Saint Agnes Sisters House, Baltimore, Maryland

Daughters of Charity Province of St. Louise USA

Our local community of Daughters of Charity living at St. Agnes House in the city of Baltimore, Maryland is entering into the journey of integral ecology through the support of the Laudato Si Action Platform. Our Congregation’s Inter-Assemblies Document, 2021-27, invites us to “*Contemplation in order to love better”,* and asks us to: *“Take the time to marvel at creation. It is a gift from God and inspiration for a more responsible use of the earth’s resources.”* In our times of sharing our prayer in our rhythm of life as Daughters of Charity, we are noticing that we are spending more time in contemplation of God’s glory revealed in nature. Prayer is an essential element in our journey of integral ecology, because we believe that conversion of lifestyle first begins with conversion of heart. Our founder, St. Vincent de Paul, advised: “God demands first of all the heart, and then the works.” Our contemplation is also leading us pray specifically for those effected by the natural disasters that are occurring throughout the world, growing ever worse due to climate change. We know that those who are poor are the most adversely effected by these disasters, and our charism of service of Christ in persons who are poor calls us to pray with and for those who are poor. Our prayer is one way that we serve and advocate for people most victimized by these disasters. As we continue this journey of integral ecology, we count on the strength and grace of our prayer so that we can be open to how the Holy Spirit is leading us on this journey.