During the month of June I invite all Good Shepherd people to reflect how you act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our Shepherd-God.

The heart is the traditional symbol of love, and the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is the symbol of love par excellence. Love, which transforms.

On the 8 June we celebrate the Feast of Blessed Maria Droste zu Vischering. She died on the eve of the Feast of the Sacred Heart, 8 June 1899. On 11 June 1899 Pope Leo XIII released his Encyclical: “Annun Sacrum” in which he consecrated the entire human race to the Heart of Jesus. Do you know her story?

Our Good Shepherd traditions are echoed in Catholic Social Teaching. The Heart of the Good Shepherd seeks out the worth of each person and envelops him or her with mercy. Catholic Social Teaching says:” Our relationship to our neighbor is bound up with our relationship to God …Christian love of neighbor and justice cannot be separated. For love implies an absolute demand for justice, namely recognition of the dignity and rights of one’s neighbor…(Justice in the World, World Synod of Catholic Bishops #34 in 1971)

We live these realities through the Good Shepherd International Justice Peace Office commitments at the UN. For example, we will be participating in the special High-level meetings coming up from the 10-11 June 2008 to review the progress made since the Commitment and Declaration on HIV/AIDS by Nation States. (www.ungasshiv.org)

**PRAYER ACTIONS YOU CAN DO:**(Choose one & share your experiences with us)

- During the month of June wear a red ribbon symbolizing your commitment to pray for and with HIV/AIDS affected and infected persons.
- Find out the content of your Governments report on HIV/AIDS.(www.unaids.org)
- Reflect and discuss the report in community and among people affected and infected by HIV/AIDS. What action can you do?
- Reflect on and discuss the Comprehensive Summary on HIV/AIDS 2008 released by UN, June 2008 after HIV/AIDS meeting. (www.ungasshiv.org) What action can you do?

**Let us unite in prayer to STOP HIV/AIDS with UNCONDITIONAL LOVE.**