

# 2025 Activities of the JPIC Committee

Sisters of Notre Dame, Regina Pacis Province, INCHEON, SOUTH KOREA

## February: “Give You” (donation-sharing) for Neighbors

The “Give You” (donation-sharing) for our neighbors, which began last year, continued again this year at the provincial gathering. Recognizing that items forgotten in our closets may be necessities for others, we collected usable goods and shared them with a self-reliance community for unwed mothers. This community is home to unwed mothers and their children and is in urgent need of support, as it does not receive government or institutional subsidies.

## May: Celebrating of Laudato Si’ Week



As part of the preparation for Laudato Si’ Week, two online lectures were held under the theme “A Year of Adventure,” with Hyunhwa Oh, co-representative of LSM Korea, as the speaker. In the significant context of the Church’s Jubilee Year, the 10th anniversary of *Laudato Si’*, and the upcoming COP 30, participants reflected on when and how we are called to hope as people of faith, and what kind of “adventure” we might embark upon to make 2025 a year of transformation, grounded in that hope.



This year also marks the 175th anniversary of our Congregation’s foundation. In this spirit, a novena was prepared and shared with all members in anticipation of Laudato Si’ Week. The prayer journey combined excerpts from the biography of our foundress, Sister Maria Aloysia, with selected passages from *Laudato Si’*,

inviting meditation and action. Through this nine-day journey, we were able to walk together with Sister Maria Aloysia, singing and journeying through the week guided by the Holy Spirit.



On May 23, a Mass commemorating the 10th anniversary of *Laudato Si'* was celebrated at the Notre Dame Eco-Spirituality Centre in Ganghwa Island. The Mass began with the offering of symbolic items representing the Earth and all creatures, modern technology, the encyclical *Laudato Si'*, and a rainbow symbolizing God's covenant and our hope. After Communion, all participants joined together in the "Dance of Peace" as an earnest prayer for all who are suffering. During the Mass, we reflected on how we might transition to sustainable ways of living in the face of the ecological crisis and many other challenges confronting humanity, and what kind of world we will pass on to future generations. We prayed for the mercy of God, our Creator, as we sought these answers together.

### September: Celebrating the Season of Creation

During the Season of Creation, the JPIC Committee shared daily prayers through social media under the title "A Daily Pilgrimage for Peace with Creation." Each prayer consisted of a brief reflection on a passage from the daily Mass readings, a suggested practice for peace and care for creation, and a remembrance of one endangered species each day.

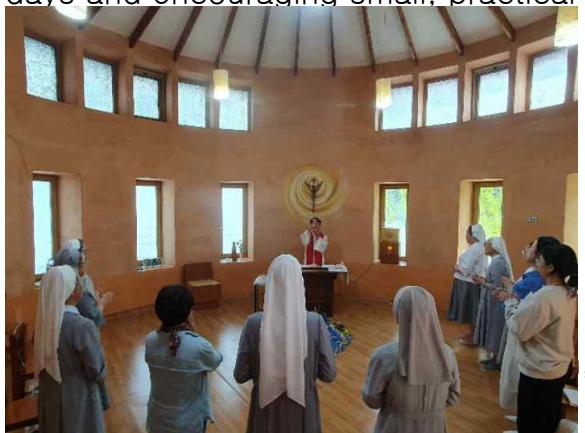


Recognizing more deeply than ever the need for a journey of repentance through prayer, discernment, and commitment for peace with creation, a two-day prayer service entitled "Peace with Creation" was

held from September 13 to 14 at the Notre Dame Eco-Spirituality Centre in Ganghwa Island. Although the number of participants was small, the prayer service included not only members of the Sisters of Notre Dame but also members of other religious congregations based in Ganghwa, seminarians from Incheon Catholic University, and laypeople. Through lectures and Eucharistic Adoration, participants shared a precious time of ecological conversion, seeking to restore lost peace with creation and resolving to discern and commit themselves anew to their individual missions.



2 the JPIC Committee has encouraged sisters by informing all members of environmental commemorative days and encouraging small, practical



of the Catholic Church in Korea, and some sisters from Incheon Province participate in), and Osan Kindergarten. Among these, the “Sura Tidal Flat Project” presented by Sr. Caritas Maria Osan Kindergarten drew significant attention. Osan Kindergarten is the first institution in Korea to be officially registered as a member of the Orff-Schulwerk Association in Austria. This



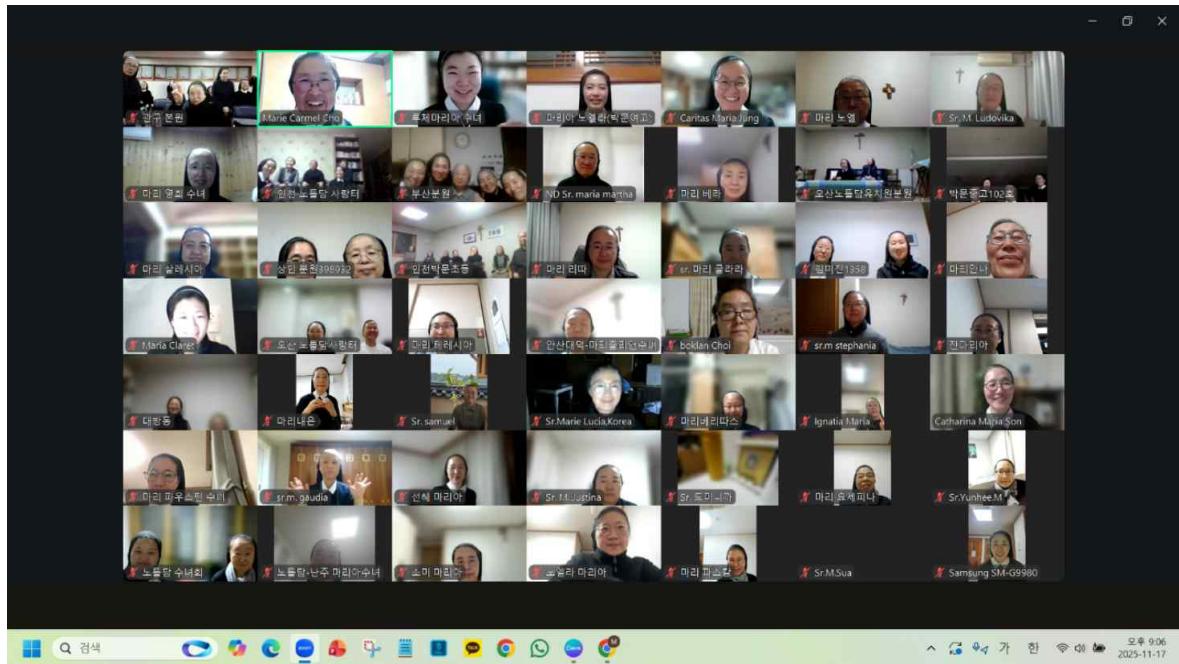
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year's theme of the association was "The Voice," with the subtitle *communicating, creating, connecting*. Sr. Caritas Maria connected this theme with the "Peace Pilgrimage—Sura Tidal Flat Life" held on 20<sup>th</sup> Jan. Beginning with listening to the "voices" of the living creatures of the Sura Tidal Flat, she guided seven-year-old children to express the pain and cries of marine life through a creative work that combined spoken rhythm, simple melodies, and movement. This project extended beyond classroom activities by inviting parents and children to participate together in a kind of "Challenge," incorporating parts of the spoken rhythms and movements. In doing so, the project helped expand ecological awareness to parents and the local community.



In the second sharing session, we listened to JPIC activity reports from sisters engaged in apostolic ministries abroad—in China, Vietnam, the Philippines, and Germany. In particular, Sr. Mari Muyoung, who is currently ministering at Emmaus community, Germany. This international community

consists of sisters from Germany, India, Indonesia, the United States, and Korea, and its vision is solidarity, relationship, and hospitality. Based on this vision, the community organises reflections and prayer services according to the liturgical year and bazaars in collaboration with local residents and parishioners. They also maintain close relationships with elderly sisters and offer hospitality to sisters visiting on pilgrimages related to the history of the congregation, thereby preserving and sharing the charism and history of the Sisters of Notre Dame. Through sharing sisters' various JPIC practices, we were reminded that JPIC is not limited to environmental action alone, but is also about relationships—through which we rediscover the "wholeness" in which God created us, enriching our lives in the process.



This opportunity to share and affirm our individual and communal commitments to the 2022 General Chapter's statement, "Care for Creation," proved to be a powerful source of motivation—perhaps even more so than external networking or activity reports. Building on this experience, two sharing sessions are planned for 2026.