

MAY 2026

The UN & YOU

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AT A GLANCE

- A Letter to Mother Seton
- Migration & Nuclear Proliferation Treaty
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From the NGO Desk



A Letter to Mother Seton



Earlier this year, I was invited to join the Sisters of Charity Federation Board for their meeting in Cincinnati. In addition to sharing updates on our ministry at the United Nations, I was also blessed to join them in prayer.

Before the meetings concluded, we were invited to pray to our congregation's Founder or Foundress. I took this opportunity to pray to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, inspired by the strong Setonian roots of the Sisters in Cincinnati and the Leaders present.

I would like to share my prayer with you in this month's newsletter. I invite you to ponder along with me some of the questions I raise to Mother Seton, and as you consider her answer, join me in wondering how this impacts us now as a Federation at this point in our human history.

What might the Holy Spirit be calling us to do and to be?

Here is my prayerful letter to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Thank you for the opportunity to share this with you.



Dear Mother Seton,

I wonder what you thought of America when you were alive, and in leadership. I wonder how you felt about our leaders then when you saw such poverty and injustice. We know, by your example and legacy, you saw gaps and brought together others to fill them, especially around the education of children and those living in poverty.

I wonder what you would think of America today, and I guess more importantly, what you would do. How would you engage not just with the local community, but also with the world? How would you use technology to unite, to educate, to form, and to love? How would you be in relationship with the powerful, those who divide us, those who hate.

I wonder what you would say if you spoke to the UN General Assembly? How would you challenge them? Would their hearts be moved? Would the realities of those in poverty begin to change? I wonder, and struggle at times, how I can do this as well as you would.

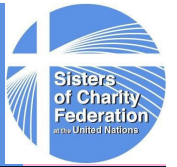
I find a glimpse of the answers to these questions in those who I spent the last few days with, who live and shine your legacy and charism. I see such resilience, passion, faith. How I hope to be like them, to be like you.

I am so grateful to be among them, and too, I pray, have an impact as they do and as you did. In a time that is so dark, thank you for this light.

I am not sure how much time I will have on this earth, and I certainly pray it is longer than what the odds indicate, but no matter the answer, may this time be used well to leave this world a little better than we find it today. May others, by this ministry, have their human rights and human dignity upheld, and know of God's unconditional love for them.

Finally, please pray for me and for us, especially those we serve and love.

Migration



IMRF Takes Center Stage



Early this May, Member States from around the world adopted a Political Declaration at the close of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) at the United Nations Headquarters. The declaration, negotiated by United Nations Member States, reaffirms the international community's commitment to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), reviews progress made so far, and outlines priorities for future action. These include labor rights, legal identity for migrants, strengthening safe and regular migration pathways, saving lives and working with States and stakeholders along key migration routes.

You can read the Political Declaration [here](#). The next IMRF is scheduled for 2030.

Nuclear Weapons



Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

From late April until mid-May, Member States met to protect the [Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty](#) (NPT). The NPT is a landmark international treaty whose objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general

and complete disarmament. The Treaty represents the only binding commitment in a multilateral treaty to the goal of disarmament by the nuclear-weapon States.

The European Leadership Network produced a [collection of commentaries](#) by experts in the field. It offers a variety of perspectives as global leaders address nuclear realities during this crucial time in history.

The NPT is occurring as the United States and Israel wage in war with Iran over their nuclear capabilities, and only two months after the [New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty](#) (New START) between the United States and Russia expired. You can read more about the NPT [here](#).

New UN Secretary General



Letter from Catholic Religious NGOs

As the election process for the New Secretary General of the United Nation is [underway](#), Catholic Faith-Based NGOs at the UN penned a letter to the candidates.

The Sisters of Charity Federation joined 18 other Catholic NGOs in calling for moral leadership that defends human rights and our planet. You can read the full letter [here](#).

Reach Out



Let's Stay Connected

For questions, feedback, article ideas, or story contributions, email JWalters@sistersofcharityfederation.org **and we'll be in touch.**

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