

JPIC is the conscious prayer and action to transform the world in the spirit of the Gospel through lives of justice, peace and care for the integrity of creation.

Our role as JPIC Promoters is to attend to the movements of God in justice, peace and care for the integrity of creation as we promote the reign of God. Our spirituality is formed and nurtured by our responses to these experiences. We respond to the call of Pope Francis to listen and to be a channel for the voices of the poor and the Earth. Our merciful relationships are felt by those in need at home and around the world as we minister through our spiritual and corporal works of mercy. In other words our advocacy for human rights is also an expression of our sacred efforts in the works of mercy.

HOW JPIC DEVELOPED IN THE CHURCH

Some of the key Scripture passages which support our values relate to the mission of Jesus (Lk 4), the Beatitudes (Mt 5), the judgement scene (Mt 25) and Jesus washing the feet of his disciples (Jn 13). These stories indicate for us where we are to go, who we are with and how we are to be for others.

Vatican Council II: Church in the Modern World encouraged the church to be in solidarity with the whole human family. It was at this council that Pope St. Paul VI initiated the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, now the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development (DIHD). In fact he charged it with the role of being vigilant for the entire program of Christian life.

The mission of the Dicastery is that of keeping the eyes of the Church open, its heart sensitive and its hands prepared for the work of charity. Its focus is on issues that concern justice and peace,

including those related to migration, health, care of creation, and structural issues.

We continue to work with the DIHD. Justice and peace are to act as a leaven for all of the activities of the new Dicastery.

CONGREGATIONS ARE INVOLVED

The JPIC Mission in our congregations has been patterned after that of the Pontifical Council. Our congregations are to enlighten the people of God as well as members of the congregation about issues. Congregations are to raise their awareness, to rethink their style of life and mission in a world characterized by great injustice, violence and poverty, in order to make their actions consistent with their beliefs. Religious congregations took up this challenge and became more involved in concrete actions in favor of justice peace and human rights. This commitment was expressed in rules, constitutions and chapter statements.

Global awareness is being integrated with community life and living the vows of poverty in working for justice, of chastity in loving tenderly and of obedience in walking humbly with God. In this way, JPIC permeates the life of the religious congregations. To promote this life, JPIC Promoters were established to coordinate, communicate, collaborate and form thoughtful responses to needed situations.

JPIC COMMISSION JOINT VENTURE OF USG/UISG

The JPIC Commission of the USG/UISG was developed as a way to focus the effort of the two unions. This is comprised of representative

leadership, a secretariat and JPIC Promoters. The engagement in JPIC concerns is characterized by SEE, JUDGE and ACT, which is an established methodology promoted for JPIC efforts.

Working Groups (WG) are the heart of these efforts. They are determined by the interest of the JPIC Promoters who are responsible for their meetings, share their activities and invite feedback and additional suggestions. The WGs are the following:

- ✎ Africa WG—supports programs in regional areas of Africa and makes connections to the National Formation Programs developed by JPIC Promoters to discuss content and possibilities of working together.
- ✎ Refugees and Migrants WG—is concerned with the immigration crisis and have been involved in accepting immigrants and refugee. They support the program “Migration and the Challenges for Christian Communities.”
- ✎ Anti-Trafficking WG—had developed a survey to gather congregational involvement in work of anti-trafficking. It supports Talitha Kum and explores areas related to trafficking such as consumerism.
- ✎ Integrity of Creation WG—has developed booklets on water, care of Earth and mining. Most recently, they developed the booklet *Reflections on Water* (a spiritual resource for SD6 on Water). They are actively involved in the Global Catholic Climate Movement.
- ✎ ICR at FAO—is an international association of men and women religious at the United Nations FAO. They focus on food nutrition and security, water, and land grabbing.

- ☞ Collaboration WG—considers issues of women and men in the Church in relation to gender justice. They reflect on the Scriptures and church documents in light of the role of women.

Prayer services are developed regularly to serve the needs of our times.

Networks are established with other organizations. There are life giving relationships that promote collaborative efforts on various concerns that strengthen our message and actions.

SOME OF THE PROCESSES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION AND SECRETARIAT

- ☞ Understanding root causes which enables organizational and transformative actions through assessments, reports on collaboration and connections to the grassroots.
- ☞ Analyzing issues and challenges through our publications (Newsbrief and E-news) and the website.
- ☞ Serving as a Channel for the voice of the poor and oppressed around the world by sharing information and connecting the grassroots with advocacy efforts.
- ☞ Caring for the integrity of Creation by integrating all the aspects of JPIC.
- ☞ Supporting JPIC Promoters in Rome and elsewhere through prayer, workshops, seminars, events, publications, and webinars.
- ☞ Facilitating mutual sharing and assistance among the generalates during the formation workshop and with the working groups. All groups study *Laudato Si* and other church documents in light of their particular concerns.

- ☞ Monitoring and evaluation—the effectiveness of programs and publications by gathering feedback on all services.

The JPIC Secretariat is responsible for animation, coordination, collaboration, formation, and suggesting direction for the responses of the JPIC Commission in all of these aspects.

The new UISG–JPIC Roma campaign, “Sowing Seeds of Hope for the Planet,” takes its cue from *Laudato Si*, that everything is interconnected. The campaign strives to coordinate the response of women religious and witness to hope!

For more information, go to www.jpicroma.org.

JUSTICE PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION COMMISSION (JPIC)



SECRETARIAT AND JPIC PROMOTERS

JPIC PROMOTERS MONTHLY MEETINGS

9:00am–12:00 at UISG

Spanish/Portuguese: first Wednesday

English: third Wednesday.

Changes will be announced.

JPIC SECRETARIAT

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