

SCNY Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation Update – April 2017
Below are ways SCNY cared for our common home, Planet Earth, and worked to ensure a sustainable quality of life for future generations, human and non-human.



March for Science Sisters of Charity of New York and the College of Mount Saint Vincent were represented at the March for Science, NYC on April 22. Creative and educational signs highlighted the importance of science in our everyday life. CMSV Senior Gaby Mendoza and Sister Carol De Angelo hold a borrowed sign made by a couple from Scranton, PA. It reads: *“Bee Respectful! Life depends on little things we take for granted.”* Tiffany Poteat, Ashley Lushinsky and Victoria Piar, IPSL



students who interned with the PJIC Office this semester, also marched.



People’s Climate Movement March On April 29 tens of thousands of people gathered in Washington, DC and throughout the world to speak out on behalf of Planet Earth, its peoples and all life. CMSV senior Gaby Mendoza and Sister Carol De Angelo were present at the April 29 Climate Rally in White Plains – a sister event to the People’s Climate Movement March in Washington, D.C. They are joined in the picture on left by Dr. Tara Anderson and her husband. We joined with SCNY colleagues representing groups such as ROAR, Sierra Club Lower

Hudson, Riverkeeper, WESPAC, SANE, IPSEC, and many more. As citizens and groups, we act to push forward the vision and reality of a clean, safe, sustainable world where the rights of others, human and nonhuman, are protected and expanded. The Metro NY Catholic Climate Movement, which the PJIC Office is actively involved in, organized a “Catholic” bus to ensure that Catholics from the New York metro area would be a visible presence in the faith contingency at the D.C. march. Pope Francis calls Catholics to “get out into the streets, into the mess and bustle, to care for our common home” and we responded!



The Environment and Social Justice: Is care of the environment a social justice issue?

Several CMSV Departments and the PJIC Office sponsored an April 26 panel planned by Sister Eileen Fagan and Dr. Daniel Opler. Sister Carol De Angelo is available to meet with groups to view and discuss her power point presentation that focused on the topic from the perspective of the Charism of Charity and *Laudato Si': On Care for Common Home*.

Compassion Must Become Our Normal

Operating Procedure The Life Transforming Spirituality Group continued its ongoing exploration of compassion at its April 28th meeting. The group is currently exploring the rich insights of author Margaret MacIntyre in her book, *The Cosmic Pilgrim*. One quote that was discussed from the aspect of our charism of charity was "...human love is characterized by an emerging sense of deep compassion, which is only in its infancy within human consciousness. It has the potential to become Godlike." (p. 31) If you are interested in joining, please contact Sister Barbara Srozenski, Coordinator.



Join the **Charity Earth Network**, an organization of Sisters and Associates of the Congregations of the Sisters of Charity Federation interested in: reflecting on ecology, the new cosmology, sustainability from the perspective of the Vincentian/Setonian charism; sharing information and resources; and supporting each other in our efforts to advocate for a more sustainable earth community. Charity Earth Newsletter (CEN) is published three times a year. Contact Father Terry Moran, Director of Office of Peace, Justice and Ecological Integrity for the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth at pjei@scnj.org if interested.

WATER Act (H.R. 1673), introduced by Representative John Conyers from Michigan. Sisters of Charity of New York and the Federation signed on to a letter supporting the WATER Act which addresses water infrastructure such as establishing dedicated funding for replacing lead pipes, improving public water and sewer systems, installing drinking fountains in schools, and other important programs.

Stanfordville Cosmological Spirituality Group meets about 8 times a year to explore the call to live *Laudato Si'* and our role/responsibility as humans in the 13.8 billion year evolving universe. In writing an article on what it means to be a member of the group, Mary Keelan was reminded of Sister Rose Maria Laverty's book, *Loom of Many Threads*. Mary writes of the group's growing consciousness of the gifts of the world, especially water. This led Mary to write three articles in the regional newspaper, *Northern Dutchess News* on the Village of Millbrook's failed/compromised water testing for the last four years, which is only gradually being remedied.

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