

World Day of Prayer 2017 • Supplemental Material

Action Guide

World Day of Prayer 2017, through its exploration of the theme “Am I being unfair to you?” and Jesus’ parable of the laborers in the vineyard, calls us to action on a variety of topics that are significant in the Philippines and other communities. This guide highlights some of those issues and suggests resources and steps for taking action. As we join in prayer with the women of the world, let us also take action and work together for equality and justice!

Economic Justice

It is impossible to disentangle economic justice issues from human rights issues. Economic justice is an important issue for many Filipinos, in particular women. How does one make a living, how does one feed their family, what is a fair wage? How do issues of economic justice affect people in your community?

Filipino Advocates for Justice was established in response to the discrimination and alienation faced by the influx of immigrant workers from the Philippines into other countries. The work of Filipino Advocates for Justice is grounded in the spirit of *bayanihan* (people helping people). The organization has been an advocate for immigrant and civil rights for Filipinos and served the more vulnerable by helping recent arrivals, youth and low wage workers navigate the challenges and hurdles of life in America.

www.filipinos4justice.org

The Global Fund for Women is an organization whose main objective is to ensure that “all women are economically secure and independent and are supported by policies ensuring women’s and girls’ equal rights to resources, livelihoods and political voice.”

www.globalfundforwomen.org

The International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines is a network of organizations outside the Philippines whose focus is on the human rights situation for Filipinos. They are committed to working for a just and lasting peace by educating and informing others about the human rights situation in the Philippines. They ask that all people and governments express concern about the deteriorating human rights situation and support the many victims of human rights abuses in the Philippines.

www.humanrightspilippines.net



Agricultural workers. Photo by Jessica Tulloch.

Environmental Issues

People the world over face some kind of environmental issue in their area. Filipinos contend with typhoons, floods, landslides, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and tsunamis, due to its location in the typhoon belt and its position in the active volcanic region known as the Pacific Ring of Fire. Filipinos must deal with deforestation, soil erosion, air and water pollution, abuse of coastal resources and overfishing. How can we be better stewards of the earth that God has given us?

The Philippine Movement for Climate Justice is a coalition of over 100 local organizations representing grassroots communities including women, indigenous peoples, fisher folk and coastal communities, farmers and rural communities, environmental groups, urban poor, and others in the Philippines who work together to make climate justice a fundamental element of solving the climate crisis.

<http://climatejustice.ph/main/>

The Center for Environmental Concerns Philippines works closely with communities and organizations nationwide, supporting their initiatives to nurture their ecosystems, defend their common access to natural resources, and improve their living and working conditions in the context of a balanced and healthy environment.

www.cecphils.org

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Children of Baseco, near Manila. Photo by Cherina Ducusin.

Health Care and Education for Children

We need to protect the smallest and most vulnerable of our communities. Let us join in efforts to follow Jesus' teachings, and not merely correct ideas about children and people who have no power in society, but also correct the behavior of adults toward these marginalized groups. For resources, programs and initiatives that advocate, protect and support the rights of children, visit these organizations on line:

Church World Service (CWS)

www.cwsglobal.org/our-work/global-development/women-and-children.html

US Fund for UNICEF

Putting Children First, www.unicefusa.org

Child Rights International Network (CRIN)

www.crin.org

Justice and Protection for Overseas Filipino Workers

Women leaving their families and children to work overseas has become all too common. Women all over the world make sacrifices to feed their families and make sure their children get an education. In the Philippines, domestic workers, of which 90% are women, account for a third of those who work out-

side of the country. While there are policies in place to facilitate this work overseas and laws in place to protect these workers, women remain vulnerable to exploitation, violence and discrimination.

Unlad Kabayan Migrant Services Foundation Inc. is a nongovernmental organization (NGO) based in the Philippines that focuses on migrant workers and social entrepreneurship. The organization works with migrants to help them gain the business knowledge, skills, and support they need to successfully reintegrate when they return to the Philippines. The NGO also provides programs for migrant workers that help them find an alternative to migration.

www.unladkabayan.org/overseas-filipino-workers.html

The Center for Migrant Advocacy-Philippines

(CMA-Philippines) is an advocacy group that promotes the rights of overseas Filipinos, land- or sea-based migrant workers and Filipino immigrants and their families. CMA-Philippines works to improve the economic, social, and political conditions of migrant Filipino families through policy advocacy, networking, capability-building, and direct assistance. CMA is also a resource center that gathers information, conduct studies, and analyzes issues of overseas migration and related concerns, and disseminates results to partners and constituents.

<https://centerformigrantadvocacy.com>



Migrant workers class. Photo by KAAGAPAY.

This material is part of the worship and educational resources for the 2017 WDP annual celebration. For further information, contact World Day of Prayer USA • 475 Riverside Drive, 15th Floor • New York, NY 10115 • 212.870.2466 • Orders: 888.937.8720 info@wdp-usa.org • www.wdp-usa.org • www.wdp-usa/blog www.facebook.com/worlddayofprayerusa • www.twitter.com/wdpusa