



EYE ON JUSTICE

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**SISTERS AND ASSOCIATES
ST. JOSEPH OF LYON/ WINSLOW**

“FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD”

OUR JUSTICE PRIORITIES FOR 2011-2013

Our Lyon International Justice & Peace Commission reminds us that Justice and Peace is an integral part of our Mission and Charism. Since the United Nations at the turn of the century pledged to promote the Millennium Development Goals by the year 2015, we have only five years to go. Progress reports reveal that at current trends, most countries will not meet many of these goals. For this reason our International Justice & Peace Commission again chose three of these MDGs as our justice priorities, namely to build just relationships and work proactively in partnership at all levels towards the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and care for the environment.

- Working together we could seek ways to change oppressive structures, especially those that oppress women.
- Eliminating poverty could start with our living more simpler lifestyles.
- Seeking personal ways of reducing our carbon footprints could be one way of protecting the environment.

Wouldn't it be interesting if somehow we could share our ideas of living these priorities, giving one another more ideas? We have the means of promoting our priorities.

**JUSTICE AND PEACE TEAM : Robert & Nancy Hurd, David Champion,
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THE PERFECT STORM

Income in America is now more concentrated in fewer hands than it's been in 80 years. Almost a quarter of total income generated is going to 1% of Americans. These are the top executives of big corporations, hedge-fund managers and private equity managers.

The second part of the perfect storm is that a relatively few Americans are buying our democracy as never before, and doing this completely in secret. Hundreds of millions of dollars, laundered through a handful of groups, are pouring into advertisements without a trace of where the money is coming from.

The third part is that most Americans are in trouble. Their jobs, incomes, savings and even homes are on the line. They need a government that is working for them, not for the privileged and powerful.

Our conscientious vote is more important than ever!

“THERE IS NO “THEM” BUT ONLY A GLOBAL “US”.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Both nationally and in Maine, domestic violence is the most common cause of injury. It exceeds the number of auto accidents, muggings and rape combined. In Maine, where domestic violence is a leading cause of homicide, an estimated 60,000 women are abused annually, and a crime of domestic violence is reported, on average, every 96 minutes. And much of this violence goes unreported. Between one-third and one half of the murders in Maine each year result from domestic violence, and most chillingly, the most dangerous time for a victim is when they decide to leave the relationship.

Fortunately, Maine has a wonderful network of agencies to help victims of domestic violence, the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence. If you suspect someone is in an abusive relationship, tell them about the Abused women's advocacy Project. If you can see signs, the reality of the situation is probably much worse. See www.awap.org.