*The Sisters of the Redeemer Reflection on Laudato Si and Integral Ecology*

At our most recent Province Chapter of 2021 we made the following statement:

We strongly believe in our Redeemer Charism and Spirituality that reflects both simplicity and fullness of life.  This is the common thread that weaves together our many gifts and strengthens us regardless of the size of our Province.  As we stand on the shoulders of our Sisters who have gone before us, our Charism, rooted in the redemptive love of God, inspires us for today even as it beckons us to the future and continues to call us to share this gift beyond ourselves. Out of love for life and the good of creation, we journey forward with a renewed commitment to community- with new members, traditional and emerging, with laity and our partners in mission.

We are at a time in history where we are called, clearly and co-responsibly, to intentional living: for our community, for new life of the Province, for the good of creation, for the healing of the world and for a future full of hope.

Together with our General Chapter resolution and Province discernment regarding the urgent need to address climate change and the effect it has on everyone, especially the most vulnerable, we desire to commit ourselves to putting the Laudato Si goals into action. These goals parallel the priorities we have most recently stated as a religious community. We acknowledge this is only the beginning and that we will learn and be challenged and continually deepen our understanding and develop goals as we go along this journey.

The **Response to the Cry of the Earth** is a call to protect our common home for

the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss,

and ecological sustainability.

* *Seek more sustainable ways to reduce our use of resources (i.e., plastics, paper, fossil fuels). Learn the truths/facts of recycling; invest in appropriate technology as needed.*
* *Support the promotion of renewable energy throughout the larger community.*

The **Response to the Cry of the Poor** is a call to promote eco-justice, aware that

we are called to defend human life from conception to death, and all forms of

life on Earth.

* + *Renew our commitment to involvement in organizations (e.g., Martin’s Home and Immigration Committee of Philadelphia NETWORK Team, and HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) addressing vulnerable persons impacted by immigration and human trafficking.*
  + *Offer hospitality to individuals or small families affected by immigration.*

**Ecological Economics** acknowledges that the economy is a sub-system of

human society, which itself is embedded within the biosphere–our common

home.

* *Create a set of standards for purchasing items both personally and communally. Example:*
* *Want vs. Need;*
* *What effect does this product (in the making or the using) have on the environment? On people?*
* *From what resources is the product made?*
* *Are there alternatives to this particular item that are more earth conscious/use fewer non-renewable resources?*
* *Expense vs. long-term benefits.*

The **Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles** is grounded in the idea of sufficiency,

and promoting sobriety in the use of resources and energy.

* *Move towards 100% renewable energy in our Convents and Ministries*

**Ecological Education** is about re-thinking and re-designing curricular and

institutional reform in the spirit of integral ecology in order to foster ecological

awareness and transformative action.

* *Make a Province commitment to the farm as a model of sustainability, education, community, holistic health (body, mind and spirit)*
* *Expand our school garden program*

**Ecological Spirituality** recovers a religious vision of God’s creation and

encourages greater contact with the natural world in a spirit of wonder, praise,

joy and gratitude.

* *Make a Province commitment to the farm as a model of sustainability, education, community, holistic health (body, mind and spirit)*
* *Offer spiritual programs, retreats that incorporate creation/ ecological / nature elements*

**Community Engagement and Participatory Action** encourage the

development of cultures and policies that protect our common home and all

who share it.

* *Make a Province commitment to the farm as a model of sustainability, education, community, holistic health (body, mind and spirit)*