

MISSION STATEMENT (1986)

We, the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, choose to live the Gospel in the prophetic spirit of Francis of Assisi and our Foundress Mother Francis Bachmann. With Jesus Christ as Brother, we live as sister with one another, with the entire human family, and with all creation. Calling ourselves and one another to continuous conversion of heart, we commit ourselves to a life of contemplation, poverty, and humility.

As vowed women of the Church, we respond with diverse gifts in a spirit of collaboration and of mutual service to the needs of others, especially the economically poor, the marginal, and the oppressed. Seeking to participate in the Spirit's action in the world, we direct our personal and corporate resources to the promotion of justice, peace, and reconciliation.

Filled with trust in the goodness of God, we move forward.



COMMITMENT STATEMENT

We recommit ourselves to “rebuilding the Church” by living the passion of the Gospel in the discerning spirit of our Franciscan charism and tradition.

We are willing to take the necessary risks to be a healing, compassionate presence in our violent world especially with women, children, and those who have no voice.

We desire to reflect this commitment in our dialogue with the entire Church, in our own governing structures, in our relationship with one another as sister.

General Chapter, 1996

Chapter 2008 Directives



THE SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS
OF PHILADELPHIA

Claiming our identity as prophetic Franciscan women and opening ourselves to God's radical hospitality, we move forward communally and personally by choosing to live more deeply, intentionally, and hospitably into the truth of our mission statement:

TO LIVE THE GOSPEL IN A PROPHETIC SPIRIT BY

- ✧ Incarnating our Franciscan Theological Tradition through being a hospitable face of our Church, supporting its mission, and challenging its failures,
- ✧ Engaging visibly and vocally in the critical conversations that lead to radical action and systemic change.



TO LIVE AS SISTER WITH ONE ANOTHER, WITH THE ENTIRE HUMAN FAMILY, AND WITH ALL CREATION BY

- ✧ Calling ourselves to greater inclusivity by welcoming all who journey with us, especially our companions,
- ✧ Embracing a radically simple lifestyle through honestly examining our needs and wants in response to the cry of those who are poor and of sister Earth,
- ✧ Challenging ourselves to find creative ways to move the Franciscan charism into the future.

TO CALL OURSELVES AND ONE ANOTHER TO CONTINUOUS CONVERSION OF HEART BY

- ✧ Deepening our contemplative stance and challenging ourselves to move beyond our comfort zones,
- ✧ Freeing ourselves from paralyzing fears, grudges, and negativity.



TO RESPOND WITH DIVERSE GIFTS IN A SPIRIT OF COLLABORATION AND OF MUTUAL SERVICE TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS BY

- ✧ Seeking opportunities to be with those who are poor and vulnerable in compassionate hospitality,
- ✧ Acting on our corporate stands in concrete measurable ways.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPIRIT'S ACTION IN THE WORLD BY

- ✧ Choosing to live and act as instruments of peace,
- ✧ Networking among ourselves, our companions, and with others to creatively support existing ministries and embrace new opportunities that respond to current critical issues.