

Peaceways

CENTRAL KENTUCKY COUNCIL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

September 2018

upLIFT not available to all

by Margaret Gabriel

A recent story in KyForward, an online newspaper published by the Kentucky Center for Public Service Journalism, reports on upLIFT, a collaboration between Lexington and Lextran that offers free, conditional transportation services for people who are experiencing homelessness.

Most of the programs in Lexington that address the issues of people experiencing homelessness are eligible to participate in upLIFT, but the Catholic Action Center, a house of hospitality at 1055 Industry Road, is not.

The omission is not an oversight, but intentional. As a house of hospitality, CAC does not accept government funding, which gives them the flexibility to serve whatever needs they see.

Director Ginny Ramsey finds the questions asked by the Homeless Management Information System to be invasive and an invasion of privacy, and the requirements to access transportation cumbersome for their residents.

"They thought that the access to Lextran would pressure us into accepting funding, but it's more important to us to uphold the dignity of our people."

The CAC began to receive pressure

to participate in the HMIS over a year ago. Kathy Plomin, representative of LFUCG District 12, "was floored to find out we were excluded [from upLIFT]," Ginny said. "But we see the HMIS as a data base in the sky that violates the privacy of our residents."

The overall goal of the Catholic Action Center is to uphold the dignity of its residents. Upholding that dignity means different things to different people. If any person who spends one or more nights at the CAC is required to be included in the HMIS, they could appear on that registry as homeless years in the future. That designation "does not uphold the dignity of our residents," Ginny said. Although some CAC residents have lived there since it opened on Industry Road in May 2017, and before that at the Community Inn on Winchester Road,

for others it is only a stop-gap place to stay until they get on their feet. Many residents work at minimum wage jobs and it takes several weeks to save enough money to make a deposit on an apartment. Others are relative newcomers to Lexington and are saving for a bus ticket to a city where they have family and friends.

CAC residents who have also stayed at shelters in Lexington and are registered in the HMIS have access to free transportation which people use to get to work and appointments. For those who are not registered, CAC is taking donations to make bus passes available. "Every dollar donated is one ride," Ginny said. The compromise gives residents the access to transportation they need while preserving dignity and privacy.

Margaret is editor of Peaceways and a volunteer at the Catholic Action Center.

CKCPJ co-sponsors health care event

The CKCPJ steering committee decided in its August meeting to co-sponsor an event with the Kentuckians for Single Payer Health Care and the Kentucky Chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program. The event is scheduled for 7 p.m. Oct. 4, at Hotel Louisville, 120 W. Broadway, Louisville.

The featured speaker will be Dr. Margaret Flowers, a Baltimore pediatrician who is a national leader in the single-payer movement. Dr. Flowers was among the physicians, nurses and others arrested because they tried to place a single-payer health plan on the agenda of the Senate Finance Committee hearing during the 2009 discussion on health care reform.

Although Dr. Flowers was not allowed to speak that day, she later

testified before the Senate Health Employment, Labor and Pensions Committee. and has written and spoken extensively to build a public movement for HR 676, Expanded and Improved Medicare for All.

Kentucky and many other states are struggling to defend the gains advanced by the Affordable Care Act, but that reform never went far enough to cover the 29 million people who are still without insurance, and it did not solve the problem of premiums, deductibles and co-pays that are still out of reach for people with insurance.

The Oct. 4 program is an opportunity to deepen public understanding of the kind of reform that is needed to extend health care to everyone in the United States while bringing costs under control.

Gun Violence In America as of 9-5-18

(excluding suicide)

2018 (year to date)

Killed	9,890
Wounded	19507

2017 (annual)

Killed	15,612
Wounded	31,217

Source: www.gunviolencearchive.org

Contact your legislator about the death penalty

The Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (KCADP) recently reported the news that the Catholic Church has updated its catechism and now teaches that the use of the death penalty is inadmissible under any circumstances.

In the past, the Catholic Church taught that, following a fair trial, capital punishment was an appropriate response to the gravity of certain crimes, and an acceptable albeit extreme means of safeguarding the common good.

The update reflects the increasing awareness that the dignity of person is not lost even after the commission of very serious crimes. In addition, a new understanding has emerged of the significance of penal sanctions imposed by the state. Finally, more effective systems of detention have been developed that ensure the due protection of citizens but, at the same time, do not definitively deprive the guilty of the possibility of redemption. In light of the Gospel, the church teaches that the "death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person," and the Church works for its abolition worldwide.

In the past, lawmakers and others often used the text of the Catholic catechism to allow for the morality of the death penalty, but the new

text no longer offers an exception, and now teaches that there is no instance in which the death penalty is a moral option by which to punish guilty offenders.

So, what does that mean for the death penalty in Kentucky? Members of the KCADP are often told by lawmakers in Frankfort that they are not hearing opposition to the death penalty from their constituents. "We know that is not entirely accurate," a recent KCADP message to its members states. "Some of you do contact them, but frankly, our records indicate that most of you don't. And until you do, lawmakers will do nothing to change this law."

KCADP encourages Kentuckians to reach out to legislators and urge them to support abolition of the death penalty in the Commonwealth. The hotline number here is always in operation, and messages to legislators from constituents are very effective. The group also asks members to ask family members, friends and neighbors to contact legislators as well.



OWF working hard for 2019

Annette Mayer, chair of One World Films, reports that the group is "eyeball deep" in viewing films for the 2019 series, which traditionally begins with a film at the Kentucky Theatre on Martin Luther King Day. Annette and the others she has tapped to help her review films have been impressed with the interesting, meaningful, and excellent quality films that would not be available in Lexington if not for OWF. They are in the process of

determining which films will be both interesting and entertaining in 2019.

The group is also working to close the books on the 2018 series, and they find they are about \$800 short of the cost of screening fees and theatre rental. "It all adds up," Annette says.

A donation of \$10-\$20 would be most appreciated, she says, and can be directed to Diana Rast, 3512 Winding Drive, Lexington, 40517.

The Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice

Board of Directors: Rebecca Ballard DiLoreto, Rick Clewett, Bilal El-Amin, Mary Ann Ghosal (secretary), Heather Hadi, Randolph Hollingsworth, Rahul Karanth, Steven Lee Katz (treasurer), Richard Mitchell, Bruce Mundy, Steve Pavey, Nadia Rasheed, Rabbi Uri Smith, Teddi Smith-Robillard, Craig Wilkie.
Peaceways Staff: Margaret Gabriel (editor); Penny Christian, Gail Koehler, Betsy Neale, Mary Ann Ghosal, Jim Trammel (proofreaders). The views expressed in *Peaceways* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of CKCPJ.

Member Organizations: ACLU-Central Kentucky Chapter; Ahava Center for Spiritual Living; Amnesty International, UK Chapter; Bahá'ís of Lexington; Berea Friends Meeting; Bluegrass Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO; Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program; Bluegrass United Church of Christ; Catholic Action Center; Central Christian Church; Commission for Peace and Justice, Catholic Diocese of Lexington; Gay and Lesbian Services Organization; Humanist Forum of Central Kentucky; Hunter Presbyterian Church; Islamic Society of Central Kentucky; Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass; Kentuckians for the Commonwealth; Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, Central Kentucky Chapter; Kentucky Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights; Kentucky Resources Council; Lexington Fair Housing Council; Lexington Fairness; Lexington Friends Meeting; Lexington Hispanic Association (Asociación de Hispanos Unidos); Lexington Labor Council, Jobs with Justice Committee; Lexington Living Wage Campaign; Lexington Socialist Student Union; Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church; Newman Center at UK; North East Lexington Initiative; One World Film Festival; Students for Peace and Earth Justice (Bluegrass Community and Technical College); Peacecraft; The Plantory; Progress (student group at Transylvania University); Second Presbyterian Church; Shambhala Center; Sustainable Communities Network; Union Church at Berea; Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington; United Nations Association, Bluegrass Chapter.



Peaceways is published 10 times a year by the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, 1588 Leestown Rd., Ste. 130-138, Lexington KY 40511. The next issue of *Peaceways* will appear in October. Deadline for calendar items is September 15. Contact (859) 488-1448 or email peacewayseditor@gmail.com.

Calendar for Peace & Justice

The council seeks to promote dialogue as a path to peace and justice. Consequently, we announce events that we do not necessarily endorse.

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 7-9

Roots and Heritage Festival. The festival will be celebrating its 30th anniversary with weekend events and activities at the Lyric Theatre and along Elm Tree Lane.

Mon., Sept. 10

Lexington Advocacy Team, 6 p.m., Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion of the lobbying efforts needed for the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019.

Tues., Sept. 11

CKCPJ single-payer health care committee, 5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion will include ongoing promotion of the Oct. 4 event in Louisville and action that can be taken to promote the single-payer health care concept.

Tues., Sept. 11

ML King Neighborhood Association meeting, 7 p.m. Living Arts and Science Center, 362 N. Martin Luther King Blvd, Lexington.

Tues., Sept. 11

PFLAG Central Kentucky, 6:30-8:30 p.m., St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2025 Bellefonte Dr., Lexington. Meghan Buell will address the group concerning her experiences traveling the country educating rural communities about transgender issues. Meghan is also speaking at the meeting in Frankfort on September 17. Her Lexington presentation will be followed by a confidential support group meeting.

Sat., Sept. 15

Lexington League of Women Voters, Candidate Forums, Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main St., 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Additional forums will be held on Sept. 16, 22, and 29. For addition information and times, see lwwlexington.com.

*Afflict the comfortable;
give comfort to the afflicted.*

Mon., Sept. 17

CKCPJ steering committee meeting. The steering committee will not meet in September.

Thurs., Sept. 20

William Wells Brown Neighborhood Association meeting, 6 p.m. William Wells Brown Community Center.

Sat., Sept. 22

Christian-Muslim dialog, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Masjid Bilal Ibn Rabah, 1545 Russell Cave Rd, Lexington. Jesus in the Koran. There will be a potluck meal following the presentation. Please bring a meal side or dessert to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Tues., Oct. 2

CKCPJ Peace Action committee, 5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Ongoing discussion of schools, non-violence training, discussion of the summer youth jobs program and its effectiveness, and other peace-related activity.

Thurs., Oct. 4

Kentuckians for Single-Payer Health Care, 7 p.m., Hotel Louisville, 120 W. Broadway, Louisville. Dr. Margaret Flowers, a national leader in the single payer health care movement will speak at an event that will broaden understanding of the issue and examine the type of reform that will be needed to extend health care to everyone in the U.S. while containing the cost.

Tues., Oct. 9

PFLAG Central Kentucky, 6:30-8:30 p.m., St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2025 Bellefonte Dr., Lexington. The meeting this month will feature a clergy panel. The panel discussion will be followed by a confidential support group meeting.

Mon., Oct. 15

CKCPJ steering committee meeting, 5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion will include planning for the upcoming committee meetings, proposals for new initiatives and continuing action.

Tues-Thurs., Oct. 16-18

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land of Appalachia, Beginning in Stanton, Ky. See *Peaceways*, page 6.

Sun., Oct. 28

Christian-Muslim dialog, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Temple Adath Israel, 124 N. Ashland Ave., Lexington. Topic TBA. There will be a potluck meal following the presentation. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Sat., Nov. 17

Christian-Muslim dialog, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Masjid Bilal Ibn Rabah, 1545 Russell Cave Rd, Lexington. Hinduism. There will be a potluck meal following the presentation. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Tuesday., October 9

Voter Registration Deadline

October 9 is the deadline for the November 6 mid-term election. In order to vote in the upcoming elections, registration must be filed by this date. If you know someone who is not registered, or has recently moved (and young people move all the time!) encourage updating registration. Tell him or her that every vote counts! Also, if you know someone formerly registered who intends to vote for the first time in a while, have them call the Fayette County Clerk at (859) 255-8683 to make sure they haven't been purged from the voter rolls. Don't be on the sidelines for this important election.

12 RULES FOR LIFE:

An Antidote to Chaos

By Jordan B. Peterson

Published January 2018 by Random House, Canada.

Reviewed by Jim Trammel

Okay, if the seminar will come back to order after our break, we will continue our efforts to discover the blueprint by which we can perfect the world. In our past two sessions, we have explored *Factfulness*, which shows the world isn't as bad as we once thought, and *Everything Bad Is Good For You*, which sort of excuses some of our less obviously constructive pastimes. Next up is a coherent 12-rule philosophy to make our lives better, individually and collectively.

Jordan Peterson is a Canadian psychologist who says we can move from chaos to order, while avoiding the tyrannical pitfall of such absolutist situations as Stalinist Russia. Those events deeply disturbed the author, as did his life's personal upheavals; we can be grateful that, as Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn before him, he was able to draw inspiration out of dire personal straits rather than becoming overwhelmed.

His 12 rules interlock into a complete philosophical optimism: It's possible, in a few minutes a day, to improve your personal situation and then extend that improvement to all society, if everybody will just be honest with themselves, speak the truth (or at least not lie), aim high, proceed with determination, don't bother kids when they're skateboarding, and pet stray cats on the street. Simple enough.

The explanations behind the rules, rather unfortunately, run verbose. The style is that of a college professor lecturing a freshman class, realizing s/he is through with the lesson plan but has 15 minutes of class time to go, so the professor delves into a long-winded digression linking the thesis at hand to an abstruse work of classicism.

And the classic work is often

Genesis. He is more enamored of Biblical allegory than I am. Adam and Eve come on several times to prove various tenets, but hey, professor, you can use the Garden of Eden story to prove just about anything you set your mind to, and come to many conclusions, including several erroneous ones.

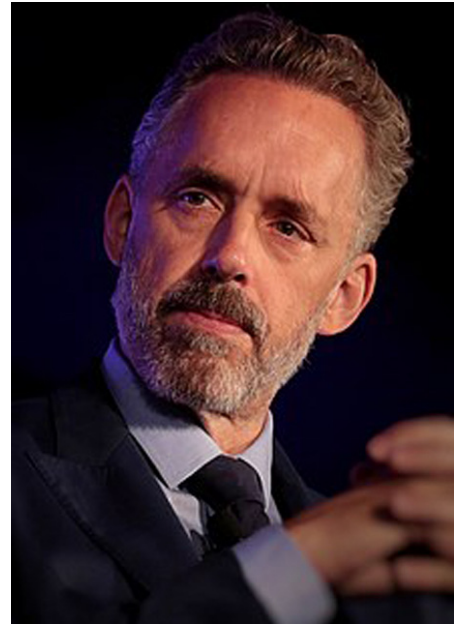
On more solid ground, he notes that life is constant suffering, things fall apart, people and relationships change over time, and we have to be honest with each other or else we'll suffocate in unhappiness as we keep our discontentedness to ourselves.

The rocky road toward total honesty with your spouse, for example, is to be preferred to papering over differences and difficulties. These accumulate like a dragon under your living room carpet that eats the crumbs of your marital discontent and grows larger as acknowledgment is refused.

Peterson is somewhat of a conservative, politically, but he's thoughtful about it in this book. In the public media he raises some liberal hackles over university "political correctness," white privilege, and gender-identity issues, but I'll give him a pass on these viewpoints inside this book, because he never gets specific about the politics that lie downstream from his statements.

Probably the best of his 12 rules is Rule 9, "Assume the person you are listening to might know something that you don't." We could all be better listeners, and his surprising admission as a psychotherapist is that talk sessions with clients sometimes change the therapist as much as the patient.

Such simple truths line this 12-step path, but often (not always) the digressions are entertaining and worthwhile. As I slogged through this 368-page tome, giving it easily three



Jordan B. Peterson

times the reading time I usually devote to my reviews here, I recognized re-stated maxims that pop psychologist Dr. Wayne Dyer ("Your Erroneous Zones") put more cleverly, and in many fewer pages, back in the 1970s. (Okay, I've been a self-help-book junkie for several decades.) Here's a common precept: The excuses we make for our failures serve as comforting, immobilizing reasons not to take action.

Shortcomings and ramblings aside, though, I'm glad I read this. We can all use the Peterson principles to patch what is broken about ourselves. I'm reminding myself every day now to stand straight with my shoulders back (Rule 1), be precise in my speech (Rule 10), and pet those cats (Rule 12).

Reviewer Jim Trammel, an avowed cat person, looks forward to much time playing with his son's new frisky and friendly kitten, Donut. He and his wife are even more excited about their forthcoming grandson, expected by their daughter in late December. Here, have a cigar. (Do they still give out cigars?)

Submissions to Peaceways

Articles submitted to *Peaceways* should show an awareness of and sensitivity to the CKCPJ's mission and concerns.

Feature articles should be no longer than 500 words, unless you are willing to have the piece cut to fit one page of *Peaceways* text. Pieces will be edited for clarity.

Please include references in the text for all quotations, statistics, and unusual facts. End-notes or footnotes are not used.

Please query submissions to peacewayseditor@gmail.com before writing a feature article intended solely for *Peaceways*.

For all submissions, the author's name, address, and phone number should appear on the body of the submitted text.

If you submit material that has been published or which you are also submitting to other publishers, be sure to indicate this. Also include information about your relationship to any organization or issue mentioned in the article for inclusion in a biographical reference at the end of the story.

Submissions should be made in Word format *via* email. Book reviews are usually solicited by the editor, but we welcome inquiries from potential reviewers.

Submission deadline is the 10th of each month. *Peaceways* is published monthly except January.

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your Kroger Plus card
to #16439 at
krogercommunityrewards.com**

MONTHLY MEETINGS

CKCPJ Steering Committee Meetings, third Monday, 5 p.m., Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave. More info: (859) 488-1448 or peaceandjusticeky@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace, every Thursday, 5:30 - 6 p.m. at Triangle Park (corner of Broadway and Main Street) in downtown Lexington. Contact Richard Mitchell, (859) 327-6277.

Migrant Network Coalition, first Monday, noon - 1:15 p.m., GLOBAL LEX, 1306 Versailles Road, Lexington. Contact Lindsay Mattingly, lmatingly@lexpublib.org, (859) 231-5514.

PFLAG Central Kentucky, second Tuesday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. LGBTQ individuals of all ages, family members, friends and allies are welcome. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2025 Bellefonte Dr., Lexington. Visit info@pflagcentralky.org or (859) 338-4393. Speakers followed by confidential support group meeting.

Bluegrass Fairness of Central Kentucky, second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Lexington Public Central Library, 140 E. Main St., Lexington. Contact Craig Cammack, chair, (859) 951-8565 or info@lexfair.org.

Wednesday Night GLSO "Heart to Heart" discussion group, 7 p.m., Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave., Lexington. GLSO operates Kentucky's only Pride Center, where they have quietly provided services to the GLBTQQA community for decades. More info, Pride Center hours. and other links at www.glsso.org.

Humanist Forum of Central Kentucky, first Thursday, 7 p.m., Great Hall of the Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd., Lexington. The Forum is a Chapter of the American Humanist Association. Meetings are open to people of all beliefs willing to express their opinions in a civil manner. Child care is provided. Contact President Staci Maney, staci@olliegee.com or (859) 797-2662.

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, third Thursday, 7 p.m., Episcopal Diocese Mission House at Fourth St. and MLK Blvd, Lexington. Contact Beth Howard, (859) 276-0563.

NAMI Lexington Support Groups, every Sunday, 2:30 - 4 p.m. Participation Station, 869 Sparta Ct., Lexington. Call (859) 272-7891 or visit www.namilex.org.

Christian-Muslim Dialogue Program, fourth Saturday, 10 a.m. - noon. All are welcome. Locations vary, call (859) 277-5126. The Christian-Muslim dialogue promotes understanding and mutual respect between Christians and Muslims. By exploring moral, cultural and political factors shaping the current context, the program promotes personal and collective responsibility to build a more just and peaceful world.

Dance Jam, every Tuesday, 5:30 - 7 p.m., Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave. Move to the extent you are able. Sponsored by Motion Matters, \$7 per session to cover space rental. Contact Pamela, info@motionmatters.org, (859) 351-3142.

Movies with Spirit, second Friday of every month. Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Road, Lexington. Potluck at 6 p.m., film at 7.

National Action Network, third Thursday each month, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Central Library, Lexington.

Showing Up for Racial Justice, second Tuesday of the month, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Wild Fig Coffee and Books, 726 N. Limestone, Lexington.

To include a regular meeting of your organization in this space, contact Margaret Gabriel, peacewayseditor@gmail.com.



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1588 Leestown Rd., Ste. 130-138,
Lexington KY 40511
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Every individual matters.

Every individual has a role to play.

Every individual makes a difference.”

~ Jane Goodall

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land of Appalachia

by Father John Rausch

The next Pilgrimage to the Holy Land of Appalachia, is scheduled for Oct. 16-18 and will begin in Stanton, Ky., with overnight accommodations at Mount Tabor Monastery in Martin, Ky. The cost of \$300 includes housing, transportation and program expenses. Partial scholarships are available, and no one will be denied participation because of costs.

Deciduous leaves will be close to peak color at that time, enhancing the beauty of the experience.

The pilgrimage is a great time to interact with local folks as we talk about pollution from mining, simpler living and alternative economic development. Appalachia suffers from lots of stereotypes, so the pilgrimage can give you a fuller perspective while you grow spiritually.

The Maryknoll Society, the foreign mission group, has something like a “mission-in-reverse” program. They take permanent Catholic deacons, their spouses and other prominent parish ministers for immersion trips around the U.S. and other countries. Places like El Paso and the U.S. Mexico border, plus inner city areas of Chicago or San Francisco offer a glimpse about the struggles of folks on the bottom. The program tries to encourage people in ministry to be more mission conscious when they return to their home parishes.

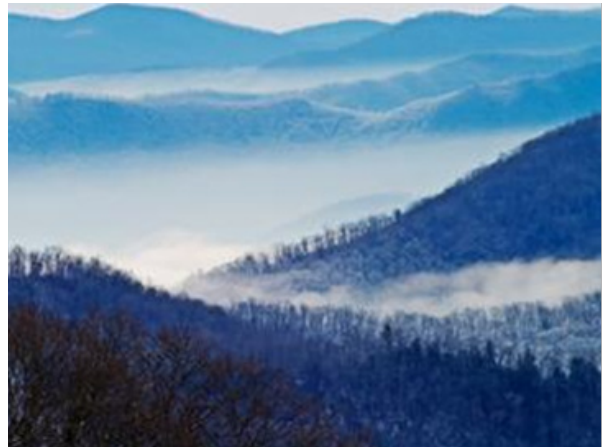
A month ago I hosted a group of ten to tour Appalachia, which I called a pilgrimage. In five days we visited 15 sites and saw orange water from acid mine drainage, a forest climate change demonstration by the

University of Kentucky and an urban farm, sites that will be similar for the Oct. 16-18 pilgrimage. The July participants wrote they gained a deeper appreciation of relationships and care of creation.

The current times are challenging. The Pennsylvania grand jury investigation of sexual abuse among Catholic clergy and subsequent cover-ups leaves me with feelings of shame and sentiments of sorrow. Anything I say or write seems so shallow. Fellow priests and church ministers walk around in a daze when the topic comes up. There is no quick fix, but some determined directions: the victims come first. Whatever the church can do for healing and serving the victims, let it be done. The victims must become our teachers. Their stories reverently received can inform the church about situations that lend themselves to abuse.

Next, we need to look at clericalism. The power and prestige enjoyed by priests can easily set up young people to be victimized.

One nice thing about living in Appalachia: I get to walk around in jeans and wear my collar only on Sundays. A few Catholics call me “Father,” but almost everyone calls me John. I have to earn respect – it doesn’t come with ordination.



Finally, my admonition is that after a prescribed period of contrition and penance, we must recommit ourselves to the mission of the church. I am reminded that St. Paul had to address a situation of a fellow having sexual relations with his stepmother (1 Cor. 5:1-8). He addressed the problem, then challenged the Corinthians to move on “with sincerity and truth.” A period of contrition is essential, but after we make amends, we must recommit.

Our commitment is to the marginalized, not the popular; to the poor, not the entitled; to the victims and the broken, not those above the fray.

Perhaps I wrote this last paragraph just for myself. If so, I’m just sharing it with you.



For more information, contact Fr. John S. Rausch, jsrausch@bellsouth.net, (606) 663-0823.