Chapter Commitment Monthly Focus

In the Spirit of our Foundress Nano Nagle, Presentation Sisters and Associates commit ourselves to address the needs of women and children, especially as they are impacted by economic, environmental and racial inequity.

THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF CHAPTER COMMITMENTS AND LAUDATO SI ACTION PLATFORM

In our Chapter of July 2021, Presentation sisters and associates committed ourselves to address the needs of women and children as they are impacted by economic, environmental and racial inequity.

In November of 2021, we made a commitment to respond to Pope Francis’ call to participate in a seven-year journey toward sustainability and integral ecology through the Laudato Si Action Platform and its seven goals.

This past assembly we spend time pondering the concept of intersectionality. The interconnected nature of our two commitments is expressed in the following:

RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH: A call to protect our common home
- Installation of solar panels
- Planting of trees
- Installation of LED lighting
- Introduction of a composting program
- Reduction in the use of “single use plastic”
- Education and advocacy regarding the southern boarder and the plight of migrants

RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE POOR: A call to promote eco-justice
- Support local food pantries through service
- Conducted several food drives
- Adopted disadvantaged families at Thanksgiving and Christmas
- Provided supplies for mothers and babies
- Ongoing support for the Haitian Project
- Worked with the local Catholic Charities to provide school supplies
- Began the work to house a disadvantaged family on our property

ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS: The economy is a sub-system of human society
- Studied issues of food insecurity and the effects of poor nutrition on children
- Supported and continued work on our community garden
- Studied soil and its proper use
- Planned support and participation in the Urban Farm and Food Initiative
- Studied the effects of implicit racial bias and how it affects the placement of hazardous waste materials and chemical plants in neighborhoods where people of color and low income live
- Joined local organizations in advocacy against Dannskamer Electric Plant and Indian Point toxic waste disposal
ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE LIFE STYLES: Promoting the idea of sufficiency and sobriety in the use of resources and energy
- Promotion of “Meatless Monday”
- Studied the effect of food waste related to carbon production
- Examined our use of cars and driving policies
- Encouraged a reflection on our personal and communal budgets
- Encouraged downsizing and contributing excess to thrift stores

ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION: Re-designing and re-thinking curricular and institutional reform in the spirit of integral ecology to foster ecological awareness
- Offering ministry grants to support local programs
- Offering monthly resources to sisters and associates on critical issues for reading, viewing and advocacy
- Publicizing weekly statements on Laudato Si and care for the environment
- Encouraging and supporting associates who are involved in educational settings by sharing ecological awareness and practices
- Learning about local programs such as Outdoor Promise (tree planting) and the Environmental Justice Fellowship for our younger associates

ECOLOGICAL SPIRITUALITY: A profound ecological spirituality that helps us to discover God in all things
- Celebration for the Feast of St. Francis
- Celebration of the Season of Creation
- Earth Day prayer
- Blessing of trees and solar panels
- Preparing for a celebration in June based on Indigenous People and care of our bioregion of the lower Hudson Valley and River
- Publishing weekly reminders on Earth and its care

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT: Envisioning a synodal journey of community engagement and participatory action
- Supporting and participating, through advocacy, with organizations such as Riverkeeper, Scenic Hudson, ROAR
- Membership in the Climate Reality Project
- Leadership networking with religious congregations in our area

To ponder: How and where do I live and see the interconnectedness of our Chapter Commitment and the goals of the Laudato Si Action Platform?

Action: Attend June 4 Earth Committee presentation on Laudato Si from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Mt. St. Joseph, New Windsor, New York.