



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

APRIL NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT

Dear Friend,

The **Interfaith Center of New York** is glad to share a few upcoming events and opportunities we're engaged in across the city, in particular the **Hands Off NYC** Faith Table meeting on 4/23 and the Black Immigration Policy Summit on 4/30. We hope you can join us and that you take a moment to share this with your network.

ICNY is grateful for NY Archbishop **Ronald J. Hick's** [support for Pope Leo XIV's message](#) to "be a people, a church, a world of peace." We also welcome comments by US Conference of Catholic Bishops President, **Archbishop Paul S. Coakley**, who responded to **President Trump's** social media attacks on the Pontiff by reminding us that "**Pope Leo** is not [the President's] rival; nor is the Pope a politician. He is the Vicar of Christ who speaks from the truth of the Gospel and for the care of souls."

In his April 7th Easter Message at the Vatican, **Pope Leo XIV** addressed the escalating conflict between the US and Iran and invited "the citizens of all the countries involved [in the conflict] to contact the authorities, political leaders, congressmen, to ask them — tell them to work for peace and to reject war always." In addition to contacting your elected representatives, join American and Iranian Religious Leaders calling on their Governments who have signed on to "[A Time for Peace](#)".

"Now is the time for religious leaders everywhere to take meaningful, constructive steps toward lasting peace and to extinguish the flames of enmity and hatred."

Sincerely,

The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer
ICNY Executive Director

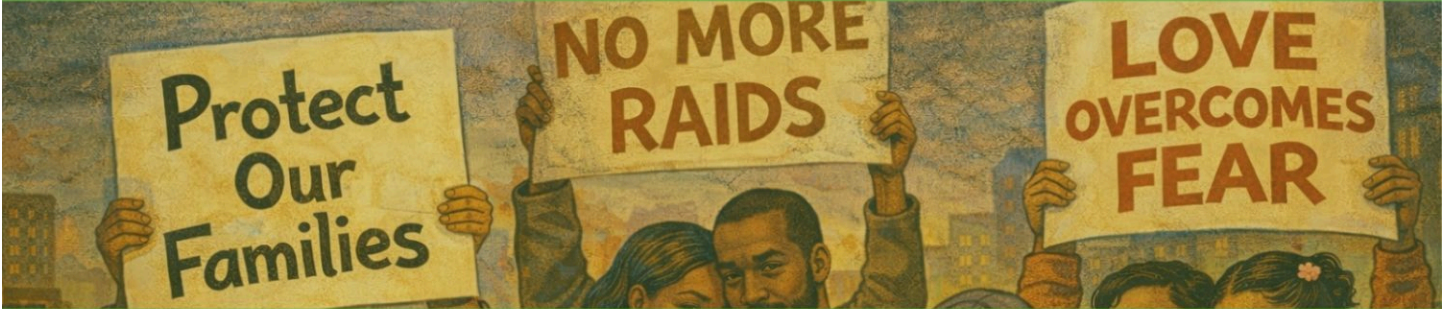
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ICNY PROGRAMS & EVENTS



HANDS OFF NYC FAITH TABLE GATHERING



Thursday, April 23, 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Latino Pastoral Action Center
14 W 170th St, Bronx, NY 10452

Join faith leaders coming together to get equipped, support our communities, and take action.

- **Reflection on this moment**
with Bishop Raymond Rivera
- **Know Your Rights Training: What to Do if a Congregant is Detained by ICE**
Step-by-step guidance from ICNY counsel, Eugene Nam
- **Hands Off Our Vote**
Election protection insights from Nia Alvarez-Mapp, Common Cause NY

Light refreshments provided

Sponsored
by:



RSVP or learn more: faith@handsoffnyc.com

A Conversation with Faith Leaders

Hands Off Faith Table Meeting

Thursday, April 23, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Latino Pastoral Action Center, 14 W 170th St, Bronx, NY 10452

We're excited to invite you to our next Hands Off Faith Table Meeting on Thursday, April 23, from 5:30–7:30 pm at the Latino Pastoral Action Center (14 W 170th St, Bronx, NY 10452).

This month, we will gather for a timely and grounding conversation with faith leaders across the city. Bishop Raymond Rivera will offer a reflection on the moment we are in and share how his network is supporting communities navigating the realities of current immigration policies.

We will also offer a practical training, “What to Do if a Congregant or Community Member is Detained,” with step-by-step guidance from Interfaith Center of New York counsel, Eugene Nam—equipping you with tools you can use to support your community.

Additionally, Nia Alvarez-Mapp from Common Cause NY will share insights on the “Hands Off Our Vote” campaign, including what election protection looks like in this moment and how we can help safeguard our vote in NYC.

Light refreshments will be provided.

About Hands Off Faith

Hands Off NYC brings together a broad coalition working to protect, prepare for, and respond to federal incursion in New York City. Hands Off Faith is a network of clergy and faith leaders committed to ensuring that congregations are equipped with practical resources, legal guidance, and coordinated support—so that no faith community is navigating immigration-related challenges alone.

We hope you'll join us and bring fellow faith leaders who would benefit from being in this space.

[**Register Here**](#)

NYC BLACK IMMIGRANT POLICY SUMMIT

A POLICY CONVENING ON DIGNITY, PROTECTION,
AND ACCESS FOR BLACK IMMIGRANT NEW YORKERS

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30TH **APRIL**
2026
10:00AM
TO 5:00PM

➔ **SUNY Global Center**

REGISTER HERE: bit.ly/NycBlackSummit



A Policy Convening on Dignity, Protection, and Access for Black Immigrant New Yorkers

Black Immigrant Policy Summit

Thursday, April 30, 9:30 am - 6:00 pm

SUNY Global Center, 116 E 55th St, New York, NY 10022

We invite you to join ICNY, alongside our partners, at the NYC Black Immigrant Policy Summit on Thursday, April 30th from 9:30am–6pm at SUNY Global Center. This one-day, in-person convening will bring together Black immigrant leaders, advocates, faith leaders, and community partners from across New York City.

Organized by UndocuBlack Network, Afrikana, the NYC Commission on Racial Equity, and the Black Migrant Power Fund, this convening brings together organizations, leaders, and practitioners committed to advancing the wellbeing of Black migrants. Together, we will work to build a Black migrant-centered policy agenda to inform the City's Executive Budget.

While NYC has long been a place of welcome, many Black immigrant New Yorkers—particularly those from African and Caribbean communities—continue to face compounded barriers across immigration enforcement, housing, labor, healthcare, language access, and public benefits. Too often, the experiences of Black immigrants are overlooked in broader immigration conversations.

This is not just a convening, it is a working space designed to shape real policy outcomes. The summit will bring together community leaders, city officials, and agency representatives to translate lived experience and frontline expertise into actionable policy priorities, targeted investments, and accountability measures.

We especially encourage allies to join us in this space to listen, learn, and deepen understanding of how immigration policies uniquely impact Black communities, and how we can work together toward more just and equitable outcomes.

As faith leaders and community partners, your voice is critical in this moment. This is an opportunity to help ensure that our communities are not only heard, but reflected in the policies and resources that shape their lives.

We hope you will join us in helping to move this work forward. Please register using the button below.

[Register Here](#)

OTHER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Listing does not imply endorsement by the Interfaith Center of New York



"We Are the Day After" Screening

Israeli-Palestinian Joint Memorial Ceremony

Monday, 4/20, 5:30 pm

B'nai Jeshurun Sanctuary, 257 W 88th St

This year marks the 21st annual Joint Israeli-Palestinian Memorial Day Ceremony, organized by Combatants for Peace and The Parents Circle-Families Forum, which will be streamed worldwide. The Joint Memorial Ceremony is a beacon of hope in the darkness. "We Are the Day After" is a call to reject the belief that war, bloodshed, and dehumanization must define our future and to recognize the courageous Israelis and Palestinians working on the ground to build what comes next and model a shared future. Through testimonies from bereaved Israeli and Palestinian families, musical performances, and messages of peace from human rights leaders, we affirm that even in the face of unimaginable loss, there is another way.

Join for an in-person screening of this powerful ceremony. Doors will open at 5:30 PM, followed by words of greeting and welcome at 5:45 PM and the screening at 6:00 PM.

[**Register for In-Person Screening**](#)

B'Nai Jeshurun will be streaming the recording of the ceremony—if you're unable to join in person, you can also register to view the live broadcast online (beginning at 1:30 PM).

[**Register for Live Broadcast Online**](#)



INTERFAITH Discussion

April 23, 7 pm

The Dangers of White Christian Nationalism



Kathryn Stewart, journalist & NYT Best Selling Author of *Money, Lies, and God*



The Rev. Pamela Cooper-White, PhD, author of *The Psychology of Christian Nationalism*



The Rev. James Lynch, Lay Buddhist and Minister in Charge at New York Dharma Center



Hussein Rashid, PhD, Co-Director of Religion and Public Life at Union Theological Seminary, author & NYT award-winning "op-doc"

Join BISHOP ALLEN SHIN and this interfaith panel for a discussion on the Dangers of White Christian Nationalism Thursday, April 23rd 7pm

SAVE THE DATE
Webinar w/ registration soon



Interfaith Discussion with Bishop Shin

The Dangers of White Christian Nationalism

Thursday, April 23, 7 pm

Via Zoom

We invite you to register for this 90-minute panel discussion with question and answers on the Dangers of White Christian Nationalism, taking place on Zoom on Thursday April 23rd starting at 7 PM.

Bishop Allen Shin will facilitate an interfaith panel to address an ideology that is currently having a strong influence in our political climate: Ms. Katherine Stewart, journalist and author of *Money, Lies, and God* Rev. Dr. Pamela Cooper White, an Episcopal priest, the Christiane Brooks Johnson Professor of Psychology and Religion, Emerita, at Union Theological Seminary, NYC and author of *The Psychology of Christian Nationalism: Why People Are Drawn In and How to Talk Across the Divide*. Rev. James Lynch, Interfaith Center of New York board member and Vice President of the Buddhist Council of New York Dr. Hussein Rashid, Interfaith Center of New York board member, scholar of religion, and Muslim community leader.

We look forward to your participation and welcome your questions.

[**Register Here**](#)


FO GUANG SHAN
In collaboration with Buddhist Council of New York

PRAYING FOR WORLD PEACE & HARMONY

2026 Buddha's Birthday Celebration

SAT 5/2
11:00 AM — 4:30 PM
FREE EVENT




Times Square
W 46th St & 7th Ave



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Buddha's Birthday Celebration
- Prayer for World Peace & Harmony
- Cultural Performances
- Zen & Mindfulness Experience Stations

SCAN FOR DETAILS



ORGANIZERS



佛光山紐約道場
Fo Guang Shan New York Temple



國際佛光會紐約協會
Buddha's Light International Association, New York



Buddhist Council
of New York

Bringing the community together to share blessings of peace, harmony, and compassion

Buddha's Birthday Celebration

Saturday, May 2, 11:00 am - 4:30 pm

Times Square (W 46th St & 7th Ave)

We warmly invite you to join us in the 2026 Buddha's Birthday Celebration and Prayer for World Peace

and Harmony event. This meaningful event, organized by Fo Guang Shan New York Temple, in collaboration with the Buddhist Council of New York, will take place at Times Square and brings together the community in a spirit of compassion, mindfulness, and unity.

Event Details

- Time: 11:00 AM – 4:30 PM
- Bathing Buddha Ceremony: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Admission: Free

Event Highlights

- Buddha's Birthday Celebration
- Prayer for World Peace & Harmony
- Cultural Performances
- Zen & Mindfulness Experience Stations

Should you have any questions or wish to participate by performing or hosting a booth, please feel free to contact the International Buddhist Progress Society at newyork@ibps.org. We look forward to your presence.

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