



8 June 2018

“Solidarity begins within the heart, usually a feeling evoked by the suffering of another; ... but when nurtured by scripture and prayer, it can transform into a real relationship of compassion that remains within our innermost meditative experiences where we come to know the Divine; at the same time, the depth of our identity with the other also sparks us to act on behalf of the other.”

Maria Droste Project- Testimonies:
Contemplation and Action: United in Solidarity
by Clare Nolan

Dear Sisters and Mission Partners,

Today we celebrate the Feasts of the Sacred Heart and Blessed Maria Droste. We are happy to send you the Congregational Position Papers which incarnate the invitation to each of us to live the love of the Great Heart of God.

These Congregational Position Papers are updated to develop corporate and more vibrant responses to important global issues of today. It is critical that we see these updated Congregational Position Papers as central to our mission, reflecting our desire to integrate justice and peace and the spiritual orientation of our Congregation.

**To promote and incorporate the Congregational Position Papers into our lives,
we strongly encourage:**

- ❖ Unit leaders to have the Position Papers (PPs) translated into local languages wherever it is required, for both sisters and mission partners.
- ❖ Unit leadership teams to prioritize the importance to promote reflections and conversations on these Position Papers within your Units as a congregational foundation for all policies, strategic planning, program directions and local practices.
- ❖ International and Regional Congregational Offices, Unit Leadership Teams, Unit Justice Peace Contacts, Unit Mission Development Offices, Formators, Community and Ministry leaders to initiate processes to understand the orientation and the practical implementation of these Position Papers.

All Congregational Position Papers will be accessible on our congregational website in all three languages: <http://rgs.gssweb.org/en/jp/jp-static-pages/position-papers-2018>. Each topic will eventually be in PowerPoint format in the near future.

Our sincere gratitude to Sr. Clare Nolan who incorporated the recommendations received from the Congregational Consultation and all involved in the consultation process to update our Congregational Position Papers.

Yours in the Divine Heart of God,

The Congregational Leadership Team

Zeha
Alison
Bridget
Ellen
James
Jude Ellen
Lilly
Josita
Yvonne
Mignon