

# Chapter 2020 - Highlights

*Sisters of Charity - Halifax*

## *Highlights of Chapter Day Five*

**Friday, October 16**

### **Friday Night Reporters:**

Sister Sheilagh Martin, Nova Scotia

Sister Ann Regan, Massachusetts

S. Bernice Vetter opened today's session by welcoming the sisters and associates.

After prayer, S. Pat Kozak reminded the Assembly of the task of the Listeners who were drafting the Chapter statement. The three Listeners, S. Anne Harvey, Marybeth Moore and Judy Park held a conversation on screen indicating how they went about their task. The draft statement was posted for consideration and there was time for questions and clarification.

We returned to our small groups to answer two questions:

Does the statement capture the essence of what transpired during Chapter?

Can you affirm the statement?

The result was a unanimous affirmation of the document. The draft requires some fine tuning and will be circulated later.

We were then treated to a delightful video entitled "A Message from the Future." In it, a sketch artist drew the story of what has been happening in our world since the pandemic began in March. First we witnessed a chaotic scene, upending all we had thought was clear and definite in our lives. The tragic heartbreak of lost lives, and livelihoods was recounted in artwork.

And then a focus on hands brought us to see the myriad of blessings that also have come with the pandemic: hands washing regularly in care of others, hands gathering and serving food to the hungry, hands stroking the brows of those in need of comfort and care, hands reaching out in solidarity and support, hands embracing the beauty of nature in thrilling ways. In this new vision of our earth, no one and nothing is sacrificial; all are essential.

Next came time for us to reflect on the theme of our week together. In a creative effort to highlight the theme, our facilitators invited us into our chapter groups for our final time together to answer the question: If this week were a book, a song or a movie, what would the title be? We bid farewell to our table companions, and then shared the

# Chapter 2020 - Highlights

*Sisters of Charity - Halifax*

fruits of our writing skills with one another in the large group. Lots of potential talent may make its way to Broadway when we least expect it!

A prayer of gratitude and thanksgiving was offered for the outgoing team and a special blessing was given the new team who will be installed on November 21.

Closing business included the unanimous approval of the Chapter minutes, and the many and heartfelt thank you's to all who made the virtual Chapter possible by their generosity and expertise both before and during the event. S. Joan O'Keefe declared the Chapter closed at 3:41 pm AST.