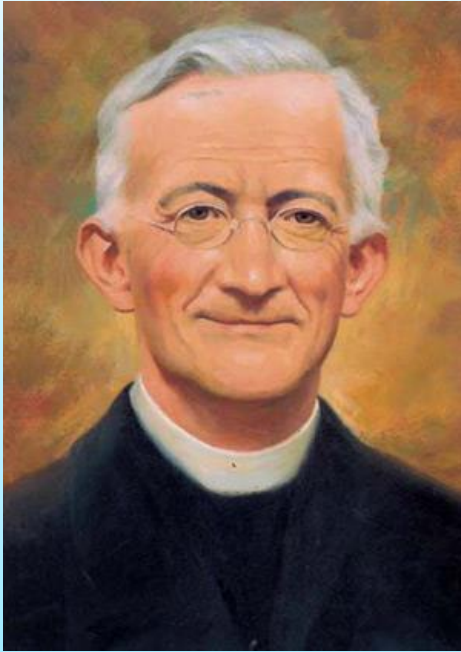


ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF LEO JOHN DEHON



the Heart of Jesus

is overflowing with COMPASSION
for all those who suffer;
those beset by troubles,
difficulties, and hardships;
the toilers, the destitute,
and the sick and infirm.
His is the Heart of a Father,
The Heart of a Mother,
The Heart of a Shepherd.

Today we celebrate the memory of Leo John Dehon.

We recall his passionate devotion to the heart of the Savior and his dedication to the rule of God's justice in hearts and societies everywhere.

SCRIPTURE

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

The Gospel of the Lord. R: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



From Letter of Heiner Wilmer, SCJ Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus June 2016

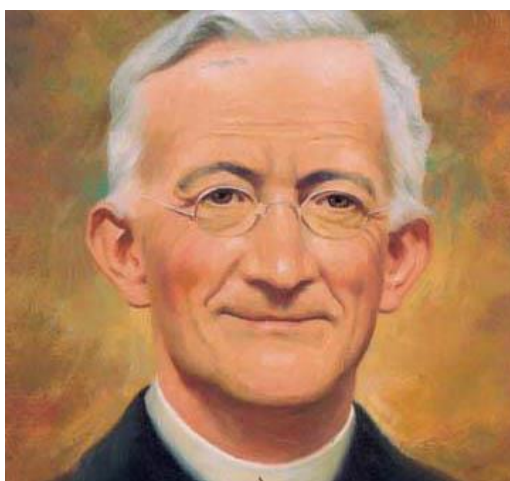
TALK IS NOT ENOUGH – ACT AS COMMUNITIES

“In light of the historical significance of today’s refugee situation Pope Francis urges religious communities to welcome migrants into their monasteries and structures. Preaching is not enough. Talking is not enough. It is a matter of providing refugees, migrants, and expatriates with a roof: shared time and space. Following through on this notion is not something new for the congregation. On the contrary, it forms part of the history of our foundation. Leo Dehon was involved in the issue of European migrants who left during the 19th century for the “New World” of Canada, the United States, Brazil, Argentina and Australia – and not just in his writings. In 1913, Fr. Dehon wrote that it would be good to accompany European migrants with missionaries. Earlier (1889-1899) he was asked about creating an institute for emigrants at Clairefontaine. At a meeting held in Louvain in 1899, two options were selected for involving the Dutch confreres who were experiencing rapid growth: “initiate a school at Sittard or establish a resource center for emigrants at Rotterdam.”

Every province (and region and district) should have at least one project in which members are involved in a special way with migrants. Our houses should be open. Our confreres should have the time to accompany persons on their journey through life, listen to them, freed from any discrimination of social class, or caste, or race. We believe it is important that each member experience in his own skin what it is like to be a foreigner, to be a stranger among strangers.

CREATIVE RESPONSE

In our parishes, schools, universities, in education and formation institutes, in our social works, in whatever areas that we have influence on public opinion, for example, in our media outlets and publications, let us make migration our theme. We are convinced that every confrere can do something. Every community has an opportunity to do something creative. Every institution and every work can contribute in some particular manner to the demands and needs that result from migration. At the same time, in every community where we live, in every institution where we work, we can make evident the opportunities and benefits that arise from migration.”



march 14th
birth of Fr. Dehon



Recent Episcopal Statements on Immigration Policies



UNITED STATES

Texas

Statement of Cardinal DiNardo of the Archdiocese **Houston-Galveston**: <http://bit.ly/2ne5yaT>

Statement of Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, MSPS, of the Archdiocese **San Antonio**:
<http://bit.ly/2nmLsuD>

Statement from Catholic Charities of San Antonio: <http://bit.ly/2mPLIFM>

Statement of Border Bishops' of Texas and Mexico: <http://bit.ly/2m4X2xB>

Illinois

Statement of Cardinal Cupich of the Archdiocese of **Chicago, Ill**: <http://bit.ly/2mPzSLW>

Statement from Catholic Charities of Chicago: <http://bit.ly/2mrjqP4>

Mississippi

Statement of Bishop Joseph Kopacz, of the Diocese of **Jackson, MS**:
<http://jacksondiocese.org/2017/01/3520/> (short video); statement opposing bill to outlaw
Sanctuary Cities: <http://bit.ly/2ndRrT4>

Florida

Statement of Bishop Parkes of the Diocese of **St. Petersburg, FL**: <http://www.dosp.org/wp-content/uploads/2017-Prayers-for-Migrants-and-Refugees-for-Parishes.pdf>

Wisconsin

Statement of Archbishop ListECKI, of the Archdiocese of **Milwaukee, Wisc**: <http://bit.ly/2maWAu9>

CANADA

Letter of Canadian Council of Churches General Secretary to Minister of Immigration
regarding refugees [Letter of the Canadian Council of Churches](#)

Letter of President of Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. [Letter of Bishop Crosby](#)

REFLECTION:

From your experience and from what you have just read, how is God speaking to you/ what is stirring within your heart?

What is one action that you can undertake and that your community can do locally?

What is one action that we North American Dehonians can do?

OUR FATHER:

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God of peace and reconciliation, be with us as we remember our founder, Leo John Dehon. Encourage us to follow his vision and carry it forward to new times and places. This day, with Fr. Dehon's example before us, we want to discover anew our lives and our goals in the open heart of Jesus, your Son. Guide us with your loving hand. We make this prayer through the same Christ, your Son. Amen

SIGN OF PEACE



RESOURCES

“This Day of God” Community Prayer, Priests of the Sacred Heart, US Province