The Justice/Formation Committee is initiating its newsletter with this issue. The hope of the committee is that the newsletter will help keep the sisters of the province abreast of information regarding gospel justice issues and ongoing formation news. It is also our hope to publish the newsletter at least every 3-4 months.

There will be several regular features in each issue: an opinion/editorial column, additions to a bibliography on justice issues, a column on mission, and news briefs. We will also have book reviews and information on upcoming events.

All sisters are invited to contribute book and movie reviews, In Mission articles and to the editorial column in response to articles in previous issues or as editorials. Submissions may be edited due to space limitations. Please limit your submissions to 250 words or less. Any editing will be checked with the submitting sister before publication of her article.

The In Mission column will focus on the various missions and extraordinary achievements of our sisters.

We will also use the newsletter to inform the sisters of upcoming justice and formation events—both those within the province/congregation and those in the broader religious and civic communities.

To submit an article, you may send it via snail mail to:
Sr. Barbara Lux
1010 Spence St.
Carterville, IL, 62918
or via e-mail to: barblux@verizon.net.

Please send your articles at least three weeks before publication. Our next issue is planned for May, 2007.

Introducing the Newsletter
- Barbara Lux, sscm—editor

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
- Editorial column
- In mission
- Book/movie reviews
- Persons in the news

Justice/Formation Committee:
Co-chairs:
Sr. Mary K. Himens
Sr. Vicky Mobley

Members:
Sr. Loretta Finn
Sr. Martha Harrington
Sr. Anne Jaeger
Sr. Patricia Keiffer
Sr. Barbara Lux
Sr. Jerome Marie
Menard
Sr. Rosemary Meyer
Sr. Kathleen Rickelman
Books and more...

Books:
- A Concise Guide to Catholic Social Teaching by Kevin E. McKenna
- Justice: A Global Adventure by Walter Burghardt
- Lights, Camera, Faith... (a book to enhance gospel faith-sharing through the use of videos and DVDs—one book for each liturgical cycle)
- The Modern Catholic Social Teaching by Kenneth Himes
- To Wisdom Through Failure by Larry Rosebaugh, OMI
- Origens—“Globalization” by Kenneth Himes—5-23-02 issue
- Origens—“Religious Life at the Crossroads” by David Courturier, OFM—v. 36, no. 12—8-31-06 issue

Journals, Articles, etc:
- America—“Faith’s Call to Justice”—July 31-Aug. 7 issue
- Emmanuel—articles on Eucharist and Justice
- Human Development—articles on leadership—winter issue 2006 or 2007

News Briefs
- Over the past 2 years 12 relief workers from Catholic Relief Services have been killed. Catholic Relief Services is part of Caritas International.
- In December Sisters Carol and Barbara gave a presentation on the School of the Americas Watch (SOAW) to members of Holy Spirit parish in Carterville, IL.
- April 25-27, 2007 has been designated an SOAW Fast Day to bring attention to SOA victims.
- See page 4 for Religious Formation Conference
- Sound the Alarm for Health Care Justice: March 2-4 is a statewide faith-based event on the first Sabbath of March. Sound a horn, bell, Shofar, or make other music 18 times to call attention to the 1.8 million people in Illinois who have no health insurance. Pray for the uninsured and others suffering

Continued on page 4 News...

I didn’t know

Deus Caritas Est—encyclical on love by Pope Benedict XVI
- Catholic Online—“Resist special interests on global warming, U.S. bishops say, turning heat on Congress.” - go to www.catholic.org

DVDs/VCRs:
- “Blood Diamond”
- “Hotel Rwanda”
- “An Inconvenient Truth”
- “The Mission”

Miscellaneous:
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Continued on page 4 News...
What is Gospel justice?

Gospel Justice is best called “Biblical Justice” for it includes the teachings from the Hebrew Scriptures, as well as the NT Gospels.

As quoted from Walter Burghardt’s book (p. 7): “In general terms the biblical idea of justices can be described as “fidelity to the demands of a relationship.” In contrast to modern individualism the Israelite is in a world where “to live” is to be united with others in a social context either by bonds of family or by covenant relationships. This web of relationships—king with people, judge with complainants, family with tribe and kinfold, the community with the resident alien and {with the} suffering in their midst and all with the covenant God—constitutes the world in which life is played out.

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton Speaks Out

These words of Bishop Thomas Gumbleton were spoken at a speech recently delivered at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, MI. “We live in a time when the nature of war has changed,” Gumbleton said. “War is now total war—not armies fighting armies on the battlefield. It involves all the people.”

In the first Gulf War, “tens of thousands” of civilians were killed. U.S. forces used ammunition coated with depleted uranium, which leaves a toxic residue. Since the 1991 war, he said, the cancer rate in Iraq has increased up to 400 percent, and more than half of cancer cases there occur in children younger than five.

The current war in Iraq is claiming thousands of civilian lives, Gumbleton said. “We don’t know how to get out of Iraq because we’ve opened up such a situation of hatred and chaos and violence,” he said.

“What if...instead of responding to terrorism with terrorism, we responded with forgiveness and love,” Gumbleton said. “When we as individuals and as a nation begin to build peace, we can be assured we will end terrorism.”
News...continued

because of health issues. To receive a prayer packet, contact Jessica Palys at: jpalys@cbhconline.org.

- Interactive Seminar on Human Trafficking: May 5, 2007; 8:30a.m.—3:30 p.m. Lunch is included. To be held at Notre Dame High School for Boys, 7655 W. Dempster St., Niles, IL. Registration fee is $15 before Feb. 28 and $20 after March 1. This event is sponsored by the Sisters of Christian Charity and the Sisters of the Living Word. The presenter is Sr. Patrice Col-

Space is available for more news, book reviews, etc. Don’t hesitate submitting your contributions. The newsletter will expand to fit the number of contributions submitted for an edition.

Religious Formation Conference on Justice

The Religious Formation Conference Presents:

Regional Workshop:

Theological Reflection and Social Analysis for a Prophetic Way of Life

Applying skills for reading and responding to the signs of the times to the pressing issues of immigration and stewardship of the Earth.

9 a.m.—4 p.m.

Saturday, March 24, 2007

Loretto Center

Wheaton, IL

Includes lunch

Open to all women and men religious, associates and those working with us in parishes, schools, social justice committees and advocacy groups

Presenters: Maria Cimperman, OSU, moral theologian

Jim Hug, SJ, president, Center of Concern

$50 pre-paid fee for members of RFC congregations ($60 at the door) and $85 for non-RFC members ($95 at the door)

For more information:

Check the website at www.RelForCon.org or call RFC regional representative Mary Core, OSB, at (309) 283-2111.

For submissions:
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1010 Spence St.
Carterville, IL, 62918
or
E-mail: barblux@verizon.net

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or
(cell) 618-521-0378

NEWSLETTER OF THE JUSTICE/FORMATION COMMITTEE

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