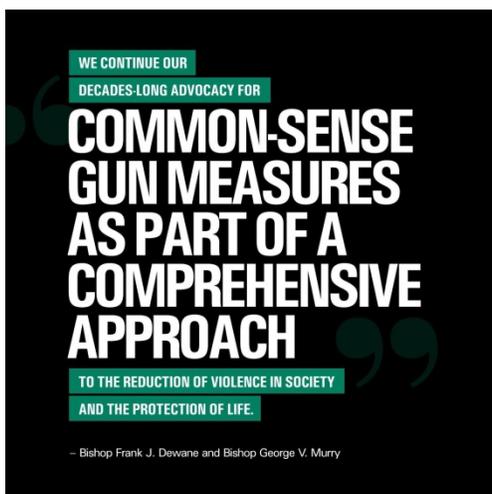
"Once again, we are confronted with grave evil, the murder of our dear children and those who teach them. Our prayers continue for those who have died, and those suffering with injuries and unimaginable grief. We also continue our decades-long advocacy for common-sense gun measures as part of a comprehensive approach to the reduction of violence in society and the protection of life.

Specifically, this moment calls for an honest and practical dialogue around a series of concrete proposals—not partisanship and overheated rhetoric. The idea of arming teachers seems to raise more concerns than it addresses. Setting a more appropriate minimum age for gun ownership, requiring universal background checks (as the bishops have long advocated), and banning 'bump stocks' are concepts that appear to offer more promise. We must explore ways to curb violent images and experiences with which we inundate our youth, and ensure that law enforcement have the necessary tools and incentives to identify troubled individuals and get them help.

Most people with mental illness will never commit a violent act, but mental illness has been a significant factor in some of these horrific attacks. We must look to increase resources and seek earlier interventions.

For many years, the USCCB has supported a federal ban on assault weapons, limitations on civilian access to high-capacity weapons and ammunition magazines, further criminalizing gun trafficking, certain

limitations on the purchase of handguns, and safety measures such as locks that prevent children and anyone other than the owner from using guns without permission.



The advocacy by survivors of the Parkland shooting—and young people throughout our nation—is a stark reminder that guns pose an enormous danger to the innocent when they fall into the wrong hands. The voices of these advocates should ring in our ears as they describe the peaceful future to which they aspire. We must always remember what is at stake as we take actions to safeguard our communities and honor human life. In the words of St. John, 'let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth' (1 Jn. 3:18)." - Bishop Frank J. Dewane & Bishop George V. Murry, S.J.

Please consider the teachings of the US Bishops as you take action publically and politically on this important life issue.

## Service Sunday at the Open Door Café:

Today, thank you to the those serving at the Open Door Café as a part of Service Sunday: Julie & Bill Bonnell, Pat Ellingson, Carolyn, DJ, & Daniel Gral, Terry McKissick, Stu Rossmann, Edell Schaefer, and Cathedral Parishioners: Nic Herrmann and Dan McCarthy All parishioners are encouraged to sign up for serving on any second Sunday of the month. Contact Rachel Egarczynski at 414-276-9814 x308 or at [RachelEgarczynski@stjohncathedral.org](mailto:RachelEgarczynski@stjohncathedral.org) to sign up in 2018!

## **PARTICIPATE** in Contemplative Prayer for Reconciliation and Healing of Racism

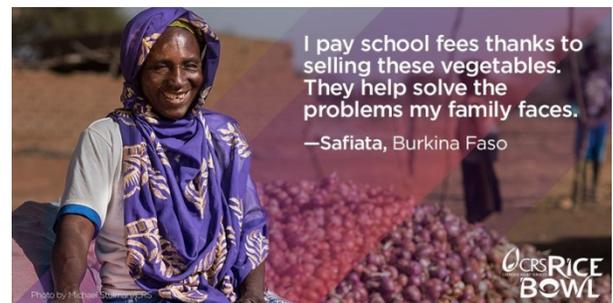
Fridays from 12:15-12:45 PM in the Cathedral (812 N Jackson Street)

The focus article for March is from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel series on Trauma found here: <https://tinyurl.com/marchfocusotrauma>. Note that *60 Minutes* airing on March 11, 2018 (CBS, 6:00 PM Central) will include an interview with Oprah based on her learning about childhood trauma from this powerful Journal Sentinel series. Join us as we prayerfully consider the effects of childhood trauma on our own lives and the life of our community.

Sign up for weekly email to join the prayer wherever you are at: <https://tinyurl.com/healracism> or follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/prayersforreconciliation/>

## CRS Rice Bowl

As we reach the mid-point of Lent, it is a good time to check in on your practice of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Did you know that Catholic Relief Services offers videos about different countries where the Rice Bowl funds are used to impact the lives of those suffering from hunger in ways that are empowering?



How to stay engaged with CRS Rice Bowl:

- Follow the [Cathedral's facebook page](#) for weekly CRS videos - one way to stay inspired and informed as we make our way through Lent as a community of faith. <https://www.facebook.com/SJCathedralMKE/> or find them yourself on the CRS website: <https://www.crsricebowl.org>
- On Thursday, March 22, starting at 6:00 PM in the Atrium, the Cathedral will screen the film "A Bridge Apart", a powerful movie documenting the harrowing journey of people trying to escape violence and abject poverty in Central America to make a better life for their families. Andrew Musgrave, Director of Social Justice from Three Holy Women Parish, will facilitate the discussion following the movie. RSVP to [shellyroder@stjohncathedral.org](mailto:shellyroder@stjohncathedral.org) by March 19.