



SALVATORIAN FAMILY

JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTERGRITY OF CREATION

Rome, 8 July 2021

On “Salvatorian Social Justice in the Context of *Fratelli Tutti*” – July 27, 2021

One among the current and essential documents of the Church on Social Justice is the encyclical of Pope Francis “*Fratelli Tutti*”. This encyclical is a roadmap for justice, peace, harmony, love, kindness, and mercy for living fraternally in our disintegrating world. It marks a way of life marked by the flavor of the Gospel. The encyclical is very essential for each human person as it focuses on humanity in the broad sense as a single human family. Our world needs unity and brotherhood since no one among us is an island. We are not to face life in isolation filled with fear and loneliness. As human beings, all of us need each other in many ways. No one should be left behind or excluded because we recognize his or her humanity and dignity. All ways towards justice, peace, democracy, freedom, responsibilities, rights, unity, and solidarity of human society, are possible to be attained, if each of us takes responsibility for one another in attaining the common good. Denial of one’s rights is the denial of justice. Our sense of justice should be also focused on the responsibilities entrusted to us. As a missionary Society, we need to remember this always as we live and work with people of different faiths, histories, and cultures all over the world.

In fulfilling this responsibility, we commit ourselves as ambassadors of Justice and Peace in our apostolates throughout the world, especially in caring for the frail and the vulnerable. We are to avoid any kind of activity which could deprive any sense of humanity that might be a source of unnecessary conflict and tension in the society. We try our best to use our resources for various projects for the good of all by providing education, feeding the hungry, quenching the thirsty, clothing the naked, and healing the wounded, and taking care of the environment. We value the beatitudes and live them as much as we can because we believe they are pillars of social justice. We try our best to become neighbors to others as Good Samaritans in overcoming prejudices, personal interests, historic and cultural barriers.

We are grateful to our Founder Blessed Francis Jordan who insisted our Salvatorian Family be universal and for all nations. As the Pope addressed in his encyclical, love builds bridges, we are not to collude with any form of systematic or unsystematic racism, human-trafficking, slavery, bullying, discrimination, dictatorship, wars, colonialism, exploitation, corruption, favoritism, and mockery. We acknowledge by words and deeds that all of us are children of God and equal in dignity and valued. Hence, deserving of decency and respect in all aspects of life. No one is useless. Silence towards any unjust act is to extinguish the light of the Gospel, since human rights have no borders. We encourage everyone to live in harmony with God, their fellow human beings, and nature. This integration will help to heal, embrace, perpetuate

love and peace for the broken relationship of all the three dimensions. We must collaborate with one another to break down a culture of walls.

Therefore, we stand with the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable in all aspects of their lives, serving and protecting their life and dignity. We promote dialogue and friendship, reconciliation, forgiveness, peace, justice, and mercy for a fractured and wounded human society.

Sr. Carol Thresher SDS and Ms. Sue Haertel SDS from United States will facilitate us in this zoom meeting on Salvatorian Social Justice in the context of *Fratelli Tutti*, as we celebrate the Year of Blessed Francis Jordan.