

# PITTSBURGH PROPHET

NEWSLETTER OF ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH PRIESTS

AUGUST, 2023



THREE IMPORTANT EVENTS - Register TODAY on APP's Home Page !

## APP Annual Meeting

Friday, August 25, 2023, 5:00 pm (rain or shine)



### Chatham Hall

(formerly known as Bigham House)

655 Pennridge Road ♦ Mount Washington (15211)

We hope to see you here!

Dinner ♦ Brief Business Meeting ♦ Socializing ♦ Info/tour of Historical Site



Bigham House is the only stop on the Underground Railroad in Allegheny County.

A Synod of Firsts and Surprises:  
Looking Ahead  
on the Synodal Journey

**KRISTIN COLBERG**

Wednesday, September 13  
7pm via Zoom

TO REGISTER, VISIT  
WWW.ASSOCIATIONOFPITTSBURGHPRIESTS.COM

### First Fall Speaker Event

## October's Synod in Rome

September 13, 7 pm – Zoom

Kristin Colberg was part of the Vatican team that assembled the international synthesis of worldwide diocesan reports for continental discussions.

She has much to share!

## An Afternoon with Thomas Merton and Molly Rush

Sunday, September 17 - Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

*Come! Connect! Remember! Celebrate!*

"A stunning and haunting performance..."  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bourgeault

**MERTON AND ME**  
A LIVING TRINITY

A Solo Performance  
WRITTEN & PRESENTED BY  
DOUGLAS HERTLER & DOUG LORY

## Church Renewal Action Steps

Join Mary Queen of Peace Parish for the Sunday Liturgy, honoring St. Phoebe and Women

September 3, 11:00 am

St Mary of the Mount Church

403 Grandview Avenue (Mt. Washington)



Participate with CCOC in their Liturgy

Celebrating Women's Roles in Our Church

September 10, 1:00 pm

Kearns Spirituality Center

9000 Babcock Blvd., Allison Park

## Action Step for Peace

Join the Stop Banking the Bomb group's demonstration urging PNC Bank to divest investments in the nuclear weapons industry.

PNC Bank, 4031 Fifth Avenue, Oakland

Saturday, August 26, 11:00—Noon



## Bishop Zubik's New Pastoral Letter

"The Church Forward," penned on the occasion of the 180th anniversary of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Bishop David Zubik reflects on the diocese's past, present, and future. (Issued on August 11, 2023.)

He then turns to "The Forward," or where we as the Church need to go next. With an eye towards welcoming, he exhorts each of us to embody Christ to each person we meet.

From the Letter:

"I am entrusting each of our 61 parishes with a mandate to engage in additional synodal discussions to explore how each parish can become more welcoming."

Download a copy:

<https://diopitt.org/the-church-forward>

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SEPTEMBER, 2023



## OCTOBER 4, 2023

### (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi)

The Synod begins! (see below)      Laudato Sí+ expected!

Thursday, October 5 – Register today!

**INSIDIOUS IMPACTS OF MASS INCARCERATION- WHY THEY MATTER NOW**

**Jeffery Gerritt**  
Thursday  
October 5th  
7pm via Zoom

To register, visit:  
[www.associationofpittsburghpriests.com](http://www.associationofpittsburghpriests.com)

Jeffery Gerritt, former Editorial Page Editor of Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, will explore the devastating impact of mass incarceration.

“When I was in prison...”

Join us to explore how our criminal justice system has affected this largely overlooked population.

## Action Steps for Peace

1. Join the **Stop Banking the Bomb** group’s demonstration urging PNC Bank to divest investments in the nuclear weapons industry.

PNC Bank, Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hill  
Saturday, September 23, 11:00 –Noon

2. Participate at the September 30 **Prayer, March & Rally for Peace**  
9:30 – Noon: **Silent Prayer**, St. Paul Cathedral

11:00: **March and Rally**

**GIVE PEACE A CHANCE**  
In Ukraine  
**March And Rally**

September 30, 2023, 11AM  
The Frick Fine Arts Bldg (Fountain)  
650 Schenley Dr, PGH PA

- 190,000 dead, 300,000 wounded
- The Threat of Nuclear War Is Rising
- War & Militarism Are Killing our Environment
- We Demand: Peace Talks Now!

Sponsors: Anti-War Committee of Pittsburgh, VFP-Pittsburgh, WILPF-Pittsburgh, Pax Christi-Greensburg, PSL-Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Anti-Imperialist League (PAI), St. Mary Magdalene Social Justice and Peace Committee, Pittsburgh Area Pax Christi, Beaver County Peace Links, ANSWER Coalition; and more to come.

## Significance of the Synod

**Kristin Colberg** was part of the Vatican team that assembled the international synthesis of worldwide diocesan reports for continental discussions.

She has much to share!

Link is on APP Home Page

A Synod of Firsts and Surprises:  
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on the Synodal Journey

**KRISTIN COLBERG**

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- ◆ What is a Synod? What is its relationship to Vatican II?
- ◆ Who participated so far?
- ◆ What will happen beginning October 4?
- ◆ How is this Synod unique?
- ◆ How much are women involved?
- ◆ What will happen afterwards?
- ◆ What is the role for the Holy Spirit?
- ◆ How can the synodal style reshape our parishes?

**This video will further your understanding –  
MUST SEE!**

## Action Step for Church Renewal

**Promote Synodality in your parish.**

If interested in helping us develop resources for empowering the laity to speak with Pastors, contact APP:

[assocpghpriests@gmail.com](mailto:assocpghpriests@gmail.com)

*“I am entrusting each of our 61 parishes with a mandate to engage in additional synodal discussions to explore how each parish can become more welcoming.”*

Bishop Zubik, *The Church Forward*

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NOVEMBER, 2023



## ~~IMMIGRATION~~

This spirited presentation featuring **Karen Gonzalez** with Sr. **Janice Vanderneec** and **Monica Ruiz** of Casa San Jose is now available on our website's Home page.



### Casa San Jose

2116 Broadway Avenue  
Beechview (15216)  
412-343-3111  
[casasanjose.org](http://casasanjose.org)

### What you can do to support immigrants:

1. Watch the video for facts and perspective to dispel myths about immigrants.
2. Use the information to change the narrative in anti-immigrant pontifications in family/friend conversations.
3. Vote for supportive candidates.
4. Contact legislators about immigration. If shy or reluctant to engage with staff, call after 5 pm and leave a message!
5. Engage with Casa San Jose: donate, volunteer, and/or follow action steps from their newsletter and website.



## Tragedy in Gaza

Join us on **Wednesday, December 6** for perspective on Christians, Muslims, and Jews living together in the Holy Land.

Impact of the war on each group

**An Advent Evening  
on the Holy Land today.**

- Sign up today on our website. -



## “Mountain Top” Meeting

**November 13, 5-9 PM**

~CANCELLED~

This planning meeting was cancelled due to complications trying to sync the Zoom and in-person participants.

A Zoom only meeting will be held in January. Details will follow.

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DECEMBER, 2023



## 2024 – Upcoming Events

### UPCOMING APP EVENTS

**FEB 5**     **JOHN CARR**  
Mobilizing Catholics to be involved in the political process

**MARCH 3**     **AUSTEN IVEREIGH**  
Pope Francis' vision for the world

**APRIL 19**     **JOHN DEAR**  
Peace and nonviolence

**MAY 7**     **CATHLEEN KAVANY**  
Ethics and law

**JUNE 5**     **KARENNA GORE**  
Laudato Sí & Laudate Deum

### “Mountain Top” Meeting

January 8, 2024: 6:30 - 9:00 PM—Zoom



Discerning our mission for 2024 - a synodal listening session

In what ways will we work for Church Renewal (a synodal Church locally and beyond)?

How can we contribute to God's dream of justice and peace for God's people in Pittsburgh & the world?

If you want to participate, contact [assocpghpriests@gmail.com](mailto:assocpghpriests@gmail.com) by January 2.

#### Our Mission Statement

The Association of Pittsburgh Priests is a diocesan-wide organization of ordained and non-ordained women and men who act on our baptismal call to be priests and prophets. Our mission, rooted in the Gospel and the Spirit of Vatican II, is to carry out a ministry of justice and renewal in ourselves, the Church and the world.

### Tragedy in Gaza

One hour that will open your eyes to the Catholic Church in Gaza, the chronic unjust treatment of Palestinians, and the horrific suffering caused by this war.

View last week's presentation:

[www.associationofpittsburghpriests.com](http://www.associationofpittsburghpriests.com)

[Home Page](#)

Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the Holy Land: How are they living? How can we help Palestinians be free?



JEFFREY M. ABOOD



### Early January



**Check Your Mailbox....**

### Our Winter Mailing

- Spring, 2024 Speaker Series informational brochure
- 2023 APP Impact
- 2024 Membership Renewal