



# JOURNEYS

## URSULINE SISTERS

of the Roman Union † United States Provinces

October, 2016

Dear Friends,

It's impossible to be alive in the world today without recognizing how intimately connected we are as a global, Earth community. I think Chief Seattle (c.1786-1866) of the Suquamish Tribe said it best:

*"Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect."* It can be overwhelming to hear news reports, read Twitter feeds, and witness the realities of peoples around the world, not to mention the earth and its creatures. How can I respond with integrity? Can anything I do make a difference?



This issue of *Journeys* will help us pray with a global perspective, holding in our hearts our sisters and brothers around the world, especially those in places where there's a great need for reconciliation and healing. Two special days this month—Oct. 4, Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, and Oct. 21, Feast of St. Ursula, patroness of the Ursuline Sisters—can be reminders for us, as well as inspiration, for actively witnessing to the Gospel of peace and reconciliation for the life of the world—wherever we find ourselves.

United in prayer,

*Fr. Jean Hopman, OSU*

### For Reflection

- Recall an experience you've had of belonging to a global web of life. Did anything change for you?
- Think of a service opportunity you've had. What did you learn about those you served? About yourself?
- *"All things are bound together. All things connect."* What difference does this make?

*Angela Merici*

## Scripture Helps

All human beings are created in God's image, no matter where we were born, how we look, or what faith, if any, we profess. Spend time in silence with [Genesis 1: 27](#)— “*God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them.*” In your imagination, observe God at work creating the next generations of people. What do you notice? In what ways does this scripture passage influence how you think of and respond to people who may look or behave differently from you? Ask God for any help you may need to see the divine image in everything and everyone you meet—yourself included.

Jesus makes it clear that we will be judged by how we treat the hungry, homeless, sick, imprisoned, naked and those far from home. Read [Matthew 25: 31-41](#), pausing wherever you feel drawn. Notice what tugs at your heart. Pray for the wisdom and courage to know and pursue whatever God has placed there. Pray daily for all those for whom this day will be a burden.

Jesus  
keeps knocking  
at  
our door  
in the faces  
of  
our brothers  
and sisters.

~Pope Francis

## Other Resources

[Click To Pray](#) is the app of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. Connect with thousands of people who find purpose in praying daily for the challenges of humanity and for the mission of the Church.

Visit [Global Sisters Report](#) to see how Sisters around the world are living the Gospel among the poor.

Whether or not you attended a Jesuit high school or university, there's a lot of inspiration to be found at [Ignatian Solidarity Network](#).

On October 21 Ursuline Sisters around the world celebrate the virgin-martyr [St. Ursula](#), chosen by our foundress, St. Angela Merici, to be the patroness of the Ursuline Sisters. Read something of her story, and join us in praying for our worldwide Ursuline family.

For more information, contact Sr. Elisa Ryan at [elisaosu@gmail.com](mailto:elisaosu@gmail.com) or Sr. Jean Hopman at [hopmanj@gmail.com](mailto:hopmanj@gmail.com). If you no longer wish to receive these e-letters, contact Sr. Elisa and she will remove your address.

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Angela Merici