

M. Rev. Cait Finnegan, OMC

Abbess, The Order of the Merciful Christ

*Bishop, St. Ciaran's Jurisdiction of
The Celtic Christian Church*

Sacred Stone Spirit Camp

October 27, 2016

Dear Members and Friends of The Celtic Christian Church,

The distressing news that greets us each day about the continue disregard for the rights of the citizens of this country, and particularly the Water Protectors who have managed to unite the First Nations of this land for the first time in history, cannot go ignored by people of conscience, and particularly by people of Faith. Our Celtic Christian Faith, with its historic and renowned respect for all creation, demands action on our part to protect this gift from our Creator, given in love and entrusted to us.

We in The Celtic Christian Church are scattered, and we are a diverse people ethnically, while embracing Celtic Christian values and spirituality. Several of our ordained clergy and members are part Native American, and I personally cannot pretend to be their bishop and say and do nothing about the flagrant disregard for respect of their own brothers and sisters. Beyond that obvious connection, we are all in this together as we've seen the results over and over of our waters being polluted by the greed which ignores the cost to humans and all creatures who depend upon fresh water, and the growth it allows.

The US Government, and the United Nations have been informed and are well aware that the Dakota Access Pipeline has blatantly violated the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, ILO 169, the Laramie Treaty of 1868, unresolved Ihunktonwana Land Claim Docket 74A and most importantly our Mother Earth. Some are called to work on the legalities of this claim, but all of us, as Christians are called to care for the needs that will challenge the Water Protectors this Winter, and we CAN DO SO, both individually and as a Church community-- which declares each day how we reverence this beautiful Earth.

Native American spirituality and Celtic Christian spirituality are extremely close in this reverence, just as we find in Franciscan spirituality and others, as well as in non-Christian spiritualities, there is a unity in our belief that creation is entrusted to us. We are reminded of this by popes and prophets! We have our Mother Earth over which we can unite, regardless of our theologies explaining and expressing our Faith in our Creator. Now is the time.

I ask you to examine your own conscience in this grave matter facing our country now, but also facing our Earth. Consider what you can do, what you can give to alleviate the distress this Winter will surely bring. In Charity, inspired by our Faith, I ask that we act with MERCY NOW, and gather, and collect, and spread the word that generosity can save lives this Winter, and the lives saved are there to try to save all of us.

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Until these pipelines burst in major cities and in or under rivers and lakes near them, and until the fracking for oil destroys larger towns or cities and their water supplies disrupting the lives of urbanites and the wealthy, it is left to the rural American population, and others with the foresight to care, to decide that enough is enough.

Celtic Christians profess great love and respect for creation as the gift of God, and a belief that God permeates all creation. Let us pull together in our limited way to help our Native American brothers and sisters who are bearing witness to that same love and respect we profess.

WINTER IS COMING! We joke about that phrase because of the popular TV series watched by many. This year, it is no joking matter. Those Water Protectors who are committed to praying for the transformation of this entire situation will freeze to death in the sub-zero weather conditions normal in North Dakota. They have listed the many things they will need to survive this Winter. Practical needs are listed below.

Volunteers with trucks to deliver such items would be wonderful. In lieu of that individual packages, supplies, cash, or check donations can be sent to:

**Sacred Stone Camp
P.O. Box 1011
Fort Yates, ND 58538**

If you can donate to the camp or legal fundraisers:

You can donate money electronically by visiting their donation pages:

[Sacred Stone Camp Fund: https://www.gofundme.com/sacredstonecamp](https://www.gofundme.com/sacredstonecamp)

[Legal Fund https://fundrazr.com/d19fAf?ref=sh_25rPQa](https://fundrazr.com/d19fAf?ref=sh_25rPQa)

Or use: **Paypal:**



During this holy season of Samhain, All Saints and All Souls Days, we remember our ancestors. Let us hear and be inspired by them now as our Native American brothers and sisters are hearing theirs speak, and let us come together to do our small part to heal and preserve our Earth, and each other.

With my prayer for unity in our diversity and prompted by our Merciful Christ, I thank you for considering this most charitable project together.

God bless the work!

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Keep current through Facebook: [I Stand With Standing Rock](#)
OR

Keep up with the official website:
standwithstandingrock.net

THE CURRENT NEEDS AND THOSE FOR THIS WINTER

They have a surplus of clothes and are only seeking very warm, good condition coats.

Please be aware that they only have limited solar and wind power at the camps.

TOP NEEDS

- FIREWOOD (PREFERABLY OAK, MAPLE, ASH)
- TIPIS/TIPI POLES/TIPI LINERS FOR WINTER
- PICK-UP TRUCK W/ 4 WHEEL DRIVE
- TRAILERS/CAMPERS (FOR WINTER SHELTERS)
- SNOW TIRES - VARIOUS SIZES
- GIFT CARDS FOR LOWES OR MENARDS (THERE IS NO HOME DEPOT NEARBY)
- TENTS
- SHIPPING CONTAINER 20 FT
- SLEEPING BAGS FOR SUBZERO TEMPERATURES (INC. MILITARY STYLE)

FULL SUPPLY LIST

- AIR TANK
- BANNERS, SHEETS (WE LOVE IT WHEN YOU MAKE BANNERS AND SEND THEM TO US!)
- BATTERY PACKS FOR CHARGING PHONES
- CANVAS - HEAVY DUTY ONLY PLEASE
- CAR PORTS
- CARTS AND WHEELBARROWS FOR HAULING WOOD
- CIGARETTES-MARLBORO REDS AND CAMELS
- COME ALONGS
- FIREWOOD (PREFERABLY OAK, MAPLE, ASH) <<< THIS IS ONE OF OUR BIGGEST WINTER NEEDS
- FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
- FUEL TANKS
- FUR BLANKETS

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- **GAS CARDS**
- **GAS GENERATORS**
- **GIFT CARDS - LOWES/MENARDS, AMAZON, VERIZON**
- **INSULATED CARHARTT TYPE COVERALLS, OVERALLS, COATS**
- **LIGHTERS**
- **MATERIAL FOR TOBACCO TIES (ALL COLORS)**
- **MONEY**
- **PAINT (INC. SPRAY PAINT)**
- **PICK UP TRUCK**
- **POWER INVERTER**
- **PROPANE HEATERS (SMALL)**
- **ROPES, TIE DOWNS**
- **SHIPPING CONTAINER 20 FT**
- **SLEEPING BAGS (FOR 0 DEGREES F AND LOWER - PLEASE NO WARM WEATHER BAGS AT THIS TIME)**
- **SNOWMOBILES**
- **SNOW TIRES (INQUIRE FOR SIZES)**
- **SOLAR CHARGERS FOR ELECTRONIC DEVICES**
- **SOLAR PANELS, INVERTER**
- **STORAGE BINS - HEAVY DUTY - ALL SIZES**
- **TARPS - HEAVY DUTY ONLY**
- **TIRE CHAINS**
- **TENTS (THAT CAN STAND UP TO HIGH WINDS, SNOW, SUBZERO TEMPS)**
- **THERMAL BED ROLLS**
- **TIPIS AND TIPI POLES**
- **TIPI LINERS FOR WINTER**
- **TOW STRAPS**
- **WALKIE TALKIES WITH LONG RANGE, CB RADIOS**
- **WATER BUFFALO (TANK)**
- **WATER TANK WITH HEATER**
- **WINTER COATS (FOR VERY COLD TEMPS, GOOD CONDITION ONLY PLEASE)**
- **WINTER SALT FOR ROADS**
- **WOOD STOVES (MOSTLY SMALL ONES FOR TIPIS)**
- **YOUNG WARRIORS!!**