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INTERFAITH
CENTER OF NEW YORK



[Watch this week's musical tribute with the names of New Yorkers and others who have died of COVID-19 here \(or click the image above\).](#)

Tune in [here](#) this Sunday at 6 pm ET to see the upcoming #MemorialForUsAll tribute and submit names [here](#) to be honored.

"The Bible is not a prop. A church is not a photo op. Religion is not a political tool. And God is not a plaything."

-The Rev. James Martin, SJ & Editor of America Magazine

On President Trump's photo-op at St. John's Episcopal Church on Monday evening after [police and military forces used tear gas against peaceful protesters outside the White House](#).

Dear Friend,

Protests continued across the country in response to the murder of George Floyd by police in Minneapolis ([you can see ICNY's statement here](#)). Far from being documents of "law and order," as President Trump said, most of the scriptures

of the world's great faith traditions offer essential resources and wisdom for how to take another painful step forward in the hundreds of years' struggle for racial justice in the United States.

Right now, in the path towards anti-racist policing, the choice should not be between looting on the one hand or more militarized policing on the other. On the contrary, as New Yorkers and faith leaders we have an important opportunity to play a role in constructive change.

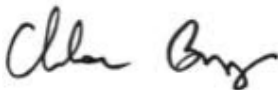
In addition to protesting peacefully with face masks and social distancing, you can read and, in some cases, sign on to statements of diverse faith communities in New York including the [Ganesh Temple in Queens](#), [Commission of Religious Leaders](#), [Religions for Peace](#), [United Sikhs Press Release](#), [Muslims for Progressive Values Press Release](#), [Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops](#), and [Union Theological Seminary Reflections](#).

You can learn about a multiple decade-effort to have greater transparency access to police disciplinary records here: <https://www.brooklynnaacp.org/repeal50a>. We can email or call (click on link to email) [Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins](#): 518-455-2585 / 914-423-4031 and [Speaker Heastie](#): 518-455-3791 / 718-654-6539 and ask them to support the Bailey/O'Donnell's 50-a repeal bill.

Finally, and most importantly, you can vote and plan to make time at least once a week or more this summer to make a "habit" of outreach to other potential voters in New York and other states so that we have a say in our local representation and the greatest participation in our nation's history this coming November. Scroll down this newsletter to get your absentee ballot for the NYS primaries on June 23.

In this newsletter, you will also see an announcement about one of this year's James Parks Morton Interfaith Honorees, Anna Deavere Smith's [Notes From the Field](#), replayed on HBO. Please plan to join us as a sponsor for this year's online Awards Ceremony at 7 PM on June 22. [More info here](#).

Sincerely,



Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer
Executive Director



Featured News

James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards
June 22

THE INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK
Invites you to please join us for the 2020
**JAMES PARKS MORTON
INTERFAITH AWARDS**

This year's gala will be an online-only event
Monday, June 22, 7:00 pm EDT

Honoring
Anna Deavere Smith
Marian Wright Edelman

This event is free and open to all. Sponsors are invited to a pre-event video gathering and viewing party starting at 6:30pm.

[Register Here](#)

[Register with a Gift](#)

The 5th Annual Social Work and Religious Diversity Conference

Being Together While We're Apart: Building Community and Providing Care, in the Pandemic and Beyond



Conference for Mental Health, Social Service, and Spiritual Care Professionals – All are Welcome

Online in Zoom, due to public health conditions

Wednesday, July 22, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm EDT

Conference for Mental Health, Social Service, and Spiritual Care Professionals.

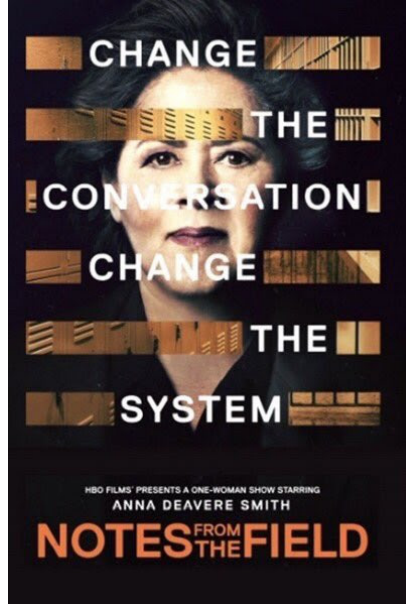
Offering **6.5 Continuing Education Credit Hours** for NY State LMSWs/LCSWs.

Co-Sponsored by Interfaith Center of New York, the Jewish Board, and the Psychotherapy and Spirituality Institute.

Join us to learn from diverse religious leaders and faith-based service providers. Work with colleagues in small groups, to share and reflect on your own experiences of building community and providing care during the COVID-19 pandemic. Explore the psychological and spiritual challenges of social isolation, as well as innovative strategies for online connection.

[Register Here](#)

NOTES FROM THE FIELD
June 2



"... this stage-to-screen adaptation of Anna Deavere Smith's "Notes from the Field" stars her alone playing a multitude of personalities...[and] paints a troubling picture of class and race in modern America." – [LATIMES.COM](https://www.latimes.com)

Notes from the Field

Performed by Anna Deavere Smith

Directed by Kristi Zea

Airs Tuesday, June 2nd at 6 pm EST on HBO2

NOTES FROM THE FIELD is also available to stream on HBO GO, HBO NOW, ON DEMAND and on HBO via HBO Max and other partners' platforms.

[Learn More](#)

ICNY Weekly Roundup #12

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

[New York City Absentee Voting](#). Apply for an [Absentee Ballot](#) to vote in the upcoming June 23, 2020 elections in New York City.

[End Police Brutality, Demand Justice for Black Lives](#). Sign a petition by the New York Immigration Coalition to demand accountability and real change for Black lives.

[Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival](#). Join FPWA in a conversation about the Mass Poor People's Assembly & Moral March on Washington.

[Tenants Rights Information Sessions](#). NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer and The Legal Aid Society invite you to hear from housing experts. Bring your questions.

WHERE YOU CAN GIVE (AND RECEIVE):

[10 Ways You Can Support The Black Lives Matter Movement In NYC Right Now](#). Secret NYC shares 10 ways you can support Black Lives Matter, both nationally and locally in New York City.

[Sojourners: Faith in Action for Social Justice](#). Sojourners provides resources and actions to help remember the lives lost during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[All of the Ways You Can Help](#). The New York Times lists the many ways you can assist during the coronavirus pandemic.

WHERE YOU CAN (VIRTUALLY) PRAY AND REFLECT:

[Community Wellness Circle @ Virtual JCC Harlem](#). Join Marlene Meyerson JCC in a virtual wellness circle with the Harlem community.

[E-Satsangh: Police Brutality](#). Sadhana's e-Satsangh on June 4 will focus on learning more about police brutality in the United States and how we can support communities affected by police violence.

[Prayer Room](#). Pray.NYC is providing an online prayer room via Zoom to pray for New York City and read scripture.

[Reimagine: Life, Loss & Love](#). Reimagine is hosting a virtual festival from May 1 - July 9 for "embracing life, facing death, and loving fully in the face of COVID-19."

HOW YOU CAN BE COUNTED:

[Census 2020 - Fill it out online, with the code you received in the mail](#). Help ensure that New York receives adequate funding for our public health infrastructure and go to this [language assistance page](#) for assistance in over 50 languages.

[NYC Communities of Faith Mobilize for a Complete Count - Brooklyn and Queens Phonebanks](#). Sign up to join NYC communities of faith and fellow faith leaders to encourage New Yorkers to fill out the census!

The Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY) works to overcome prejudice, violence, and misunderstanding by activating the power of the city's grassroots religious and civic leaders and their communities.



Donate



Visit us at interfaithcenter.org.
The Interfaith Center of New York
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