



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Faith leaders join Governor Kathy Hochul as she signs New York State's Fiscal Year 2027 Budget, including important protections for immigrant communities and funding for immigrant legal services.

Dear Friend,

Members of NYC faith communities have pushed hard for protections of our neighbors. The **Interfaith Center of New York** would like to celebrate **Governor Kathy Hochul's** role in the Fiscal Year 2027 state budget. While it fell short on **New York4All**, the Governor's and the New York Legislators' budget includes a strong immigrant protection package and some important limitations on the reach of federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Advocacy by faith leaders helped to make a difference, which is why the NYS budget as it stands offers important steps forward. Namely it prohibits local jails from holding individuals on behalf of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and bans formal agreements - known as 287(g) agreements - between local governments and ICE. The bill also prohibits ICE agents from wearing masks and protects sensitive locations — including hospitals, child care centers, schools, polling places and churches — from ICE enforcement activity without a judicial warrant. The package includes \$82.4 million for immigrant legal services and \$10 million for the **Office of New Americans**. ICNY thanks the Vice Chancellor of the **Episcopal Diocese of New York** and others for pushing the sensitive sites legislation.

Advocacy by faith leaders is making a difference at every level. In today's newsletter you will see an announcement for the an important advocacy initiative at **St. Bart's Episcopal Church** organized by ICNY ICLA fellow **Alexandra Coll**. Please join for postcard writing to our Congressional Delegation to make sure that our Federal Government's follows New York State's lead and protects EVERY House of Worship from incursion by ICE Officials.

This evening of post card writing will also include a congregational know your rights presentation by ICNY's Chief Council **Eugene Nam**. We invite you now to learn more about Eugene and **Hatou Camara**, two of our newest staff members, whose bios are below. You will be hearing more from each of them in the coming months and can greet them in person at ICNY's James Parks Morton Interfaith Award Dinner on June 15th! ([Tickets here.](#))

Finally, as you may have seen [in the news](#), detainees have have been on a hunger strike at **Delaney Hall** , where they have been harassed and attacked, family visitation cut off, and tablets and phones taken away. The demands of the hunger strikers are [here](#). If you are a faith leader and are able to go to Delaney Hall to participate in prayers, please do so. Faith in NJ is leading a service at 2pm and there will be another by 5. We invite you to please keep the detainees and their family members in prayer.

Sincerely,

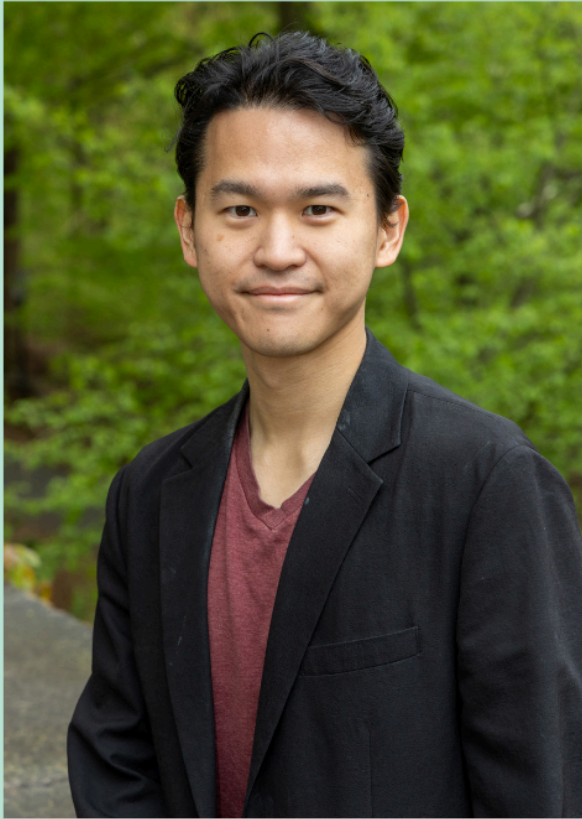
Chloe Breyer

The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer
ICNY Executive Director

[Donate](#)



NEW STAFF INTRODUCTIONS



Eugene Nam

Chief Counsel, Head of Special Programs:
Sanctuary Law, Policy, and Advocacy

Eugene is a human rights lawyer working to support and mobilize faith communities for social justice advocacy. Eugene also serves as the legal director and lead asylum lawyer for El Barrio Angels, a ministry of Church of St. Edward the Martyr in East Harlem, New York. Prior to joining the Interfaith Center, Eugene worked as an attorney at Everytown for Gun Safety. Eugene is a joint-degree graduate of Harvard Law School (J.D.) and Harvard Divinity School (M.Div.).



Hatou Camara

Migrant Outreach Coordinator

Hatou Camara is a proud Bronx native who strives to center the lived experiences of the vibrant and diverse faith communities across the city she calls home. She holds a bachelor's degree in Anthropology and Citizenship and Civic Engagement from Syracuse University, where her passion for immigration advocacy was born. Hatou previously worked for a Member of Congress, connecting residents to critical resources and supporting constituents navigating complex government systems. She has also worked to address housing discrimination through research and community outreach. At the Interfaith Center of New York, she coordinates access to legal services for asylum seekers while building partnerships with legal service organizations and houses of worship that support them. In her work, she aspires to advance immigrant justice through interfaith collaboration. In her free time, she enjoys spending quality time with family and staying engaged with current events.

ICNY PROGRAMS & EVENTS



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York



Pizza and Postcards to Protect Sensitive Locations from ICE Enforcement

Charles Schumer and Hakeem Jeffries

U.S. Senate and House of Representatives

Protect sacred spaces for all NYers!

Tuesday, June 2, 6 - 8 pm
Saint Bart's Episcopal Church
325 Park Ave. @ E. 51st St.

Take a Stand for the Newest New Yorkers

Pizza and Postcards to Protect Sensitive Locations

Tuesday, June 2, 6:00-8:00 PM

Saint Bart's Episcopal Church

325 Park Avenue @ East 51st St.

Please join ICNY and Saint Bart's Episcopal Church on Tuesday, June 2, for an evening of postcard writing and conversation in support of the federal **Protecting Sensitive Locations Act** (H.R. 1061 / S. 455). People of all faiths and none are welcome! Pizza dinner will be served.

This proposed federal legislation would prohibit immigration enforcement at places of worship, schools, hospitals, courthouses, and other sensitive locations. We're writing to Senator Chuck Schumer and Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, asking them to co-sponsor the legislation and protect our sacred spaces. The initiative is led by Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy fellow Alexandra Coll, and the evening will include a presentation by ICNY Chief Counsel Eugene Nam.

Click the button below to RSVP. If you can't make it on June 2, [click here for additional postcarding opportunities](#). Your voice can make the difference for New York's immigrant communities and sacred spaces!

All Are Welcome - Click Here to RSVP

THE EARTH CRIES OUT

A FAITH SUMMIT ON
CLIMATE & IMMIGRATION
JUSTICE

JUNE 17
9AM TO 5PM
THE RIVERSIDE
CHURCH



The Earth Cries Out: A Faith Summit on Immigration + Climate Justice

Wednesday, June 17th, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM ET

The Riverside Church

490 Riverside Drive

Join local faith and frontline leaders for this day-long summit at the intersection of climate, immigration, and race.

The climate and ecological crisis rages on, all the while ICE and the federal government continue to terrorize immigrant communities instead of investing in a future that protects the wellbeing and dignity of all people. Poor, Black, and brown neighborhoods bear the brunt of these interconnected injustices and state-sanctioned violence. This is a moral emergency.

Join faith leaders from across traditions and the five boroughs as we gather to name what is happening, draw on our deepest spiritual resources, and build the collective power needed to fight for a city that protects all people — regardless of race or immigration status.

More than just an informational session, this is a convening of the faithful. We will lift our voices in song and participate in embodied ritual together, because the work of justice is also the work of the spirit.

[Get Free Tickets](#)



James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards

honoring

Venerable Bhikkhu Paññākāra
and the 2025-2026 Walk for Peace

Commissioner Stanley Richards
New York City Department of Correction

monday, june 15, 2026

6:30 PM Cocktails | 7:30 PM Program & Dinner
Tribeca Rooftop | 2 Desbrosses Street, NYC

Semi-formal and traditional attire

To purchase tickets: www.interfaithcenter.org/gala; 212-870-3511

Reserve Your Spot Now

2026 James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards

Monday, June 15th, 2026, 6:30 PM

Tribeca Rooftop, Manhattan

Early congratulations to this year's recipients of **ICNY's James Parks Morton Interfaith Award: Venerable Bhikkhu Paññākāra** and **Commissioner Stanley Richards**, whom we will celebrate in June at the Tribeca Rooftop.

To purchase tickets, become a sponsor, or to learn more about our honorees, head to www.interfaithcenter.org/gala.

(For those that are newer to our mailing list and our work and who might like to see photos of past events, please click [here](#). We would love to welcome you this June. Please note that tickets must be purchased in advance in order to secure your seat.)

We remain grateful to those who have sponsored and purchased tickets to date and look forward to celebrating with you this June. If you or your guest requires a kosher meal, please send an email to jonill@interfaithcenter.org by June 1 so the venue can prepare accordingly.

[Tickets and Tables](#)

OTHER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

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



DELANY HALL

— CALLING ALL CLERGY —

— PLEASE JOIN US —

PRAYER VIGILS

Today!

MAY 29, 2025



TODAY
2:00 P.M.



TODAY
5:30 P.M.

Please come and join us in prayer,
lifting up those on the hunger and work strike.



“Love your neighbor as yourself.”

– Mark 12:31



Make Your Voice Heard in City Budgeting

Vote in The People's Money

Through June 21st

Online

Vote in The People's Money through June 21!

\$4 million. 5 boroughs. 20 projects. The People's Money — the Civic Engagement Commission's citywide participatory budgeting process — is now in its Voting phase! Through June 21, all New Yorkers age 11 and up, regardless of immigration status, can vote on how to spend \$4 million dollars of city funding in their borough. All project ideas came directly from New Yorkers — now it's your chance to help decide which ones become reality!

You don't have to wait to make a difference! Vote online at [this link](https://on.nyc.gov/pb).

Details and Link to Vote



AFRIKANA



LaunchGood

TOGETHER, WE CAN REBUILD DAROU SALAM

A devastating fire has damaged Masjid Darou Salam. Now Masjid Darou Salam needs you to help them recover and continue serving.



IF WE CAN GET
2,000 PEOPLE
TO DONATE \$10 TODAY



\$10

EACH



\$20,000

IN TOTAL DONATIONS



COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE BY 7:00PM EST TODAY AND IF WE REACH **\$2,000**, LAUNCHGOOD WILL MATCH IT!

TOTAL IMPACT:
\$4,000



IF WE GET THE MOST SUPPORTERS TODAY WE WILL WIN AN

ADDITIONAL \$20,000 PRIZE!

TOTAL IMPACT:
\$24,000



RAISE THE MOST ON THE PLATFORM TODAY OR HAVE THE MOST SUPPORTERS BY 7:00PM EST TO WIN

\$20,000!

Community Comes First and Afrikana have partnered with Masjid Darou Salam each Ramadan these past years to serve thousands of asylum seekers.

LET'S COME TOGETHER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE THAT LASTS.



Your \$10 can help restore hope, rebuild our masjid, and ensure we can continue serving those who need us most.



TOGETHER, LET'S REBUILD DAROU SALAM TODAY
launchgood.com/darousalam

Donate to a Faith Community in Need

Help Restore Masjid Darou Salam Islamic Community After Devastating Fire

Ongoing Online

A devastating fire completely destroyed Masjid Darou Salam Islamic Community. Now, we need the community to come together and help them recover so they can continue serving families across the city.

Darou Salam has been a pillar of their community to provide essential services to newly arrived migrants and families in need. Now it's our turn to support them.

Every supporter counts. Every share helps.

Donate and share today at the link below.

Donate and Share



Book Talk on Queer Identities Within Christianity

Queer & Christian : Pride Eve Book Talk

Sunday, 5/31, 1:30-3:00 PM

The Riverside Church - South Hall

490 Riverside Drive

Join us on Pride Eve for an evening of joy, liberation, and holy celebration with Rev. Brandon Robertson as we explore his book *Queer & Christian*. Together, we will celebrate the beauty, resilience, and sacred worth of Queer identities within Christianity, reclaiming the truth that

Queerness is not something to apologize for, hide, or overcome, but something to honor openly and unapologetically.

Through conversation, reflection, and community, this Pride Eve gathering invites us to imagine a faith rooted not in shame or exclusion, but in radical love, authenticity, and belonging. Whether you are Queer, questioning, affirming, or simply longing for a more expansive vision of Christianity, this event is an invitation to rejoice in the many ways God's image shines through human diversity.

Come ready to celebrate and affirm together that Queer joy is holy, Queer love is sacred, and there is room at the table for all of who we are. Light refreshments will be served.

[Event Website](#)

CASH FOR GUNS

**Saturday,
June 13, 2026
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

NO QUESTIONS ASKED!

- \$500** Prepaid card for operable handguns and assault rifles
- \$200** Prepaid card for ghost guns or 3D printed guns
- \$75** Prepaid card for operable rifles and shotguns
- \$25** Prepaid card for air guns, non-operable guns, and imitation pistols

No current or retired law
enforcement

Payment subject to inspection
by NYPD Specialist

3 guns total limit per participant

2 ghost / 3D printed gun limit per
participant



**Drop-off Site:
Central Baptist Church
166 W 92nd Street
New York, NY, 10025**

Sponsored by:



**CENTRAL
BAPTIST CHURCH**
LOVING • LEARNING • LEADING • LIVING

Upper West Side Gun Buyback

Cash for Guns Trade-In

Saturday, June 13, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Central Baptist Church

166 W 92nd Street

Frequently Asked Questions:

Do I need identification to surrender a gun?

- No. Absolutely, no identification is required.

How do I bring a gun to the drop off site?

- Gun must be placed in a plastic or paper bag or box.

Can I transport the gun in a car?

- If transporting the gun by car, the gun must be transported in the trunk of the car.

When do I get the prepaid card?

- After the gun is inspected by a department specialist.

How many guns can I surrender?

- You may surrender as many guns as you wish, but you will only receive payment for up to three guns for a maximum payment of \$1,500. There is a 2 ghost gun limit per participant.

Is there a phone number I can call for more information?

- Yes. You may call 347-749-2306 for more information.

Can any member of the public surrender a gun?

- Yes. (Active or retired law enforcement officers and licensed gun dealers are not eligible to participate in the program.)

Can I have someone surrender the gun on my behalf?

- Yes, someone else can surrender the gun on your behalf.
-

[DONATE](#)

Follow Us



© 2022 The Interfaith Center of New York

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it in your web browser](#)

[Unsubscribe](#) or [Manage Your Preferences](#)