

“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart
and to try to love the questions. Live the questions
now, then gradually, without noticing it,
live into the answers.”

Rainer Maria Rilke, *Letters to a Young Poet*



August 15, 2024

The Feast of the Assumption

Dear Sisters and Associates,

During the Summer Gathering, our goal was to give you a sense of our mission and vision through the prayers, presentations, processes and reflections that occurred during each of the three sessions. We hope that the experience was meaningful and contributed to a deep awareness of who we are as “God’s work of art.” And now, the time has come to review some key insights and set a course of action for *Living into our Legacy* over the course of the next three years and beyond.

Four questions framed our work together in June. These included:

- What are the gifts we are sharing with the Church at this moment in our history?
- What are the gifts we are sharing with the world at this moment in our history?
- What feelings would I/we like others to know at this moment in my/our life?
- And the Synodal question: *To what is the Spirit inviting us ...?*

Attentive to these questions, may we continue to “live into the answers” - *because our legacy matters* - in the Church, in the world, and especially, in our own lives.

As practiced at the June Gathering, we hope that you will share with us an ongoing commitment to being “led by the Spirit” as we go forth on this journey of treasuring the unfolding of our second century as a Congregation. Inspired by our charism and heritage, dedicated to our care and concern for one another, and mindful of our stewardship of our resources in the United States and Brazil, may we go forward as St. Clare says, “on the path of prudent happiness ...”

Along with this letter is our September Reflection for Local Chapters entitled “Led by the Spirit.” We hope you will find it meaningful, and we await your feedback. As these Summer Days turn into Fall, we wish you many blessings wherever you may be!

Barbara, Darcy, Jeanne, Mary Jane, Meg and Sue