

The work for justice is based on God's word in the **Scriptures** and may be summed up in Christ's command, "Love one another as I have loved you." (*John 15:12*)

Throughout the centuries, the Catholic Church has spoken boldly on behalf of justice. The seven themes of **Catholic Social Teaching** include:

- Life and dignity of the human person
- Call to family, community and participation
- Solidarity of the human family; the common good
- Rights and responsibilities
- Dignity of work and the rights of workers
- Option for the poor and the vulnerable
- Care for God's creation

The Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes (CSA) lives Christ's mission by nonviolently promoting systemic change. Special concern is directed to:

- Women and children
- Health care for all
- Globalization, especially as it affects Latin America
- Seamless ethic of life

The JPIC Committee/Coordinator:

1. Plans goals for CSA members and Associates, and assists in their implementation.
2. Networks with a variety of groups to promote systemic change:
 - 8th Day Center for Justice

- SOA Watch
- UNANINMA International
- Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR)
- NETWORK
- Wisconsin Network for Peace & Justice (WNPJ)
- United for Diversity (Fond du Lac)
- Holy Family Parish Voices for Justice

3. Encourages communication with legislators, informed voting, and participation in prayer vigils and demonstrations.

4. Contacts members of Congress and state officials.

5. Participates in public policy initiatives at the United Nations through membership in **UNANIMA International**, a non-governmental organization (NGO) that advocates on behalf of women and children (particularly those living in poverty), immigrants and refugees, and the environment. Established in 2001, UNANIMA has 19 member congregations of women religious.



6. Participates in the annual vigil at the **SOA**. The School of the Americas, now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, is located on USA soil at Fort Benning, Georgia. CSA advocates for closure of the School which trains civil and military personnel from Latin American countries in low-intensity warfare, that is often conducted against their own citizens.



7. Advocates for peace through the annual lighting of the **Peace Tree**, first celebrated in 2001 during the Operation Desert Storm War (First Gulf War).



8. Promotes and celebrates diversity with **United for Diversity** to help improve relations and respect among all people. **CELEBRATE commUNITY** is its major annual event.



9. Represents CSA at the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR). Files shareholder resolutions and dialogues with corporations. Issues include human rights, the right to clean water, human trafficking, sustainability, fracking, living wage, equality for women and minorities, ethics in weapon sales and corporate governance.



We commit ourselves to respond to the church's call to hear the cry of the poor, and we reaffirm our commitment to those whose faith life or human dignity is threatened in any way.

— *Constitutions No. 54*
Congregation of Sister of St. Agnes

Services available through the JPIC Ministry include:

1. Video and book lending library
 - Available to anyone.
 - A list of titles is available at <http://www.csasisters.org/resources.cfm>
 - To preview videos, contact Susan Ledesma at (920) 907-2316 or email sledesma@csasisters.org.
2. JPIC listserv
 - Action alerts and other information are sent out on a weekly basis.
 - To receive this communication email Susan Ledesma
3. Presentations on justice and peace topics such as human trafficking, immigration, human rights, care of creation.
4. **Blog**  justicepeacecsa.blogspot.com
5. **Facebook**  **Justice Peacecsa**
6. **Twitter handle**  **@sannbrickner**

CSA MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Sisters of St. Agnes, participate in the mission of Christ by joyful service in the Church, always aware that we, too, are among the needy and are enriched by those we serve. Inspired by our founders—by the missionary zeal of Father Caspar Rehr, the courageous initiatives of Mother Agnes Hazotte and the spiritual influence of Father Francis Haas—we continue to respond in our own times to those whose faith, life or human dignity is threatened.

Rooted in Christ through prayer and worship we serve both in rural and urban settings throughout the United States and in Latin America. We strive to minister with simplicity and hospitality in the fields of education, health care, pastoral ministry and social service.

We are committed to transformation of the world, the Church and ourselves through promoting:

- ◆ *systemic change for the quality of life*
- ◆ *justice for the economically poor*
- ◆ *furtherance of the role of women in church and society*
- ◆ *mutuality, inclusivity and collaboration.*

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Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation

**320 County Road K
Fond du Lac, WI 54937-8158
(920) 907- 2315 ph
(902) 921- 8177 fax
sabrickner@csasisters.org
www.csasisters.org**



**JUSTICE, PEACE
AND
INTEGRITY OF CREATION**

... explores the distinct contribution of the Congregation of Sisters of Saint Agnes and Associates to the ongoing nonviolent transformation of the world toward justice and peace.