



Good Samaritan Statement of Directions 2017-2023

Every six years the Sisters of the Good Samaritan gather in Chapter to elect a new Congregational Leader (traditionally called the Superior) and Council, and to discern our future life and mission. At our 2017 Chapter, we committed to a statement giving shape and direction to our life of prayer and service.

GOOD SAMARITAN STATEMENT OF DIRECTIONS 2017-2023

As Good Samaritans we listen to the Spirit calling us to act boldly and courageously to:

CREATE

by nurturing a culture of mutuality;

ANIMATE

by committing to ecological conversion;

LEAVEN

by fostering ecclesial community; and

LIBERATE

by embracing God's mission in partnership.

In nurturing a culture of mutuality we are called to:

- have humble and discerning hearts;
- model risk taking;
- celebrate;
- commit to a common purpose;
- be 'critical' friends who appreciate our interconnected diversity, value difference and recognise distinctive contributions; and
- promote good governance, structures and processes.

In committing to ecological conversion we are called to:

- an ecological conversion to the new asceticism
- critique our daily practices
- grow as prophetic witnesses to the possibility of transformative change
- be energised by our connectedness with all of God's creation
- draw on the science of cosmology to understand and give expression to our belief in, and worship of, God
- conversations between cosmology, theology and our spirituality to be embedded in all ongoing formation
- learn about and engage with indigenous spiritualities

In fostering ecclesial community we are called to:

- build ecclesial communities of compassion, mutuality and servant leadership
- seize opportunities and take initiatives that involve us in local Church
- be contemplatives in action, faithful to our way of life
- collaborate with diverse faith communities
- use technologies to share our spirituality and traditions
- stand with and bring hope to our bruised and grieving Church

In embracing God's mission in partnership we are called to:

- build active partnerships of trust and collegiality
- speak out, stand with, walk beside, invite
- welcome the wounded, the marginalised and the vulnerable
- stand in solidarity with prophetic voices of our Church and beyond
- engender hope
- faithfully live and share our spirituality together

As depicted in the centre of the diagram we are called to **act boldly and courageously** in animating each of these statements in the world

Through the inspiration of the Parable of the Good Samaritan, the ancient wisdom of the Rule of St Benedict, our shared spirituality and common purpose, we bring life and action to the statement as we seek to be neighbour together, in partnership with others, and with our environment.

We commit to stand in solidarity with, and to advocate for God's people and our world as we actively "seek peace and pursue it" (RB: Prol 17).