

Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth
Leaven Assembly
July 31, 2018

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I. Material resources

A. We are gifted with the wisdom of our fore-mothers.

- 1) We have structures built to last a lifetime- one structure we call our Mother House, the “home” to which we return.
 - And we know that our home is less than half full.
- 2) We have property and land that are valuable investments - some are the homes in which we live in community with one another
 - And we know that these are underutilized in some instances.
- 3) We have financial investments that have been/are wisely safeguarded and have grown in value over the years. They provide us with sufficient financial security.
 - And we know that markets are unpredictable and could collapse and worldwide economic conditions could affect this dramatically.
 - Consider what S. Nancy Schreck quoted for us yesterday, “prosperity causes amnesia.”

B. Likewise, we have and continue to live our call to mission in part within our sponsored works.

- 1) These are near and dear to us because of our personal and communal investment over the years and for some of us one or more of these have defined who we are as SCLs. We know the good that they do.
- 2) We take pride in them because they help to further the mission of Jesus, our essential mission.
 - And we hear one another talking/wondering how long these sponsorships can continue and how to do we assist them in sustaining the Charism and mission if/when our sense of sponsorship changes. Are there other sponsorships we out to consider?
 - We take our stewardship responsibility seriously.

C. Many of us see the need in the future to address how these material resources and sponsored works may best serve our mission, the needs of the poor, and our needs.

- 1) We may feel a certain degree of urgency and want to begin a process to address them-the how and when of action planning.
- 2) Together, as community, we will ponder & address this in the very near future.

D. For now, it behooves us to not be overly eager, too quick to do what is perhaps the easiest, but rather to bring these ideas and concerns into the light and take that “long loving look” at why we want and will need to take plan.

The answers to the “whys” will reflect our recognition that our most important resources are other than the “tangibles”. Freeing us to face our fears and anxieties, to love enough to let go of what we love.

II. A. To contemplate the “why” is essential. Doing so will help us identify what we are willing to give our very lives for – IN THESE DAYS.

B. For when we are looking broadly, seeing clearly, hearing deeply, and feeling the passion for mission rushing through our veins, then we will risk with conviction trusting that God who has called us to love and serve will grant us the graces we need.

III. Discussion/Reflection Question

In the light of mission, what if we intently and honestly looked for the indicators that will tell us when it is the right time to let go?