

BRIDGES



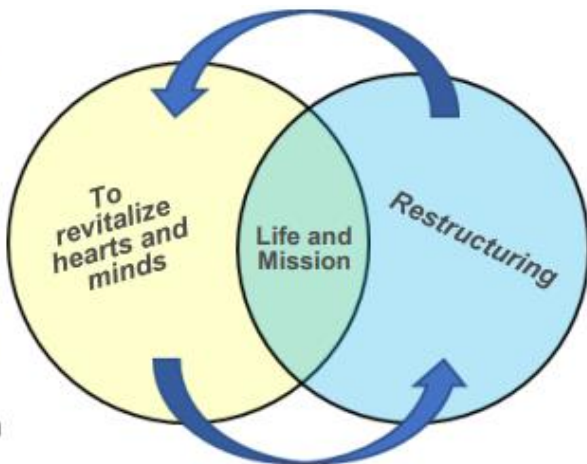
June 3, 2022

BUILDING BRIDGES IN THE MISSION



What does my experience in ministry have in common with – a yoga instructor for seniors? A parish priest? Someone working with trafficked persons?

In Phase 4 of the Building Bridges project, members of the province were asked to initiate conversations with “someone who works in a different field,” sharing motivations, searching for common ground, and exploring ways of strengthening bonds in mission. From what has been reported, finding connections and common concerns was not difficult. The ‘conversation partners’ were happy to talk about their motivations and their experiences. Given below is a sampling of those with whom RJM’s have been dialoguing.



Our sisters in **Marillac** took advantage of their inter-community setting to invite a Marist Mission Sister to speak about her **missionary work in Lima, Peru**. They also spoke with a Sister of Charity about her part in the creation of a **woman’s center** in Brooklyn, New York. Similarly, because two of our **Haitian missionaries** (Srs. Pat Dillon and Farzana Philip) were in the **DC/MD** area, together with Sr. Rosa Mejia (**border ministry**) from San Diego/Mexico, they joined members of the region for a rich sharing of experiences.

In conversations with a **para-legal, day-care director, plumber and housekeeping maids**, the sisters in **California** found many common values that informed and shaped the different service of each one. A **New York** gathering included a **school speech therapist**, someone **working with seniors**, and a Mercy sister **teaching ESL to immigrants** in a fruitful exchange. **Highland Mills** RJM’s got together to share their own diverse ministry experiences: **Catechetical Formation, Catholic School teaching and administration on local and diocesan levels, Montessori teaching and administration**.

Sisters in **Warwick** invited their **parish priest** to an exchange that began with each one sharing what role faith had played in her/his upbringing, conversations that resulted in an increase in mutual understanding.

Thanks to all who initiated, facilitated and took part in these enriching gatherings!

- Sr. Rosemary Mangan, RJM

Care of Creation Committee

For information on the Laudato Si Movement, visit: <https://laudatosimovement.org/>.



A promotional graphic for Laudato Si' Week 2022. It features a circular portrait of Jeff Sachs, a UN Senior Advisor, Bestselling Author, Professor of Economics, and Leader in Sustainable Development. The text reads: "Let's end the war and the pandemic... Because until now, all the attention, funding and instincts are focused on that and not in the future of our Common Home." Below the portrait, it says "JEFF SACHS" and lists his credentials. At the bottom, it says "LIVE Fossil Fuels, war and The Climate Crisis" and includes the Laudato Si' Week 2022 logo, the hashtag #LaudatoSiWeek, and the website laudatosiweek.org.

JPIC BRIEF

Advocate for Gun Control



More than 311,000 students in 311 schools have experienced gun violence since the Columbine massacre in 1999. "March for Our Lives," the organization founded by survivors of the 2018 mass shooting in Parkland, Florida, is planning a protest in Washington, DC on **Friday, June 11**. Demonstrations are also being planned in many other US towns and cities on that day.



Urge your elected officials to take action for sensible gun control measures.

ACTION ALERT

We received the email below from Sr. Ann Scholz, SSND, PhD, of LCWR, asking you to support the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Climate Solutions Initiative, by asking Congress to pass legislation to meet emissions reductions goals.



Subject: **[Urge U.S. Senate to U.S. Senators to Enact Ambitious Climate Solutions](#)**

Dear Friends,

We ask you to join Catholic Climate Covenant and our U.S. Catholic partners, including LCWR, in support an **[action alert issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops](#)** (USCCB) asking U.S. Senators to enact ambitious climate solutions.

The action alert, issued during Laudato Si' Week, echoes the call that over 800 U.S. Catholics in 47 states have been making to their U.S. Senators in our Encounter for Our Common Home campaign, in support of a once-in-generation suite of solutions that meaningfully address the climate crisis through dramatic reductions in national greenhouse gas emissions. These actions will generate U.S. leadership and authentic hope for our most vulnerable neighbors and younger generations already feeling the dire effects of climate change in the U.S. and around the world.

Our combined efforts express a broad U.S. Catholic call for climate solutions in keeping with our faith-filled obligation to care for creation and our vulnerable neighbors, and to implore our nation's leaders to consider their decisions in relation to our Creator, children, and future generations, and to please get beyond partisan interests.

Please, we ask you today to:

- **Sign the [USCCB's action alert](#);**
- **Ask your bishop, pastor and other Catholic leaders to express their support to their Senators and to the public; and**
- **Personally inform your Senators of the action alert, especially those of you who are already participating in the [Encounter for Our Common Home](#) campaign.**

Thank you for your support of this effort!

Blessings, Ann

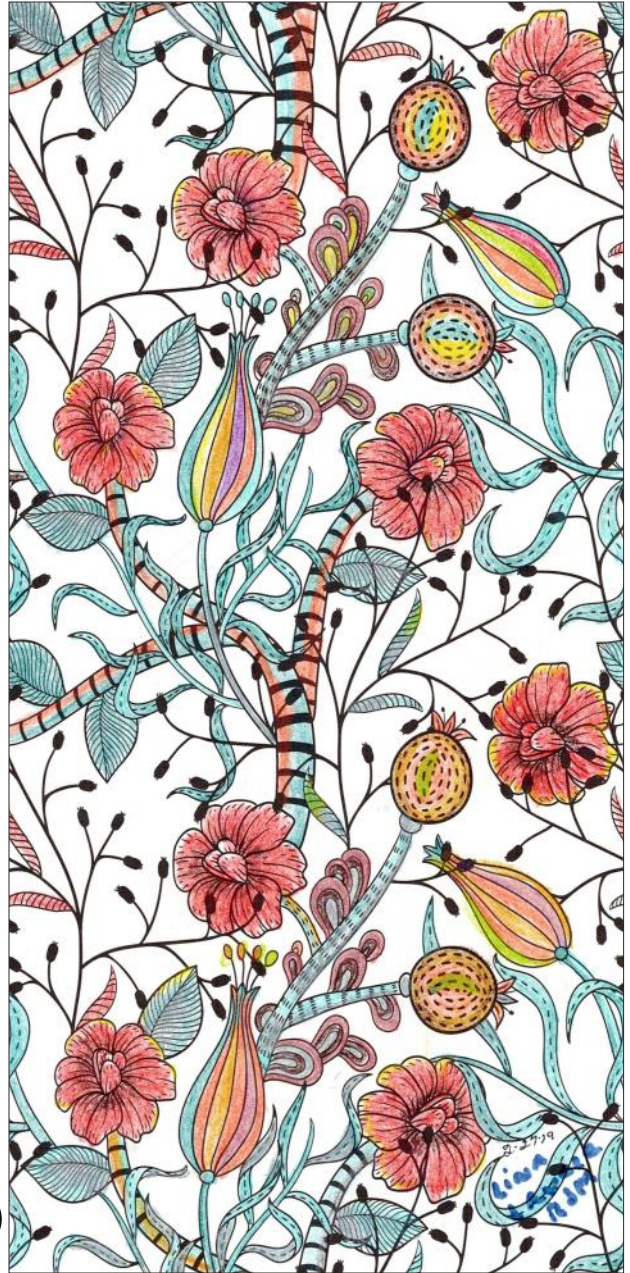
Ann Scholz, SSND, PhD
Associate Director for Social Mission
Leadership Conference of Women Religious
8737 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910
ascholz@lcwr.org

PROVINCE OFFICE

June 5 - 8 morning Srs. Marge and Mary at an LCWR conference in Baltimore

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR...

- Christine Ouimette, the sister-in-law of Sr. Alice Ouimette, RJM, who will be having cardiac surgery next week;
- Martha Maria Torres, RJM who is recovering at St. Paul's Senior Services and Rehabilitation;
- Lina Lavoie, RJM who is recovering in Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston;
- The students and teachers who died in Uvalde, Texas and the consolation of their families;
- Jeff Healy, husband of Denice Healy, a generous benefactor of our Haiti mission, who has been diagnosed with a very rare cancer;
- Melissa Alley and Leo Higgins, grand niece and grand nephew of Sr. Pat Dillon, RJM. Melissa's biopsy was negative for cancer but she has no diagnosis. Leo has a severe hip infection requiring months of antibiotics. Both families request continued prayer;
- Donald Wakefield (father of the niece of Sr. Pat Dillon, RJM); Ryan Farris; Robert St. Laurent (nephew of Sr. Pauline Ayotte, RJM); Ricky Lopez (nephew of Sr. Fatima Viramontes, RJM); Alice Willard (sister of Sr. Claudette Lapointe, RJM); Bob Patenaude (brother of Sr. Vivian Patenaude, RJM); and Claire Ethier (sister of Sr. Pauline Ayotte, RJM);
- The peace and sovereignty of Ukraine and peace and prosperity in Haiti;
- Thevenet Mission Center (Sr. Joan Faraone, RJM) as this week's community for special prayer.



**WE ALSO PRAY FOR ALL THE NEEDS OF OUR RJM SISTERS,
FAMILY AND FRIENDS.**

<https://rjmusa.org>

Praised Forever Be Jesus and Mary