

PJIC Office Update to Congregation – September 2015
SCNY, Sponsored Ministries, and Colleagues bring Laudato Si' to life!



Contemplation and Elder Wisdom – Sisters at Elizabeth's Place (Assisted Living Program at Jewish Home LifeCare) gathered on September 9 to discuss above topic. Conversation focused on the sisters' experience of prayer, living with contemplative attitudes such as a listening ear, open heart and mind, welcoming and inclusive behaviors – practices mentioned in *Laudato Si'*. Connections were made on how these practices are concrete ways to participate in the ministry of peace, justice and integrity of creation.

Prayer, Presence and Advocacy were part of the conversation – ways we can all use our personal and collective power to effect systemic change. Sisters in pictures are Grace Terese Murray and Helen Scoltock (above) and Patricia A. Walsh (on right). Sisters participated in the *Campaign for A Cleaner Hudson* (urging General Electric to complete removal of the high amounts of PCBs in the upper Hudson River) and *Global Catholic Climate Movement* with its request that Catholics sign the petition urging world leaders to commit to a strong just climate treaty in Paris this December.



Journeying for Justice Symposium on September 15 was sponsored by CMSV Model UN Club, Campus Ministry, and SCNY PJIC Office. Focus was to connect 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and *Laudato Si'* with CMSV and student experiences. James Donius from the Fishlinger Center for Public Research at CMSV focused on human trafficking from Center's "A Landmark Study of Social Issues in the U.S." Two students, Erica Pichardo and Danielle Federico, from the Model UN Club shared experiences at United Nations.



Light the Way Multi-faith Celebration on September 24th was one of three events held in New York City to celebrate Laudato Si' and thank Pope Francis for his call to all peoples to act on behalf of Earth and its people and to accept moral responsibility for climate change and its impact on those living in poverty. Archbishop Pedro Barreto of Lima, Peru (left) offered concluding prayer. Later that evening in Church of Our Savior representatives of different faiths participated in an all-night vigil.

Fr. Michael Czerny of the Vatican's Pontifical Office of Peace and Justice offered this prayer, "My prayer, our prayer for us tonight would be that we discover, experience, and live the interconnectedness that makes us part of one family, living in one great home."

LEFSA & Laudato Si' – a place where "close and warm relationships develop... communities are created" and "each person (who) feels held within a network of solidarity and belonging." (148). On September 30, team and other members of LEFSA (Life Experience and Faith Sharing Associates), a Sisters of Charity sponsored ministry, discussed connections between LEFSA ministry and Laudato Si', especially as it relates to integral ecology. LEFSA is a place, as many expressed, where all are welcome – where solidarity, relationships, encounter, and respect are experienced. In the conversation, LEFSA team and volunteers highlighted that "we keep people's dignity intact. If we don't care for each other, we don't care for earth. What we do to the planet, we do to ourselves. Power comes from knowing that we are all broken. This gives us permission to heal together."



A ministry of peace, justice and integrity of creation has many forms? Laudato Si' can be lived in many ways. How are you called? Contact PJIC Office and tell us your story.

Carol De Angelo, SC, PJIC Director, October 4, 2015