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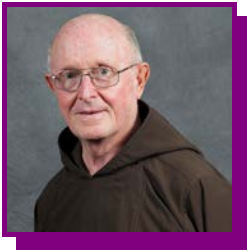
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## Seventh Generation Interfaith Coalition for Responsible Investment

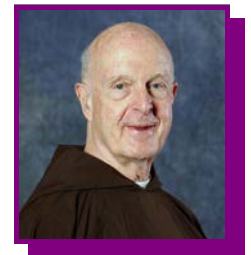
Issue 1137



+ Michael Crosby

As socially responsible investing (SRI) gains attention from the main stream investment world, a Milwaukee faith-based coalition is celebrating 45 years of shareholder activism. *Seventh Generation Interfaith Coalition for Responsible Investment* (SGI) will host an event at Marquette University's Alumni Memorial Union on October 16<sup>th</sup>. The event will start with a panel of corporate executives and SRI leaders discussing the "Impact of faith-based investors on Corporations." Panel members include representatives from Philip Morris International, Walmart, Merck, Trinity Health (one of the nation's largest Catholic healthcare systems), Dana Investment Advisors and the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility. A reception will follow featuring a tribute to SGI's founder by his brother and fellow Capuchin Daniel Crosby.

SGI is continuing the life's work of the late Michael Crosby, a Capuchin Franciscan who was a pioneer in socially responsible investing. He had the practical conviction that business leaders who choose to serve the common good build more profitable businesses over the long-term.... doing financially well while doing social good. One of Crosby's initiatives led to Philip Morris removing "Joe Camel" from its marketing of cigarettes. In one of his last initiatives before his death last summer, Mike persuaded ExxonMobil to nominate a climate change expert to a seat on its board.



Dan Crosby

SGI members include 28 faith-based institutional investors and socially responsible asset management companies located in the upper Midwest. This member-led coalition is proud of its history of activism and is actively seeking new members of all faith traditions, universities, foundations, and other investment institutions who share its commitment to human rights. SGI assists its members in active ownership and responsible stewardship of their financial assets to "get a seat at the table" of the companies they invest in, including guidance on voting proxies, direct dialogues with companies, and filing shareholder resolutions to be voted on at a company's annual general meeting.

The program will start with the panel discussion at 4:00 – 5:30 PM which is open to the public. A ticket-only reception follows the panel at 6:00 – 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased on the SGI website: <https://seventhgenerationinterfaith.org/event>. ###

THE SOCIAL EDGE



## *We Saw You at Cap Retreat's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



*Steve Kropp*

### *Solanus has his first feast day!*

On 30 July, the province celebrated the first feast day of our brother Solanus Casey. Over 300 people joined in the celebration of the memorial of Solanus Casey at St. Isidore the Farmer Parish - Holy Cross Church in Mt. Calvary WI. James Schuerman, auxiliary bishop of Milwaukee, concelebrated, and Steve Kropp, provincial vicar, preached the homily.

### *Solanus Casey Center Expansion Underway*

The expansion of the Solanus Casey Center and its campus on Detroit's east side has begun but with a smaller footprint than what was initially envisioned. Just over six months after the late Art Van Elslander made a \$20 million gift to fund the project, the Solanus Casey Center and its parent organization, the Province of St. Joseph, have acquired or leased 26 parcels of land and are preparing to close on another 17 from the city of Detroit.



*Artist rendition*

At the same time, renovations to the chapel at St. Bonaventure Monastery have also begun. Outside, the steeples are being cleaned up before a new roof is installed. Inside, the seating in the chapel has been reconfigured to more closely resemble its arrangement during the time Casey lived and prayed there, and to create more seating.

Unfortunately, the realities facing newspapers have not escaped the Catholic press. For the past two decades, circulation has steadily declined, as costs have steadily risen.

For 146 years, *The Michigan Catholic* newspaper has been honored to be a part of the fabric of the Catholic community in southeast Michigan. Allen Vigneron (archbishop of Detroit) has announced the closure of *The Michigan Catholic* after the Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> issue. Along with this significant step, the archbishop has also announced the anticipated launch of *Detroit Catholic*, an online, multichannel media and news service scheduled to begin in November. As the archbishop explained, this change is not an abandonment of our century-and-a-half-long dedication to Catholic news in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Rather, he said, it will allow us to focus even more on the stories of faith, hope and love that abound in the community, telling those stories in new and innovative ways, and delivering that content in a more timely and engaging format.

## ***Thou Shalt Not Kill***

### ***Pope Francis Declares Capital Punishment Unambiguously Wrong. No Exceptions.***

Pope Francis has changed Catholic Church teaching to fully reject the death penalty, the Vatican announced recently, saying it would work to abolish capital punishment worldwide.

Pope Francis's condemnation of capital punishment is simple and unambiguous: It is inadmissible. No exceptions for especially heinous crimes; no loopholes allowing execution when other lives might be in jeopardy, as in past Catholic teachings. No, declared the pope; state-sanctioned killing is always an unjustifiable attack on the dignity of human life, it's always wrong.

*That it is.* It is an arbitrary and hugely expensive barbarism whose victims in the United States are often black, poor or mentally disturbed — and sometimes innocent. Over the past 45 years, when 1,479 people were executed in this country, 162 people sentenced to death have been exonerated. All the arguments for executing criminals have been debunked: It is useless as a deterrent and it does not save lives by getting rid of murderers. Many countries, including nearly all Western democracies with the shameful exception of the United States, have rejected it.

Since his election to the papacy five years ago, Francis has introduced a less formal, more pragmatic and progressive approach to his ministry, taking strong stands on issues like climate change and consumerism. His approach has often drawn criticism from Catholic conservatives, and the new teaching on the death penalty is bound to generate a heated debate — indeed it already has — on what it means for Catholic judges and politicians in the United States.

*[The above text is excerpted from a New York Times editorial, 8/3/18]*

***"Capital punishment only continues the cycle of violence and vengeance. If there is any lesson we need to learn in this perilous age, it is that taking a human life in the name of retribution does not bring justice and it doesn't bring closure, even if it may feel that way in the moment."  
— Blase Cupich,  
archbishop of Chicago***

***Stop the executions!***



- Lawrence Abler was hospitalized recently for heart issues.
  - Tom Schmied is beginning radiation therapy.
- Janie Graves (mother of Jason Graves) recently underwent knee replacement surgery.
- Ronald Thomas (brother-in-law of Richard Merling) died recently.

## Women's Equality Day: 26 August



The observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, but also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality. Workplaces, libraries, organizations, and public facilities now participate with Women's Equality Day programs, displays, video showings, or other activities.

**When you're accustomed to privilege, equality feels like oppression.**

There is a curious paradox  
 That no one can explain  
 Who understands the secret  
 Of the reaping of the grain  
 Who understands why Spring is born  
 Out of winter's laboring pain  
 Or why we must all die a bit  
 Before we grow again.  
 I do not know the answer  
 I only know it's true.



Tom Jones, *The Fantasticks*, 1960

## August

- 15 ..... Social Media Video/Zoom Conference  
Oscar Romero (1917-1980) (B)
- 16 ..... Robert Bichler (B)
- 17 ..... Paschal Siler (B)
- 18 ..... David Funk (B)
- 19 ..... Jerome Schroeder (B)
- 20 ..... Ronald Rieder (N)
- 21 ..... Walter Balduck (B)
- 22 ..... Social Media Video/Zoom Conference
- 26 ..... Gen Chapter begins, Rome  
Renewal of Vows/Postulancy Reception, Milwaukee  
Women's Equality Day  
John Holly (B)
- 28 ..... JPIC Commission Video Conference  
"I have a dream" speech, 1963  
Gus Cops (N)  
John Celichowski (B)
- 29 ..... Social Media Zoom/Video Conference  
José Vera (B)
- 30 ..... David Schwab (B)
- 31 ..... Development Video Conference  
Raymond Meier (N)