

# *A letter from the General Council*



November 9, 2016

Dear Sisters and Associates,

As we met as a General Council this morning, we began by praying for our President-Elect Donald Trump through the lens of our General Chapter Enactments. In his acceptance speech early this morning, President-Elect Trump said it was time to "bind the wounds of division" and for us to "come together as one united people." He pledged to reach out to those who did not support him for help and guidance so that "we can work together and unify our great country."

As Dominicans who have been holding the intention that "the common good of all people and planet rises as a central concern for all candidates and voters this election," we re-dedicate ourselves to the common good as expressed in our Enactments.

In today's reading from the Prophet Ezekiel, the angel of God reveals the life-giving waters flowing from the temple, bringing freshness and abundance wherever it courses. Our Enactments call us to be signs of that life-giving work of God in our midst, especially among those who might read the results of this election as a condemnation — our Muslim brothers and sisters, our Mexican neighbors, immigrants who have long called this country home, women victimized by sexual assault, people with disabilities.

This election calls on us to reach out to friends and neighbors, who responded to the message for change but do not endorse the ugly speech of the campaigns, in common cause to improve the lives and well-being of all our people. Let us manifest our unshakable belief in the power of peace, non-violence, and the possibility of creating resilient communities.

Rooted in the Gospel, we know that Spirit is with us as we, individually and communally, respond to the deep spiritual longings and cries of our suffering world.

*Pat*      *Mary Margaret*  
Patricia Siemen, OP      Mary Margaret Pashucki, OP

*Fran*      *Patty*      *Elise*  
Frances Nadolny, OP      Patricia Harvat, OP      Elise D. García, OP