

***JUST** a bit*

Your friends in the Parish and Social Justice Ministries Department at Catholic Charities would like to share ***JUST a bit*** of information with you regarding justice and advocacy issues, opportunities and/or events that might be of interest. Please feel free to send any feedback to the attention of Colleen Smith, Communications Associate of Parish and Social Justice Ministries, Catholic Charities Inc. at csmith@archatl.com. Thank you.

TAKE ACTION NOW – A conference committee will reach consensus on the reauthorization of the **Farm Bill (H.R. 2419)** by April 15. The bill sets U.S. policy in key areas that affect domestic farmers, food producers and consumers, farmers in developing countries and the hungry throughout the world. A struggle between Congress and the administration over the bill's price tag has delayed the five-year reauthorization measure for several months now. Send a message to your Member of Congress urging them to support the CRS position on the Farm bill by visiting the [Action Center](#).

ADORE Ministries: 2007 TOUR – April 9, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Atlanta. ADORE Ministries invites you to join them and gather for an evening of powerful praise and worship along with a presentation that makes clear how relevant the gospel message remains today. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and tickets are \$15.00. To order tickets, e-mail 2097touratlanta@gmail.com. Visit 2097touratlanta@gmail.com for complete information.

Bioneers Southeast Forum – April 11-13, 2008 at the Interdenominational Theological Center. The forum celebrates positive solutions from across the Southeast in a local effort to forge a new vision for a better future for our community. At this three-day event, attendees and presenters will explore issues ranging from religion and the environment to social justice and green jobs. Attendees will be students and teachers, farmers and healers, priests and entrepreneurs, journalists and artists, business executives and mothers. More information: www.inspiringfutures.org or **678.608.3408**.

Catholic Charities 2nd Annual Spirituality in Aging Partnership Series: *Why Spiritual Care Matters* – Tuesday, April 22, 2008 from 9am to 3:30pm at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 731 Peachtree St. NE. This workshop will help participants define spiritual caregiving and identify effective ways to connect to the spirit of the elder as well as their own. Keynote Speaker, Nancy

L. Kriseman, L.C.S.W. Recognized National Speaker and Author. **Pre-registration if required** by Tuesday, April 8. Contact Regina Harris at rharris@archatl.com or **404.885.7449**. \$10.00 registration includes lunch & materials; \$20.00 registration includes lunch, materials and 4 CEUs.

BEHOLD: Peace in the Holy Land Speakers Tour – April 24 through 29, 2008 at various locations in Georgia. Two members of the **Parents Circle Families Forum**, an Israeli and a Palestinian who have both lost family members to the violence, are committed to working for a peaceful resolution to the conflict and will be speaking at various venues throughout the Archdiocese of Atlanta. **April 24 – Saint Joseph Macon 7-9pm, April 25- University of GA Catholic Center Athens 7-9pm, April 26- Saint Jude the Apostle Church Atlanta 2-4pm, April 27- Saint Brendan the Navigator Cumming 6:30-8pm, April 28- Holy Spirit Church Atlanta 10:30am-12pm, April 29- the Carter Center 7-9pm.** This speaker tour is sponsored by Catholic Relief Services, the official overseas relief and development agency of the US Catholic church. For more information please contact Catholic Relief Services SE regional office at **404.681.4600** or e-mail sblancha@crs.org.

From Memphis to Atlanta: *The Drum Major Returns Home* – An exhibition in remembrance of Dr. King’s assassination forty years ago. It re-examines the final days of Dr. King’s life as he journeyed to Memphis campaigning on behalf of sanitation workers. The exhibition will be displayed at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, Visitor Center, 450 Auburn Avenue, April 4-August 31. Admission is free. The site is open 7 days a week, 9 AM-5 PM (6 PM June 8-August 16). For more information call **404.331.5190** or visit www.nps.gov/malu

Mother’s Day with Pregnancy, Parenting & Adoption Program – Do something special for a new mother this year and donate to the Pregnancy Parenting & Adoption Program of Catholic Charities Inc. in honor of someone you love. This donation will assist a new mother with her most basic and essential needs. For more information please contact Sheila Smith at 404.885.7467 or at ssmith@archatl.com.

SAVE THE DATE: The 22nd Annual Social Action Summer Institute – July 20 – 25, 2008 at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta, Georgia. Receive foundational training on social justice and how to implement Catholic Social Teaching in your parishes. More information about the conference and scholarship opportunities for active parishioners in the Archdiocese of Atlanta to come.

For comprehensive federal legislative updates and action alerts, please visit the legislative action sites of Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services listed below.

CC USA – <http://capwiz.com/catholiccharitiesusa/home/> and

CRS – http://actioncenter.crs.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ac_homepage for advocacy for issues in support of our brothers and sisters worldwide.