

Mission Effectiveness Reflection Booklet

Reconciliation

In October 2006, a gunman took a one-room Amish schoolhouse in Lancaster County Pennsylvania by storm leaving five little girls dead and five wounded. The world was stunned by this horrific act but even more stunned by the immediate response of forgiveness by the Amish Community.

Reconciliation is at the heart of the Sisters of St. Joseph and Associates. Our Constitutions remind us, “In our daily living, the dynamic spirit of our Institute urges us to resist complacency, to nourish mutual healing and to foster reconciliation.” (Constitutions #13)

In the words of author, Marianne Williamson, “The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world.” May each of us be a “healing presence” through fidelity to our call of reconciliation.

This is the third of four booklets developed by the Mission Effectiveness Committee based on the Mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph. It is our hope that these booklets will be a source of enrichment for us and for others. We recommend that you duplicate these booklets and use them with as many people as possible: local community, parishioners, co-workers, neighbors, and friends of the Congregation.



Beatitudes of Reconciliation (Sisters of St. Joseph, Concordia)

1. Blessed are those who are willing to enter into the process of being healed, for they will become healers.
2. Blessed are those who recognize their own inner violence, for they will come to know non-violence.
3. Blessed are those who can forgive self, for they will become forgivers.
4. Blessed are those who are willing to let go of selfishness and self-centeredness, for they will become a healing presence.
5. Blessed are those who listen with compassion, for they will become compassionate.
6. Blessed are those who are willing to enter into conflict, for they will find resolutions.
7. Blessed are those who know their interdependence with all of creation, for they will become unifiers.
8. Blessed are those who live a contemplative life stance, for they will find God in all things.
9. Blessed are those who strive to live these beatitudes, for they will become reconcilers.



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What word, phrase, or insight from the Beatitudes challenges you or resonates with you?
2. When have you experienced a movement toward reconciliation?
3. How would you complete the following: “Blessed are those who...”

The committee welcomes feedback or suggestions you would like to offer. Please send them to:

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We look forward to hearing from you.
Thank you in advance.



List of Reflection Booklets
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Unity
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MISSION EFFECTIVENESS

Sisters of Saint Joseph and Associates in Mission

“That all may be one.”

Reconciliation



“We live and work so that all people
may be united with God
and with one another.”

Mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph

