

CALL TO TRANSFORMATION

As community we are sent in the power of the Spirit to continue Christ's mission, to be transformed and to transform our world, bringing all to that oneness for which Jesus Christ was sent. (YAS, C 48)

We the members of the 21st General Chapter have heard the desire of our sisters to draw deeply from the wellsprings of our life – in contemplation of God and in a more profound rootedness in our SSND spirituality, charism, and mission.

We have heard the cry of our world. Although precious and beautiful in God's design, the earth and its peoples exist today in a fragile, divided, and fragmented condition.

While we experience hope in the many efforts toward greater collaboration and peace-making in the human community, we see also that expanding globalization is widening the gap between rich and poor. We appreciate the giftedness of the world's rich pluralism of cultures and religions. Yet we also see how frequently human beings respond to others out of ignorance and with hostility and violence.

In response, we call each sister of our international congregation to open her entire life to radical transformation for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ that all creation may be one in the fullness of God's love.

At this moment of our sacred history, radical transformation requires that:

We give ourselves as apostolic women religious to contemplation as a way of life, drawing ever more deeply from the heart of God's love revealed to us in Jesus Christ.

We engage in theological development and theological reflection so that we may clarify, understand, and live our SSND spirituality and charism with a renewed vigor in the church and world of today.

We commit ourselves with a new conviction to the educational vision of You Are Sent that the world can be changed through the transformation of persons. (YAS C 22, 24)

We open ourselves to the personal and communal conversions necessary to embrace our Gospel responsibility to live simply, making the concerns of the poor our own, and reverencing all creation. (YAS, C 16-17, GD 17-19)

We witness prophetically to reconciliation and unity by the way we live together in local community and in our multicultural, international congregation.

WE ARE WOMEN OF HOPE WHO DAILY GIVE OUR LIVES TO BRING ABOUT THE ONENESS FOR WHICH JESUS CHRIST WAS SENT. SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME, OCTOBER 16, 2002