



INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK

Enjoying our monthly newsletter? Do you look to ICNY as a resource for ways to help protect religious diversity, and do you support our work to make NYC safe from prejudice and violence? Please consider a gift today.



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The Interfaith Center of New York Newsletter April 2019



Dear friend,

The sign above, posted outside Gosford Anglican Church in New South Wales, Australia/New Zealand, the week following the Christ Church terrorist attack means "From God we came and to God we shall return." Similar acts of solidarity occurred throughout New York. Members of Congregation Beit Simchat Torah, the Sikh Coalition, and Judson Memorial Church stood outside the Islamic Center of New York University welcoming students and faculty to Friday prayers with signs that read, "Jewish New Yorkers support our Muslim Neighbors." The following

week, ICNY and The Micah Table joined UJA Federation at Al Aqusa Mosque on 115th and 5th Ave, the Islamic Cultural Center of New York at 96th street., and the Dawood Mosque-the oldest continually used Muslim house of worship founded over 100 years ago for Yemeni seafarers coming off the Brooklyn docks and needing somewhere to pray.

In addition to continuing the fight for sane gun laws, these interfaith gestures of empathy are among the tools that we have to combat 1) craven political leaders who spread fear with talk of immigrant "invasions", 2) social media entrepreneurs who amass profit but are slower to accept responsibility when things go wrong on their platforms, and 3) the deep-seated human fear that we live in a zero-sum world where your very existence threatens mine.

The paranoid fear of replacement, prejudice, and hatred of White Nationalism is an anathema to the teachings of great religious traditions. Generosity, justice, hospitality, and care for the stranger, the widow, and the orphan are common shared themes.

To this end, please join us for [NYC's 3rd Annual Interfaith Seder for Immigrants and Refugee Justice on April 17](#) and the **NYC Interfaith Iftar: Courage in our Time on May 13**. The Interfaith Center of New York will be joining the New Sanctuary Coalition, Union Theological Seminary and others sponsoring a bus to [Albany tomorrow \(April 2\) to advocate for the Separation of Children Responsibility Act](#). The SCAR ACT requires that local social service agencies with Federal contracts to provide custody for unaccompanied or separated children must share this information with the NY State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). Advocates and policy makers must have the information they need to ensure that the children's needs are being met. It is not too late to join us in Albany at 10am at the "Well" the area right off the Assembly Floor. Text Meryl at 917 834 8139 if you can come.

Best wishes,



The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer
Executive Director
The Interfaith Center of New York



ICNY Events

James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards

SAVE THE DATE
JUNE 24, 2019



JAMES PARKS MORTON INTERFAITH AWARDS

Tribeca Rooftop (2 Desbrosses St • NYC)
6:30 PM Cocktails and Dinner

HONORING:

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
*Presiding Bishop and Primate,
The Episcopal Church*

Dr. Ruth Westheimer
Psychosexual Therapist, Author

THE INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK
interfaithcenter.org/gala • 212-870-3510

Click for
Tables and Tickets

Social Work and Religious Diversity:

Faith-Based Perspectives on Trauma and Healing



Full-Day Conference on May 15
Offering **Seven Hours of Continuing Education**
for New York State LMSWs and LCSWs

At the Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive

[Register Here](#)

Please **join us on May 15 to explore the spiritual dimensions of trauma** and learn about healing practices grounded in New York's diverse faith traditions. The conference will help participants offer trauma-sensitive care to religiously diverse clients. The program will include:

- spiritual reflection on trauma and healing from diverse religious leaders and faith-based service providers
- discussions of trauma care for survivors of hate crimes, disasters, domestic violence, ACEs, and others
- introduction to bodily healing through trauma-sensitive yoga

The conference is cosponsored by [ICNY](#), the [Psychotherapy and Spirituality Institute](#), and the [Jewish Board](#). You don't need to be a social worker to attend, but the conference is tailored to meet the needs of New York State LMSWs and LCSWs, offering seven hours of continuing education credit approved to meet state licensing requirements.

Registration is open, and space is limited. For information, registration, and free resources for social workers, visit <https://interfaithcenter.org/social-work>.

ICNY Co-Sponsored & Featured Events

Micah Faith Table Luncheon



Date: April 25

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: The Riverside Church, [490 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10027](#)

The question of reparations. What could a theological response look like? The Micah Institute invites you to its Faith Table Luncheon, where Rev. Dr. Mary Foulke will lead us in a discussion about how faith leaders and their communities can explore this question of reparations. What do reparations mean and should be the American response? Political candidates, justice groups and faith communities are all challenging our nation to face the issue.

As we approach the 50th anniversary of Jim Forman's deliverance of the Black Manifesto at Riverside Church, members of the faith community should be prepared to take a stand.

Please RSVP at joelagibson@gmail.com.

NYC's 3rd Annual Interfaith Seder for Immigrant and Refugee Justice



Date: April 17

Time: 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm (doors open at 6:00 pm)

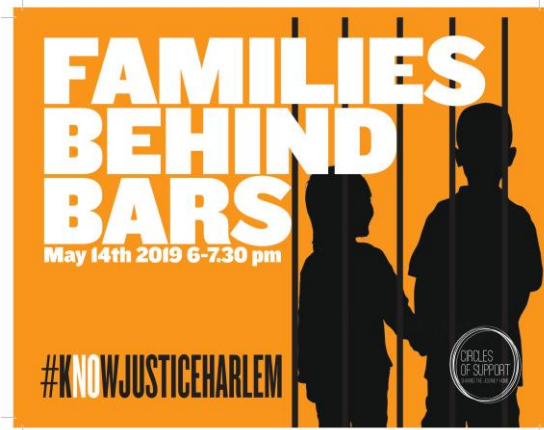
Location: Union Temple of Brooklyn, [17 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238](#)

Join us to celebrate Passover, the Jewish holiday that commemorates the story of Exodus and lifts up the hope of universal liberation. The Seder will feature leaders of many faiths who are working against xenophobia and discrimination to make NYC a safer place for all. All are welcome! Free vegetarian dinner will be served.

[Click here to RSVP](#)

[Click here for the flyer](#)

#KnowJusticeHarlem



Date: May 14

Time: 6:00 pm -7:30 pm

Location: St. Philip's Church, [204 West 134th Street, Harlem, New York, 10030](#)

Circles of Support advisory board members invite you to meet Susan Burton (author of *Becoming Ms. Burton*) and for a panel discussion with mothers, who are the fastest growing prison population.

Welcome: Reverend T. Lee

Moderator: Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas - Dean of Episcopal Divinity School, at Union Theological Seminary

Panel: Hon. Rhonda Tomlinson, Lanetta Hill, Afrika Owes, Liz Swavola

If you have any questions, please contact Lila at 646-296-5319 or lila@circlesofsupport.org.

[Click here for the flyer](#)

Other Events & Resources

If you have an upcoming event that you think ICNY's audience might like to know about, please notify us by [filling out this event form](#). We have final discretion about what events are included in the Newsletter. Please note that a listing here does not imply ICNY endorsement.

**MultiFaith Alliance:
MFA Women's Relief Program Packing Event for Syria**



Date: April 7

Time: 9:30 am -11:30 am or 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Location: Brotherhood Synagogue, [28 Gramercy Park South, New York, NY 10003](#)

This event helps launch MFA's Women's Relief Program, through which we will be sending targeted health and other supplies to Syrian women in need. You are invited to come join us for two hours to pack these supplies into backpacks, which will then be sent abroad. Please fill out the form below to confirm your attendance.

[Click here to confirm attendance](#)

ADL New York/New Jersey's "A Nation of Immigrants Community Sedar"

Date: April 7

Time: 3:30 pm (doors open); 4:00 pm (event begins)

Location: Bartow Community Center, Room 31, [2049 Bartow Avenue, Bronx, NY](#)

[10475](#)

Hosted by ADL's New York/New Jersey Region and the 2019 Glass Leadership Institute Class, and cosponsored by the Bronx Clergy Task Force and Islamic Cultural Center of New York.

Join us in continuing the tradition of bringing diverse communities together to build bridges of understanding.

At this special event, we will model the traditional celebration of the Passover Seder and share readings, songs, and stories from the diverse backgrounds that make up our great nation.

The Passover Seder celebrates the Jewish people's exodus from slavery in Egypt. This message of hope, liberation, and freedom is universal. The event also serves as an opportunity to inspire people to advocate for important issues impacting immigrants and refugees.

Please join us as we come together to honor this tradition and celebrate all of our unique journeys.

[Click here for tickets](#)

Sexuality, Spirituality, and the Love of God: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Insights



Date: April 9

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: McNally Amphitheatre, Lincoln Center Campus, Fordham University, [140 West 62nd Street, New York, NY 10023](https://www.fordham.edu/location/140-west-62nd-street-new-york-ny-10023)

Rev. Patrick J. Ryan, S.J., the Laurence J. McGinley Professor of Religion and Society at Fordham University, will deliver the annual Spring McGinley Lecture, "Sexuality, Spirituality, and the Love of God: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Insights" on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the McNally Amphitheatre on the Lincoln Center Campus in New York City.

The lecture will be repeated on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at 6:00 pm in the Flom Auditorium in the Walsh Family Library on the Rose Hill Campus in the Bronx.

The lecture will be followed by responses from Sarit Kattan Gribetz, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Theology at Fordham University, and Amir Hussain, Ph.D., Professor of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

The lecture is free and open to the public, and reservations are not required.

For further information please call 718-817-4745; e-mail mcgchair@fordham.edu or check the website www.fordham.edu/mcginleychair.

Shalom/Salaam: A Muslim Jewish Conference for Solidarity



Date: April 14

Time: 1:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Location: The Actors Theatre Workshop, Inc. [145 West 28th Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10001](https://www.actorstheatreworkshop.com/145-West-28th-Street-3rd-Floor-New-York-NY-10001)

Join us for a day-long voyage to Muslim Jewish solidarity! Shalom/Salaam presents a full-day exploration through conversations, workshops, performances, and food, of the strong and little-known positive relationship between Muslims and Jews throughout history. Co-hosted by the [International Human Rights Art Festival](#) and [Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee](#), the day will highlight spiritual, cultural and historical connections. The full-day ticket will include kosher and halal snacks throughout the day from our shared cultures, as well as a kosher and halal dinner.

[Click here for tickets](#)

Co-Human Harmony: Using Our Shared Humanity to Bridge Divides



Date: March 18 - April 15

Online

Co-Human Harmony is a course that includes bridge-building ideas and strategies from Nobel Peace Prize laureates, ethicists, interfaith leaders, civil rights icons, ancient prophets, sociologists, and psychologists. The course includes step-by-step guidance, a variety of inspiring and thought-provoking videos, a selection of self-assessments and action plans, an interactive chat with the facilitator (who will reply to questions and comments on a daily basis), and access to like-minded participants from around the world.

This four-week self-paced interactive online course about bridge-building and social harmony is a collaboration between Rev. Gudjon Bergmann of Harmony Interfaith Initiative and Charter for Compassion. Meet like-minded people from across the globe. Cost: \$25 per person.

[Click here to register](#)

#HealMeToo Festival



Date: March 27 - April 14

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: IRT Theater, [154 Christopher Street, New York, NY 10014](#)

#HealMeToo Festival asks how we can heal from sexual violence.

The #HealMeToo Festival will bring together over 50 leading artists, experts, and activists for a multidisciplinary exploration of gendered and sexual violence and how it can be healed.

Program highlights include *Truth and Reconciliation of Womyn*, an anthology of restorative narratives by leading intersectional feminist playwrights curated by Tony Award winner and early #TimesUp member Tonya Pinkins; Broadway's Shona Tucker (*To Kill a Mockingbird*) performing her solo play *Growing Wild*, about a family's intergenerational quest to heal from the trauma of a mysterious sex crime; and Identifying "the Predator" in the Era of #MeToo, an immersive panel curated by filmmaker Carmen LoBue with performances, screenings, and talks by celebrated guests including Tonya Pinkins, New York Times bestselling author and actress Jennifer Esposito, activist Ruby Anaya of the Generator Collective, and others.

Founded by theater artist and activist Hope Singen, the Festival seeks to create an intersectional space for conversation that inspires healing and cultural change.

[Click here for tickets](#)

Interfaith Seder



Date: April 14

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Church of St. Francis Xavier, Hurtado Hall, [55 West 15th Street, New York, NY 10011](#)

Celebrate the Difference in Unity: Faiths, Cultures, and Generations Together. Haggadah booklets for the event will combine traditional elements with a thematic discussion. The singing will combine Jewish songs, Christian hymns, and traditional niggunim tunes with no lyrics. A delicious buffet will be served!

Facilitators

- Dr. Borja Vilallonga, Columbia University
- Rabbi Margo Hughes-Robinson, Jewish Theological Seminar
- Cantor Anna Chapman, Jewish Theological Seminary

[Click here for tickets](#)

Russell Berrie Fellowship Program in Interreligious Studies



Application Deadline: April 19, 2019

On behalf of the Russell Berrie Foundation, the Institute of International Education is pleased to announce the twelfth consecutive year of the Russell Berrie Fellowship in Interreligious Studies, arranged at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome, Italy.

The aim of the Fellowship Program is to build bridges between Christian, Jewish, and other religious traditions by providing the next generation of religious leaders with a comprehensive understanding of, and dedication to, interfaith issues. Russell Berrie Fellows are expected to complete the program and return home to their parishes and communities to lead others in efforts to promote interfaith understanding.

The Fellowship offers clergy, religious, and members of the laity an opportunity to study for a Licence Degree or a Diploma in Interreligious Studies at the Angelicum. The award provides one year of financial support for new Russell Berrie Fellows. It is intended to cover tuition, a modest living stipend and book allowance, examination fees, and travel to and from the recipient's home country.

Applicants of all faiths and backgrounds from around the world, including students currently enrolled at the Angelicum, who have a demonstrated interest in interreligious studies are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is April 19, 2019.


Program information and application materials can be found at: www.iie.eu/berrie.

Pictures and more information about our alumni can be found at <http://www.jp2center.org/programs/fellowship/>

Sign up for one of our upcoming open webinars to learn more about the Fellowship and application requirements through the links below:

- [March 6, 2019 | 4 PM \(CET\)](#)
- [April 4, 2019 | 3 PM \(CET\)](#)

If you have any questions, please contact: berrie@iie.eu.


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ADL Calendar of Observances

The complete ADL Calendar of Observances for 2018 is available [here](#).

April 2019

April	Full Month	GENOCIDE AWARENESS MONTH A month that marks important anniversaries for past and contemporary genocides. Throughout the month, individuals, communities and organizations join together to commemorate and honor victims and survivors of mass atrocities.
April 14		RAMA NAVAMI • Hindu Celebrates the birthday of Rama, king of ancient India, hero of the epic Ramayana, and seventh incarnation of Vishnu.
April 14		VAISAKHI (also spelled Baisakhi) • Sikh The festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa (community of the initiated). On this day, Sikhs gather and celebrate Vaisakhi at their local Gurdwaras (Sikh house of worship) by remembering this day as the birth of the Khalsa.
April 14		PALM SUNDAY • Christian Observed the Sunday before Easter/Pascha to commemorate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.
April 18		HOLY THURSDAY • Christian Also known as <i>Maundy Thursday</i> , it is celebrated on the Thursday before Easter commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus and the Apostles were together for the last time before the Crucifixion.
April 19		DAY OF SILENCE Students take a day-long vow of silence to protest the actual silencing of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) students and their straight allies due to bias and harassment.
April 19		GOOD FRIDAY • Christian Known as <i>Holy Friday</i> in Eastern Christianity, it commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus on the Friday before Easter/Pascha.
April 19–21		THERAVADA NEW YEAR • Buddhist In Theravada countries the New Year is celebrated on the first full moon day in April.
April 20–27		PASSOVER/PESACH • Jewish The eight-day "Feast of Unleavened Bread" celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage.
April 21		EASTER • Christian Known as <i>Pascha</i> in Eastern Christianity, it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus.
April 21–May 2		FESTIVAL OF RIDVÁN • Bahá'í Annual festival commemorating the 12 days when Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith, resided in a garden called Ridván (Paradise) and publicly proclaimed his mission as God's messenger for this age. The first (April 21), ninth (April 29), and twelfth (May 2) days are celebrated as holy days when Baha'is suspend work.
April 24		ARMENIAN MARTYRS' DAY Memorializes the genocide of some 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923 in Turkey.

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