



Holy Cross in and for the Church

(Mandate from the Acts of the Chapter 2005, p.19)

We believe in a Church

a Church of the people, a community of believers, a “remnant” Church;
a prophetic Church welcoming all; a participative, relational, pastoral Church;
a Church of the Word given and of the Mission lived...
a pilgrim Church walking in the steps of Jesus incarnate;
a Church that gathers us all as the Family of God.

We believe in a Church

of *metanoia*, a Church which, moved by the Spirit,
goes beyond its rigid structure, acknowledges its pain,
refuses to turn in on itself, takes on its social commitments;
a Church that puts an end to division by ceasing to be
hierarchical, patriarchal, clerical, authoritative, exclusive and anti-gospel.

We believe in a Church

that is our home, a home that we love,
a home in which we are called to remain, a home that is our dwelling place;
a place of prophetic presence, a presence made of forgiveness and of liberation,
one that reflects a patient and compassionate God, a God that is ever near,
a pilgrim God that is dynamic, alive, and bearer of much fruit.

We believe in a Church

that welcomes the charism of Holy Cross as it does all charisms;
a Church that makes of Holy Cross women
ministers of reconciliation, of unity, of peace and of justice;
women who dare to speak out in frank and audacious ways;
women who are close to people, fully committed there where they live,
women who witness to the preferential option for the poor,
midwives at the service of life... in gestation and at birth.

We believe in a Church

established by Jesus and at the service of the People of God,
a Church stripped of power, privileges and honors;
a Church called to mourn the loss of its old ways of thinking,
those that hinder or prevent life from coming forth,
a Church called to remaining, all the while, a sign of hope
in the face of promises yet to be fulfilled.

Here, then, is who we are called to be, in and for the Church,
a Church called to be more and more a “fertile soil”.

Reiterated in January 2022
Sisters of Holy Cross

Note - This “creed” was originally prepared using the synthesis drawn up from the regional reports submitted in 2008 on the theme of the Church. It was first published in January 2010.