



“Just Us”

News & Notes from Sisters of St. Joseph
Justice & Peace Office
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Human Trafficking

As excitement builds for sporting enthusiasts around this year's Superbowl on February 5, concern also mounts among activists concerned about the organized prostitution which also accompanies major sporting events. Sex trafficking of minors is a major concern.



*Original painting,
Ginny Sullivan,
SSJ Associate*

Eleven Congregations of Sisters who are members of the Coalition for Corporate Responsibility (CCRIMI) in Indiana and Michigan are working with managers of the lodging industry in 220 places within a 50 mile radius of Indianapolis to secure their cooperation To read the entire article, check the Facebook page on the Sisters of St. Joseph website. Here is the fb posting. You can click on it and look even if you are not a user.

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

Indiana State Legislature Takes Action

Human **trafficking** bill sent to Gov. Daniels

Evansville Courier & Press - (Ctrl & Click) or copy and paste into browser.

What Was Your Reaction to President Obama's State of the Union Speech?

NETWORK WOULD LIKE TO KNOW!

Last week Network sent you a State-of-Union game card to use while watching President Obama's State of the Union speech. We hope you watched on Tuesday night. While the president did not use all the words we had on the card, he did address many of the things that we are concerned about, including immigration reform, the wealth gap, taxes, and jobs.

You can see NETWORK's reaction to the speech here:

[www.networklobby.org/2012 SOTO Response](http://www.networklobby.org/2012_SOTO_Response)
(Copy and paste into Browser!)

Disappointed in something the President said?

You want to thank thank him?

[WHITE HOUSE CONTACT PAGE HERE](#)

(Ctrl & Click or copy & paste in your browser)

SAVE THE DATE—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Padre Alejandro Solilnd Guerra

**Struggles to Help Brutalized Migrants
In Mexico**

7:30 pm Basil Hall, rm 117

St. John Fisher College

3690 East Avenue

Rochester, NY

Dr. McMickle Speaks at GRCC Faith In Action Annual Meeting on January 23

Dr. McMickle, newly elected President of Colgate-Bexley-Crosier Divinity School, Addressed GRCC members on the topic, ***Economic Justice: The Last Struggle of the Human Rights Movement.***

Dr. McMickle spoke on the four movements towards achieving human rights in our country's history.

Slavery, both transplanted and domestic, was prohibited by the 13th Amendment in 1865.

The Right to Vote: Blacks and Women denied; Black men achieved the right in 1870 under the 15th Amendment and then saw it whittled away by Black Codes in States; achieved by the Voting Rights Act in 1965. Women did not achieve the right to vote until 1920 under the 13th amendment.

Bisexual/ transgender rights given under the federal law are still unresolved in many States

Economic Justice is our continuing battle today.

Examples: 1965 the Vietnam War cost us \$500,000 per day; President Johnson declared a War Vs. Poverty; we lost both!

Today we are spending \$15 billion per month on wars in Mideast; \$180 billion a year; \$1.8 trillion in the 8-10 years we have been in Iraq and Afghanistan. The same amount of money could repair our entire infrastructure, roads, bridges, etc., create jobs and spur our economy!

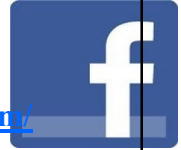
Dr. McMickles spoke about the laudable goals of Occupy which are directed toward economic justice but felt the group needed to have specific goals.

Following Dr. McMickles talk participants had the opportunity to speak with members of Occupy Rochester. The group explained there were many issues to address and it can't narrow the scope at this time.

You can Find *Just Us* on the SSJ Website www.ssjrochester.org/ and links to Facebook!

Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/SistersofSaintJosephofRochester](https://www.facebook.com/SistersofSaintJosephofRochester) (CTRL & Click)

Brazil link: Copy & Paste: <http://www.isjrochester.com.br>



Cornel West Speaks at RIT

Cornel West, doctor of philosophy and civil rights activist, spoke at the celebration in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 23, at Rochester Institute of Technology. He posed the question which MLK, Jr. asked: "What does it mean to be human?"

Dr. West went on to expound on King's thoughts:

- We have to be capable of creating something new;
- We have to learn how to die but how to live; we need to be able to die to prejudice in order to learn how to live.
- The condition of truth is to allow suffering to speak.

West spoke about the catastrophe of slavery and the enslavement still felt in the world today which affects everyone.

- 1% of the population owns 42% of the wealth. 400 individuals have wealth equivalent to the income of 150 million Americans.
- One out of two Americans now live near poverty: 22% live in poverty; 35% live near poverty.

Dr. West said we must talk seriously about materialism which today is defined as success for young people. We have become indifferent to the weak and vulnerable. Individualism has become an obsession. MLK, Jr. wanted young people to use their talents for something bigger than themselves. Our fundamental structures must be democratized and non-violent.

We have to love each other to become human!