



# Sisters of the Precious Blood

Volume 2, Issue 7 June, 2017



Please consider saving paper, ink and the environment —print only if necessary.

We have eliminated much of the heavy color areas to minimize the use of colored ink. Thanks

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## Enacted in our ASSEMBLY DIRECTIVES 2015 we will remember to...

- Continue to articulate and integrate our Spirituality in our sharing among ourselves and with others.
- Increase our use of social media to promote Precious Blood Spirituality.
- Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God's people.
- Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.
- Network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality.

## Stories from around our CPPS world



### Food for the Soul... and More!

Spring, well actually, feels like summer, is definitely in the air at Salem Heights! There has been a buzz of activity as various Sisters have been planting their container gardens. Some of the containers will yield a harvest to nourish the body and some with their vibrant arrays of color will be a feast for the eyes and offer nourishment for the soul.

Standing in the center of the courtyard, the "Woman at the Well," with her water jug in her hands has always looked a bit forlorn to me. Well she will no longer have to ponder where she needs to go to get water, for it now

bubbles forth from a large sphere that rests at her feet.

All this activity, while good for body and soul, is also good for our environment. We can never have too many plants! Plants help prevent global warming as they take carbon dioxide out of the air and use it to make energy for themselves while also giving off oxygen necessary for all of us in the animal kingdom. So, don't hesitate, go plant a garden!

Emergent Future Directive: **Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.**

submitted by Patty Kremer

## **Prayer for Healing**

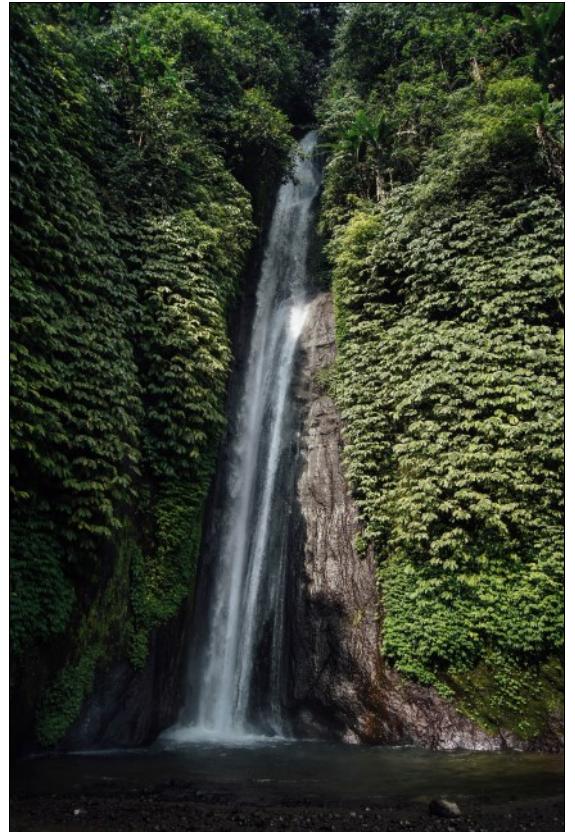
*Blessed are You, Holy Creator, source of all that is good,  
beautiful and whole.*

*Where wholeness is splintered or shattered, goodness damaged  
or marred, and beauty bruised or broken,  
we ask for healing and deep peace  
Be healing balm for this world: for all people, creatures,  
places, events, and for the environment.*

*We welcome the touch of your healing love and gentle presence.  
Inspired by Dorothy Stang, your servant and martyr, we pray in  
communion with all the saints in glory, through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

Prayer by Sr. Teresita Weind, Sister of Notre Dame de Namur

Dorothy Stang was a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur who was martyred in 2005 while fighting for human rights and the preservation of the environment in the Brazilian Amazon. To learn more about her life and legacy, visit the [Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur of Ohio's website](#). You can also read about [REPAM](#), the pan-Amazonian Catholic church network created to respond to the challenges facing the people of the Amazon and their natural environment (this resource courtesy of the [Colombian Center for Advocacy and Outreach](#)).



## **Climate Change**

On the evening of May 2 Salem Heights hosted the Organizing for Action: Spring 2017 Fellows Capstone Event. The theme for the event was “Climate Change: How Will It Affects Us?” Sister Jeanette Buehler coordinated the evening.

Four presentations wrapped around the topics of climate change impact on the economy, on health care, on refugee resettlement and the Ohio State Educational efforts regarding agricultural needs and ways to increase production. Presentations focused around the increase of water due to polar cap melting and the effects this has. Another thought about effect was the displacement of islanders – some 400 to 750 million – whose habitat would be inundated. Where will they go? Which countries will welcome them?

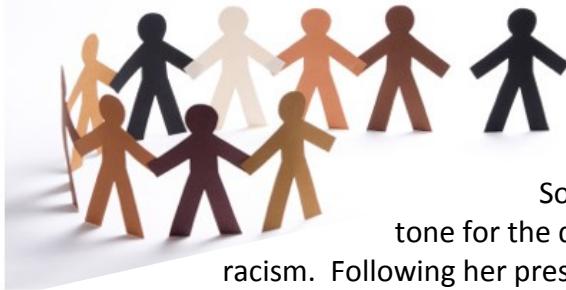


When asked what could be done now the panel suggested an awareness of changing weather patterns – the hotter and drier summers, the warmer and wetter winters -- and its effects on food production and distribution; the outbreaks of disease and health issues related to climate and the personnel and money that will be needed to combat such; the need for each of us to live in a sustainable manner, that is, buy what you need, use what you buy, waste little, replace what you can.

At the last minute it was strongly encouraged that a watchful eye be kept on the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and its actions. Contact your legislators, House Representatives and Senators, regarding matters on which you want action. This was a very educational, motivating and enriching event!

Emergent future directive: **Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.**  
submitted by Mary Garke

## LET'S TALK ABOUT RACE



Approximately 50 racially diverse participants attended a program at Salem Heights entitled "Let's Talk About Race: A morning to listen, share and reflect". The morning was co-sponsored by the Anti-Racism/Anti-Discrimination Task Force of the Weavers of Justice (Dayton Catholic Social Action) and the Sisters of the Precious Blood. Adrienne Curry, the Social Action Director of Catholic Charities Diocese of Youngstown set the tone for the day by focusing on Catholic social action teachings specifically related to racism. Following her presentation, participants entered into table conversations in which they

shared on two questions: *When did you first become aware of racism? How does your faith affect the way you feel or think about issues of racism and racial justice?*

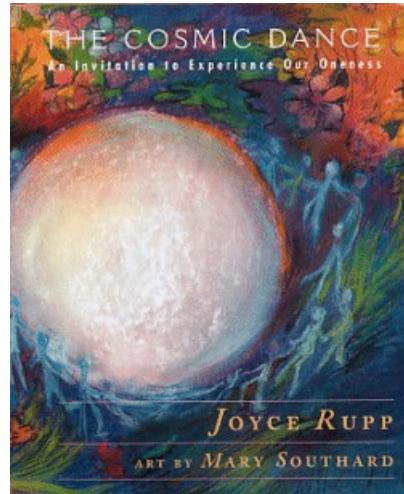
For most attendees, the sharing of personal experiences of racism and faith insights were the highlights of the morning. The day ended with reflection time so that participants could decide on any personal follow-up action(s) they would like to take based on the insights they received during the morning.

**A conversation on "White Privilege" will be held at Salem Heights on Saturday, August 26 from 9:00-11:00 a.m.** Mark your calendar and plan to join us.



This Program was held on Saturday, April 22, 2017

Contact: Sr. Jeanette Buehler, CPPS [jbuehler@cppsdayton.org](mailto:jbuehler@cppsdayton.org)



### LOOKING FOR A GOOD BOOK?

***The Cosmic Dance, An Invitation To Experience Our Oneness*** By Joyce Rupp, with art by Mary Southard

"Through powerful prose and poetry, Joyce Rupp makes it easy for us to experience our unity with each other and all of life. She calls us to live compassionately with each person and particle of creation. She challenges us to hear the pain of the planet and to care for the earth and all its inhabitants. Most of all, she draws us to fuller enjoyment and appreciation of life and its unbreakable goodness in ourselves and in everyone and everything around us."

"Beautiful full-color art by Mary Southard stirs our souls with feelings of awe, gratitude, and love." <http://www.joycerupp.com/CosmicDance.htm>

Climate change not only challenges communities, but demands that each of us ask if we are living responsibly. Droughts, floods, a change in agricultural practices because of this; increases in the amount of carbon dioxide by 40% since the late 1700s; as the atmosphere warms evaporation increases with resulting heavy rainstorms in many places and droughts in others; public health in urban areas and corn harvests in rural areas are impacted; oceans are becoming more acidic and warmer.

Each of us as responsible persons and as persons of faith are compelled to stay informed about the effect global warming is having in our particular area and do what we can to make a difference. Read Pope Francis's ***Laudato Si*** document and also look at <http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/> for practical information on this topic from a church perspective.

Einstein said: ***Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge points to all that is. Imagination points to all that could be.***

What kind of Earth "could be"? How can we contribute to co-creating it?

## ON THE RUN....for IJPC

May 6th found me together with Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati and staff from IJPC ready to tackle the **Flying Pig 10k**. Apart from raising money for all the wonderful advocacy work that the IJPC does on matters of Justice and Peace, we chose to wear T-shirts stating "religious on the run" on the front, and our names together with congregational logos at the back as a sign of our presence in the archdiocese.



We all posted our best times, had great conversations with fellow marathoners and enjoyed particularly good weather. Collaboration and Solidarity are key to mission



- Emergent Future Directive: Network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality.

submitted by Mumbi Kigutha

## Gardening Endeavor

The rains kept falling heavily almost every day this May, but finally after a few days of sunshine, the refugee community garden started. A garden shed was put up and the first seedlings of African eggplant, tomatoes and bell peppers were planted. Each day sees a little more progress made and our hope is for a bountiful harvest of vegetables that will supplement the diet at many tables, but also offer a taste of the home we all remember with much nostalgia. The garden seeks to " welcome the stranger " but also be a bridge builder and an oasis of hope and healing.

Emergent Future Directive: **Stand with the marginalized.** Submitted by Mumbi Kigutha



The Peace, Justice & Care of Creation committee has been publishing an issue of the Grassroots Newsletter each month for over a year. The committee thanks all who have contributed articles and shared how they are living the Assembly Directives. We surely hope this endeavor will continue. You are always welcome to submit articles either individually or as a group.

*Thank You*

**Send us your articles (approximately 125 words or less) for our next issue.**

Next issue articles for Grassroots are due **June 24** so that we can meet our goal of having it in your hands by **07\_07\_2017**.

Please submit to Marty Bertke [m.bertke@hometowncable.net](mailto:m.bertke@hometowncable.net)

.....or to Mary Lou Schmersal [cppsnews@bright.net](mailto:cppsnews@bright.net)

**Your contributions make all the difference!**

We're on the Web!

[www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org](http://www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org)