



September 2009

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Second African Bishops' Synod, Oct. 4-25, Rome

The second African synod will be held in Rome October 4-25. As an act of solidarity with the Church in Africa, the Africa Faith and Justice Network has developed a website on the Synod. The website has links to key documents and statements issued in preparation for the synod, the list of delegates and other useful information. See: <http://sites.google.com/site/yesafricamattersorg/>. *Instrumentum Laboris* for the Africa Synod of Bishops: http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/synod/documents/rc_synod_doc_20090319_instrlabor-africa_en.html .

Human Rights in Kenya

David Hollenbach published "Corruption and Inaction Leave Kenya on the Brink" in a recent issue of *America: The National Catholic Weekly*. See: <http://www.americamagazine.org/content/signs.cfm?signid=208>

***Water and Conflict* by Jason Gehrig with Mark M. Rogers**

Catholic Relief Services has published, *Water and Conflict: Incorporating Peacebuilding into Water Development*, by Jason Gehrig with Mark Rogers, edited by Dennis Warner, Chris Seremet, and Tom Bamat (Baltimore: Catholic Relief Services, 2009), 134 pages. The book can be downloaded at <http://www.crsprogramquality.org/2009/08/water-and-conflict/>

***Colombia: Building Peace in a Time of War*, Virginia M. Bouvier, ed.**

In this volume, Msgr. Hector Fabio Henao of the Colombia Episcopal Conference and more than thirty others share their insights on the prospects for peace. They analyze the vast array of peace initiatives that have emerged in Colombia in recent years. More information:

<http://bookstore.usip.org/books/BookDetail.aspx?productID=209806>

U.S. Catholics and War and Peace

The current issue of *U.S. Catholic Historian* is on war and peace. Articles include "American Catholicism and Peacemaking" by David J. O'Brien, and "The U.S. Bishops and War since the Peace Pastoral" by Gerard F. Powers. See the Spring 2009 (vol. 27) issue: Available to those who have access to MUSE: http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/us_catholic_historian/toc/cht.27.2.html

Potential Vatican Involvement in Honduran Negotiation

On Sept. 24, Acting Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras announced that Roberto Micheletti, who now heads the de facto government in Honduras, was willing to begin talks and indicated that the Vatican will potentially be the mediator. For the full story, go to <http://www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns/0904285.htm>

Statement of Religious Delegation to Honduras

An international delegation made up of representatives from the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns and Pax Christi International met with stakeholders within Honduran society regarding the coup. Read the delegation's statement:

<http://www.paxchristi.net/international/eng/news.php?id=196&wat=show>.

Catholic Social Teaching and Higher Education

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is developing a new section on its website to promote Catholic social teaching on college campuses. The joint effort with eleven national organizations is to share "best practices" in promoting Catholic social teaching. Those who work with young adults are asked to submit electronic copies of activities and programs to share as a resource. Send submissions to CSTonCampus@usccb.org.

Workshop on Forgiveness, November 14-16, Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC

The workshop will feature Ugandan mother and activist Angelina Atyam and Sudanese Bishop Paride Taban. It is sponsored by the Center for Reconciliation. For more information, go to <http://www.divinity.duke.edu/reconciliation/tcw>.

Beyond Reconciliation: Dealing with the Aftermath of Mass Trauma and Political Violence, December 2-6, Cape Town

This conference will focus on the politics of memory and national healing. A major focus will be on truth commissions and how they have stretched our vision about the important role of public testimony and witnessing in the aftermath of trauma. For information: <http://www.beyondreconciliation.co.za/about-the-conference>

Faculty Positions-Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame

The Kroc Institute has several faculty positions open, including a position for a scholar-practitioner with experience in conflict mediation and transformation. For more information: <http://kroc.nd.edu/aboutus/employment>

Program Coordinator, Operation Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services

Catholic Relief Services is currently seeking candidates for the open position of Program Coordinator to support the Operation Rice Bowl and Food Fast programs. The job description and application information is available: <https://sh.webhire.com/servlet/av/jd?ai=495&ji=2385021&sn=1>

The Catholic Peacebuilding Network (CPN) is a voluntary network of practitioners, academics, clergy and laity from around the world which seeks to enhance the study and practice of Catholic peacebuilding, especially at the local level. The CPN aims to deepen bonds of solidarity among Catholic peacebuilders, share and analyze “best practices,” expand the peacebuilding capacity of the Church in areas of conflict, and encourage the further development of a theology of a just peace. While it is a Catholic network, the CPN believes that authentic and effective Catholic peacebuilding involves dialogue and collaboration with those of other religious traditions and all those committed to building a more just and peaceful world.

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