



IN BETWEEN

Holy Cross Province
February 2021



Dear Passionist Family:

“At a time when the grave crises facing our human family call for farsighted and united responses, I pray that your decisions will be guided by a concern for building a society marked by authentic justice and freedom, together with unfailing respect for the rights and dignity of every person, especially the poor, the vulnerable and those who have no voice.”

--Letter from Pope Francis to President Biden

As we look to 2021 and the many challenges before us, we may be confident that our God is always with us, entrusting us to serve and inspire the People of God.

During these times, I pray that we may continue to reach out to the unborn and the born, to the immigrants in need, to the uninsured, to the undereducated, to the poor, to the imprisoned, to the unemployed and to the underpaid. Let us minister to those who are physically and mentally challenged, especially our veterans, to the sick, to the elderly and to the homeless, and let us strive for racial equality. There are so many opportunities for us as a Passionist Family to serve.



May our desire to serve help us to appreciate our calling from God and respond with grace in the context of the social teaching of the Catholic Church, if not of Jesus himself:

Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?” (Matthew 25:37-39, NIV)

Our call, our vocation, is most critical in these times. The human family is in a “grave crisis” in which God calls us forth by our baptism to seek out those burdens that can be lifted. Our profession of faith is to offer a new hope to those who are struggling and have so little hope. Our mission as Passionists to the crucified of today is a grace-filled

healing balm that can continue to strengthen our identities that we are brothers and sisters to one another, sons and daughters of the Father. May we grow as a community of faith in our service to all of God's children, allowing their needs to remain our concerns as well.

The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

(Matt 25:45, NIV)

Vision Fulfillment Process:

We continue moving forward with our Vision Fulfillment Process. The Resource Groups are in the process of taking the Project Proposals they received and are reviewing, creating and implementing next steps. Because of the pandemic, the Province has had to pivot based on needs identified. New ministries have been created and others have been modified to be relevant in the current environment.

Since our Assembly last June, there have been many new experiences and initiatives. We have been a part of and will continue to be a part of prayer services. A monthly series titled *Visioning on Tap* will begin later in February as a way of interacting with each other on our visioning process. We are beginning to look at new styles of leadership, and the Province is looking at ways the Passionists can communicate and evangelize who we are, not only internally, but to a much broader audience.

These are exciting times, and I encourage you to become involved with our Vision Fulfillment Process, if you are not already. The Passionist Family's involvement is important for the future of Holy Cross Province.

Province Assembly via Zoom:

Our annual Province Assembly will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, June 8 and 9, 2021, via Zoom. We had planned to gather at Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center, but with the uncertainties surrounding vaccine availability, it was decided to move our Assembly to a Zoom format. Please mark your calendars for this important time of sharing and let us keep its success in our prayers.

The Passion of the Earth: Gatherings for the Passionist Family on Laudato Sí:

A series of weekly gatherings are available during Lent for the Passionist Family exploring Laudato Si' and the Passion of the Earth as we journey together toward the Passion of our Lord. The series is for the whole Passionist Family and will include individual and small group opportunities for reflection.

There will be six sessions. The first five sessions will be every Wednesday, February 24 through Wednesday, March 24; our final session will be an Ecological Way of the Cross on Good Friday, April 2. [**Click here**](#) for more information and to register. Please note that you need to register only once for the entire series.



Conclusion:

As we approach Ash Wednesday and Lent, may they offer us the time to contemplate the gift of Jesus in our lives today. These are not ordinary times in which we live, and I pray that with God’s grace we can find reasons to be grateful. May Lent be a time that frees us to appreciate what we do have, and that we are able to give of ourselves to others, as Jesus gave himself to all of us.

May you have a blessed Lent and let us keep each other in prayer.

God bless,


Joe Moons, C.P.
Provincial Superior

“May the Passion of Jesus Christ be always in our hearts”

