

SCNY Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation November 2014 Update



Entering the Transforming Future: JPIC Ministry in the Coming Age of Religious Life.

From November 11-13, 150 Justice Promoters from different women religious congregations met in Cleveland to discuss the above heading. Keynote speaker, Marie Dennis from Pax Christi USA spoke of the inter-connectedness of the many issues we face and of our place as humans in the

universe and the existential threats that connect economics, trade, poverty, consumerism and the tidal wave of violence. Marie called us to acknowledge and act on key beliefs: 1) growth dependent on using resources must be transformed into respect for the carrying capacities of earth, ensuring social justice and respect for all; 2) cosmic consciousness has to affect all we do; 3) and, peace requires a deep respect for the rhythms of the universe. Marie's second talk reminded us about the resources we have:

- Our experience of exploring cosmic consciousness together
- Our connection to marginalized people
- Our witness to living in community
- Our dealing with corporate structures
- Our excellent communication skills
- Our credibility
- Our creativity and imagination
- Our practice of prophetic action
- Our global networks
- Our hope

Open Space topics that emerged were:

- Rethinking theology
- Immigration
- Human Trafficking
- Connecting the dots: Mapping JPIC around the country and the world
- Integrating Principles of Cosmology into JPIC work
- Divestment- Investment and Climate Solutions
- Reimagining Women in the Church

There were eight Transformation talks about the work of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation. The last day ***some insights, challenges and opportunities that surfaced were:***

- 1) Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation are constitutive of religious life.
- 2) Develop an immigration statement from this group to be sent to elected officials and to President Obama. Shantha, a Network staff member, videoed statements supporting President Obama's taking executive action for immigrants. Network will send these to legislators.
- 3) We recognize the importance of bringing contemplative cosmological consciousness into all that we do for JPIC.
- 4) We initiated efforts to use technology to share the many works that we are engaged in and to create a strong wave of advocacy that will have an impact on our world.

Thank you to Sr. Alice Marie Giordano, OSU, my traveling companion, who wrote above piece.

This Thanksgiving We Give Thanks! As Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation Director, I wish to acknowledge and give thanks for the many ways sisters, associates, individually and through groups participate in a peace, justice and integrity of creation ministry. Special thanks to the chairs and members of our Task Forces. We are grateful for who you are and how you keep alive the charism of charity: Mary Donagher and Regina Murphy (Global Poverty Task Force with its committees – Alternate Investments, International Debt Relief, Food and Water and Local Poverty); Mary Ellen O’Boyle (Human Trafficking); Wilda Asfour and Eileen Judge (Immigration); and, Carol De Angelo and Claire Regan (Creation’s Transformative Energy). There are many ways we respond to Pope Francis’ call to live the joy of the gospel and be protectors of all God’s creation. Some recent happenings I am aware of:

*Sisters transitioning to life at Jewish Home Life Care and the companions that accompany them. Thank you for witnessing grace, faith and courage during change and uncertainty and creating an atmosphere of welcome, peace and hospitality.

*Campus-wide recycling program at College of Mount Saint Vincent. Thank you to Kevin DeGroat, his staff and the CMSV community for caring for Earth and future generations in such a practical way.

*NYF Accompaniment Program with Minors. Thank you to Bill Baccaglioni and staff who are putting into practice the 2011 Assembly Directive to address immigrant needs.

*Sisters and Associates whose personal and communal prayer is intentional and focused on global and local needs. E.g., in Eucharist, joining with the one Body of Christ – all God’s Creation – human and non-human; local communities who use a world map, an Earth Ball or a newspaper article during prayer to lay hands on and remember different parts of the world.

*Sisters and Associates who advocate and stand with people and the Earth when they make their voice heard to legislators and public leaders through letters, electronic postcards, etc. At the November 15 Congregation Day we signed letters and postcards advocating fair and just international food relief and no to family detention.

*The Convent of Mary the Queen hosted the November 8 Pax Christi Metro NY Fall Assembly in which six Sisters of Charity participated. Sr. Teresita Duque, a faithful PCMNY member, was able to be present.



We are called to live the good news, to bring peace, justice and integrity of creation – into our small part of the world and thus out into the larger cosmos. Let me know of ways you or others live the way of peace, justice and integrity of creation. *Carol De Angelo, SC, PJIC Director, November 2014*