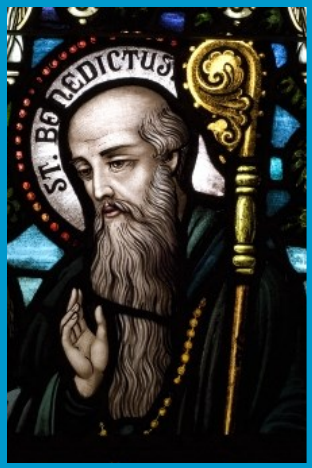


Benedictine Coalition for Responsible Investment

September 2017 — Issue 20



Challenging Times Call for Extraordinary Conviction and Courage

"Unprecedented" is a term that surfaces in the daily news cycle on a regular basis. We say that our Benedictine CRI newsletter is a "snapshot in time." Our world has been significantly changed as we worked to bring this to you. Every day, we have added to what we anticipated being in this newsletter. As in our lives, we all try to move forward and do what we can in the circumstances we find in the world and in our slice of the world.

Challenging times call for extraordinary conviction and courage.

On page 9, we have listed a number of the events which occurred on our planet Earth in the short time frame from August 25 to September 14, 2017. Among the events were that Hurricanes Harvey and Irma made landfall on the mainland of the United States within two weeks of each other. The devastation is vast—not just to the United States but to many islands and areas in their paths. It is hard to describe the damages because of the vastness. Some islands depend on tourism as their primary income. Cleanup and rebuilding will take years. We are still in the recovery and digging out phase as we go to print. The estimates of damages will continue to grow as the waters recede and claims are filed. The 8.1 magnitude earthquake in Mexico created much devastation. Hurricanes Katia and Max hit Mexico. Hurricanes Jose and Maria could still affect the islands and the U.S. There are many environmental events happening – we are only able to mention a few. Our hearts and prayers go out to all those affected by these natural disasters, even as we do all in our power to assist those in these areas.

The corporate accountability work we are engaged in is being challenged by the powers that want us not to have the tool of shareholder resolutions to ask companies about their practices. This Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rule was enacted in 1934. As you can see from our article on page 4, it has been tweaked a number of times. The current proposal which has passed the U.S. House of Representatives would only allow resolutions by those who own 1% of the company's stock – this would mean owning billions of dollars of the stock in many cases. It would not allow for the small shareholder to have a voice. We are educating our U.S. Senators and their staff about this potential extremely silencing effect on our work. Since 1971, the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) (our national group) has been raising issues on corporate proxy ballots.

In the Rule of Benedict, we say we are going to establish a "school of the Lord's service"... in any school setting, we continue to learn and act upon what we learn. We have much work to do if we are to bring about a more peaceful and just world. We begin that work of a lifetime with one action, one step at a time.

With new insights, more is required of us. Together, we take steps to go forward with courage and conviction NOW.

From the Prologue to the Rule of Benedict:

And the Lord, seeking the laborer in the multitude to whom God thus cries out, says again, "Who is the one who will have life, and desires to see good days" (Ps. 33:13)? And if, hearing, you answer, "I am the one," God says to you, "If you will have true and everlasting life, keep your tongue from evil and your lips that they speak no guile. Turn away from evil and do good; seek after peace and pursue it" (Ps. 33:14-15).

Inside This Issue:

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2017 Resolutions and Successful Results

Below are highlights of shareholder resolutions filed by religious/socially responsible investors during the 2017 Proxy Season.

Antibiotics in the Food Supply Chain:

-Commitments were made by **Jack in the Box**, **Burger King**, **Starbucks** and **KFC** to phase out medically important antibiotics in their chicken supply chains. The **McDonald's** resolution on beef and pork supply chains received 31% support.

Corporate Ethics/Pharmaceuticals:

-ICCR investors filed a Business Standards/Risk Management resolution with **Wells Fargo** — received nearly 21% support. This followed documented evidence of employee fraud in opening over two million unauthorized accounts.
-Resolutions with 11 major U.S. pharmaceutical companies and letters to an additional six non-US companies requesting that they provide rationale and criteria justifying price increases and assessment of the legislative, regulatory, reputational and financial risks they represent to these companies. **Eli Lilly**, **J&J**, **Merck** published pricing transparency reports. **Sanofi** pledged to keep price increases at or below the US National Health Expenditure growth rate.
Senators Blumenthal and Sanders supported ICCR's drug pricing resolutions, criticizing the SEC for siding with companies to block them.
-**Valeant Pharmaceuticals** agreed to "claw back" some of its executive incentive pay and include provisions for misconduct beyond what is currently mandated in Dodd Frank.

Environment/Sustainability/Governance:

-Challenges were made to the proxy voting policy records of large portfolio managers on ESG issues by requesting proxy voting reviews, leading **BlackRock** and **JPMorgan Chase** to publish new positions on the urgency of addressing climate risk, opening the door to vote in favor of specific climate-related shareholder resolutions.
-Seven companies agreed to improve their ESG performance by tracking and reporting on sustainability issues: **Ameriprise Financial**, **A.O. Smith**, **Chipotle**, **Emerson**, **Nordson**, **Oceaneering** and **Torchmark**.

Fracking:

-**Pioneer Natural Resources** to disclose intensity of its water use for each of its hydraulic fracturing plays; **Whiting Petroleum** to take steps to minimize adverse impacts of hydraulic fracturing operations.

Global Warming/Climate Change:

-The 2°C scenario warming resolution received majority votes -- 67% at **Occidental**, 47% at **Ameren**, 45% at **Southern**, 43% at **First Energy**, and 40% at **AES**.

-Faith-based investors won an astounding 62%, the second highest vote this year, calling on **ExxonMobil** to align its business plan with the 2°C warming scenario. Fr. Mike Crosby's determined efforts around this issue resulted in convincing **ExxonMobil** to add climate change expert, **Dr. Susan Avery**, to its board of directors.
-Agreements were reached with **Sempra Energy**, **Southern**, and **Washington Gas** to report publicly on methane leak tracking and mitigation. **Xcel Energy** will begin assessing financial risk of stranded carbon assets. An **ExxonMobil** resolution concerning methane received 38% of the vote.
- A resolution was filed with **Pepsi** to set science-based greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Human Right to Water:

-Two California-based water utilities, **California Water Service Group** and **American States Water** agreed to adopt policies committing to support the human right to water (HRTW).
-**Morgan Stanley** and **Goldman Sachs**, financing providers for the Dakota Access Pipe Line (DAPL), agreed to review due diligence in financing projects with potential community impacts.
- Investor in DAPL **Phillips 66** agreed to work on strengthening its human rights/indigenous rights policies, respecting the Standing Rock Sioux tribe's human right to water (HRTW).

Lobbying Expenditures:

Johnson and Johnson, **Pfizer** and **Walgreens Boots Alliance** agreed to increase disclosure of yearly lobbying expenses, shining light on the influence of "dark money" in politics. **PNC Financial Services** and **Pinnacle West** will publicly disclose candidate and political parties spending. Lobbying/political spending resolutions received high votes -- 42% at **Royal Bank of Canada**; 41.5% at **First Energy**; 40% at **Emerson**, 37.7% at **Wyndham**, 36.4% at **Honeywell**, 37.4% at **Nucor**, 36.8% at **Travelers** and 36.4% at **Disney**.

Pay Equity/Workplace Diversity:

-**Goldman Sachs**, **BNY Mellon**, **Verizon**, **AT&T** and **Qualcomm** will enhance pay equity disclosure practices.
-**Badger Meter**, **CVS Health**, **Costco**, **IDEX**, **IBM**, **Johnson & Johnson**, **A.O. Smith Corporation**, and **Whole Foods** agreed to set time-bound benchmarks to measure their diversity progress. **The Cheesecake Factory** will add a woman to its board.
-**Home Depot** - the resolution to publish their EEO-1 data in a report received 33.65% -- the highest ever in sixteen years of filing this type of resolution.



Benedictine CRI — 2017 Shareholder Resolutions

ALPHABET-GOOGLE, INC

Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure—12.71% For

Monasterio Pan de Vida, Torreon
Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore

Political Contributions—10.24% For

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

ALTRIA (Phillip Morris)

Advertising in Minority/Low Income Neighborhoods—2.6% For

Benedictine Sisters of Virginia

AMGEN

Drug Pricing Transparency—Omitted: Challenged: ordinary business

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica
Monasterio Pan De Vida, Torreon

ANTHEM

Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure—Omitted: duplicative of a proposal on similar topic—2016 Resolution 9%

Monasterio Pan de Vida, Torreon

AT&T

Lobbying Expenditures — Climate—35.47% For

Benedictine Sisters of Virginia
Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica
Monasterio Pan de Vida, Torreon
Monasterio de San Benito, Mexico City

CATERPILLAR, INC.

Independent Director with Human Rights Expertise—Withdrawn -- Due to a recent meeting and CAT's hiring of a human rights staff person, we agreed to withdraw the resolution in exchange for 2 dialogues

Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, TX
Benedictine Sisters of Virginia

CHEVRON

Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure — Climate—29% For

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica
Benedictine Sisters of Virginia
Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore

Separate the Role of Chairperson and CEO—39% For

Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, TX

CHIPOTLE MEXICAN GRILL

Executive Pay: Incorporate Sustainability Metrics—Withdrawn — Chipotle has agreed to produce a sustainability report that will also address the proposal

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

COCA-COLA - doing the report

Greenhouse Gas Reduction —Renewable Energy

Primary Filer: Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, TX

COMCAST

16.6% For of the total vote, and 27.5% excluding insider shares

Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

CONOCOPHILLIPS

Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure — Climate—23% For

Benedictine Sisters of Virginia
Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore

Executive Pay: Incorporate Sustainability Metrics

Conoco has now removed reserve replacement ration from the formula for incentive compensation. That is the core of our ask
Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

CVS/CAREMARK

Principles for Minimum Wage Reform—Omitted -- ordinary business -- ordinary business

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica
Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore
Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, TX

DUKE ENERGY

Lobbying Expenditures — Climate Policy—33.30% For

Benedictine Sisters of Virginia

EXXONMOBIL

Business Plan for 2C Warming Scenario—62.10% For - Passed

Benedictine Sisters of Cullman, AL
Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore
Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, TX
Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

Independent Director with Climate Change Expertise—Withdrawn -- election of Dr. Susan Avery to the Board of Directors of ExxonMobil

Benedictine Sisters of Virginia

GILEAD SCIENCES

Drug Pricing Transparency—Omitted -- ordinary business

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

The HOME DEPOT, INC.

Equal Employment Opportunity Disclosure (EEO-1 Report)—33.65%

Primary Filer: Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, TX

JOHNSON & JOHNSON (Dialogue)

Drug Pricing Transparency—published a drug pricing transparency report

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

MCDONALD'S

Phase Out Routine Use of Antibiotics in Meat Supply Chain—30.97%

Primary Filer: Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, TX
Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore

MERCK & CO., INC.

Drug Pricing Transparency—published a drug pricing transparency report

Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore

OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM

Review Public Policy Advocacy on Climate Change—Withdrawn -- to preserve the right to re-file. Challenged at SEC -- Ordinary Business

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

PEPSICO

Reduce Pesticide Use—9.10% For

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica
Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore

PFIZER

Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure — Climate Change—Withdrawn -- on an agreement to some new approaches we asked them to take on climate lobbying

Monasterio de San Benito, Mexico City

PHILLIPS 66 (Dakota Access Pipe Line)

Environmental and Human Rights Due Diligence — DAPL—Withdrawn -- with the expectation of several dialogues in 2017 that would work towards disclosing and strengthening the company's human rights and Indigenous rights policies.

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica
Benedictine Sisters of Virginia

SOUTHERN COMPANY

Business Plan for 2C Warming Scenario—45.71% For

Benedictine Sisters of Virginia

VERIZON

Greenhouse Gas Reductions — Renewable Energy—15% For

Monasterio de San Benito, Mexico City

VERTEX

Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure—26.95%

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica

WELLS FARGO

Business Standards/Vision and Values/Risk Management—21.80%

Benedictine Sisters — Mount St. Scholastica
Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore
Benedictine Sisters of Virginia

YUM! BRANDS, INC.

Non-Therapeutic Use of Antibiotics in Animals—Withdrawn -- company has agreed to review its policy

Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore



Our Work Under Attack

The Value of the Shareholder Proposal Process

In June 2017, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation, the **Financial CHOICE Act**, which would gut much of the Dodd-Frank reforms regulating the financial institutions instituted after the near-collapse of the system in 2007. One of its provisions would make it impossible for all but the largest investors to file shareholder proposals by requiring that investors must hold at least **one percent** of the outstanding shares for three years in order to file a proposal. This would remove a key tool that investors use to communicate with corporate boards.

Some impetus for the inclusion of the shareholder proposal process in this legislation may have come from the Business Roundtable (BRT), which sent a [letter](#) to the Administration highlighting 16 regulations that the organization believed would “directly and negatively impact economic growth.” One was the shareholder proposal process, which the letter described as “activist investors with insignificant stakes in public companies make shareholder proposals that pursue social/political agendas unrelated to the interests of the shareholders as a whole.”

Notably, the BRT’s [statement](#) following the passage of the Financial CHOICE Act singled out the provision that would essentially eliminate the shareholder proposal process, which the BRT described as “helping companies concentrate more effectively on investment, innovation and economic growth.” However, neither the BRT’s original letter nor its statement offered any evidence supporting the idea that shareholder resolutions impede corporate performance or harm innovation or economic growth. Perhaps that’s because that view is hard to support with facts.

Three points are worth some honest illumination:

1. Shareholder resolutions usually focus on material issues aimed at improving corporate financial performance.
2. Shareholder proposals under the current SEC rules are not burdensome, and in the vast majority of cases, are not even binding.
3. The voice of shareholders is valuable both to companies and to investors alike.

While not every idea is worth pursuing, silencing them would be a very bad idea.

Posted by Tim Smith (Walden Asset Management) and Julie Fox Gorte (Pax World Management)

<https://corpgov.law.harvard.edu/2017/07/11/the-value-of-the-shareholder-proposal-process/>

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In 2018: The guidelines for filing a shareholder resolution that would meet the criteria of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) are specific. These include:

- ✕ An institution or individual must own a minimum of \$2,000 worth of shares.
 - ✕ An institution or individual must hold the stock continuously for a minimum of a year in order to file a resolution.
 - ✕ The stock must be held through the date of the annual shareholder meeting.
 - ✕ Each resolution must be written in 500 words or less.
 - ✕ Filed resolutions must receive a minimum of 3% of the vote by all of the shareholders the first year in order to be brought back the following year. During the second year, the resolution must receive 6% of the vote and in the third year, at least 10% of the vote. In the fourth year and every year after that, the resolution must receive 10% to continue.
- If the resolution does not receive the needed vote or is not presented at the annual shareholder meeting, we cannot raise that issue on the proxy ballot for the next three years.

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Past History

During the past three decades, there have been numerous challenges to the 1934 SEC rules for filing shareholder resolutions. In 1982, you could own one share of stock for any length of time and file a resolution.

In 1985, the religious groups sued the SEC for violating its own rules. The SEC had mandated that resolutions receive 5% the first year, 8% the second year and 10% the third year. This had not been put out for the 60 day comment period. A judge ruled in the favor of the religious groups and the voting percentages were rolled back to 3%, 6% and 10% the next year. The rule went into effect that one had to own \$1,000 worth of the shares for one year continuously.

In 1999, there was a challenge by the SEC as to whether or not such topics as maquiladora wages should be raised on the proxy ballots. The SEC ruled that maquiladora wages could **not** be raised on the ballot. The topic of wages (labor-related issues) was considered “ordinary business” and was the purview of management. One had to own \$2,000 worth of the shares for one year continuously.

In 2004, there was a proposal by the SEC to raise the needed votes on resolutions to 8% the first year, 15% the second and 30% the third year. The SEC received 38,000 responses to these changes—by letters, faxes, emails. The SEC backed off. The rule for votes remains the same as the 1934 rules: 3% the first year, 6% the second year and 10% the third year.

Successes and Recognition

Ending Forced Labor: 5 Companies adopt 'no fees' recruitment

ICCR is on a mission to shut down forced labor around the globe and five major brands have just signed on to help. As a result of shareholder engagement, on August 9th five leading companies -- **Ford, General Motors, Hormel Foods, Marriott Hotels and Michael Kors** -- announced they were adopting ICCR's "no fees" policy prohibiting the paying of recruitment fees by employees.

Every year, millions of migrant workers who cross international borders seeking jobs and opportunities are unwittingly trapped into forced and bonded labor through a global labor recruitment system that charges excessive recruitment fees. Corporations aware of this human rights risk can shut down this gateway to slavery by adopting and enforcing the "employer pays" principle.

Ford, General Motors, Hormel Foods, Marriott Hotels and Michael Kors have stepped up to end forced labor. In the coming months, we'll be encouraging more corporations to follow their lead.

Cleaning Up Bangladesh Tanneries

Leather production is a toxic business. In Bangladesh, **over 150 leather tanneries** in the Hazaribagh district of Dhaka discharge close to **22,000 cubic meters of untreated liquid toxic waste** daily into local gutters, canals, and rivers, such as the Buriganga. A lifeline for millions who depend on its waters for bathing, washing clothes, food irrigation and transportation of goods, the Buriganga is literally black with pollution. Even worse, **child workers as young as 8** have been exposed to toxic chemicals and carcinogenic leather dust in Hazaribagh tanneries. A Transparency investigation found conditions so brutal that the government of Bangladesh was recently compelled to shut off water, electricity and power to the Hazaribagh tanneries.

An environmentally sustainable alternative site is being constructed at Savar. ICCR and its partners have launched a campaign to persuade companies with ties to the Hazaribagh tanneries to help implement a responsible transition by making sure workers from Hazaribagh have compensation while waiting for tanneries to relocate to Savar. We are also asking that companies make sure no children are being employed in the new facilities, and are engaging the Leather Working Group that certifies tanneries on environmental issues, to expand its scope to include labor issues.



The Sisters at Holy Wisdom Monastery in Wisconsin are excited about receiving the first Assisi Award for faith-based conservation in Cartagena, Colombia. The Society for Conservation Biology awarded the community the first international Assisi Award for faith-based conservation in Cartagena, Colombia on July 23, 2017. Sister Joanne Kollasch and Sister Mary David Walgenbach accepted the award and spoke about the work they do at Holy Wisdom. Founded in Ann Arbor, Michigan, the Society for Conservation Biology has more than 5,000 members worldwide and is "dedicated to promoting the scientific study of the phenomena that affect the maintenance, loss, and restoration of biological diversity."

Sr. Mary David Walgenbach, OSB, prioress

Benedictine CRI members receive recent sustainability awards

The Koehler Company was just awarded the Excellence in Construction Award from the Associated Builders & Contractors of South Texas for the construction of the new St. Scholastica Monastery for the Benedictine Sisters in Boerne, Texas. Congratulations to Koehler and to the Benedictine Sisters. *Sr. Sylvia Ahr, OSB*

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) is a national trade association representing 22,000 members from more than 19,000 construction and industry-related firms. Founded on the merit shop philosophy, ABC and its 70 chapters help members develop people, win work and deliver that work safely, ethically, and profitably for the betterment of the communities in which they work.





Reflections

McDonald's Corporation 2017 Annual Shareholders' Meeting

McDonald's Annual Shareholders' Meeting was held in Oakbrook, Illinois on May 24, 2017. In addition to the usual company proposals on executive compensation, auditors, and board of directors, there were several advisory shareholder proposals, including:

- ... Requesting a change to the vote-counting standard for shareholder proposals, which received 9.3% of shareholders' votes.
- ... Regarding the threshold to call special shareholder meetings — 47%.
- ... Requesting a report assessing the environmental impacts of polystyrene foam beverage cups — 30.9%.
- ... Requesting a report on charitable contributions — 3.5%.
- ... Requesting that the board update the company's policy regarding use of antibiotics by its meat suppliers, which was sponsored by the Boerne Benedictine — 29.7%.

Each person making a proposal had two minutes to present the proposal, while a large screen counted down the seconds, and flashing red light and alarm. At the beginning of the meeting anyone who had a question wrote it on a card, which were collected, and, after the votes on the proposals, the CEO answered the questions he chose to answer from the ones submitted. When he answered the ones he wanted to talk about, he stated that time was up and the meeting was over.

The meeting began at 8:30 in the morning and included remarks from the board chair, a report by the CEO, introductions of the board members, a video about McDonald's future plans, presentation of the proposals, announcement of the votes, and the question and answer period, all of which took about 70 minutes! The fact that these shareholder-sponsored proposals received such a high proportion of votes indicates that shareholders all over the world are taking their votes seriously. So many of them agree with these shareholder resolutions, and this, in turn, is a big influence on the company, even though the company refuses to implement these proposals at this time.

Mary Ann O'Ryan, OSB
St. Scholastica Monastery, Chicago

Initiatives Highlights BCRI

The Benedictine Coalition for Responsible Investment includes 18 monasteries, plus two more in Mexico plus one Sisters of Charity community. It leverages Benedictine stock holdings to agitate for corporate improvements.

Sr. Susan Mika, OSB sends INITIATIVES the latest on a BCRI campaign to eliminate antibiotics from fast food. On May 24, 2017 a BCRI resolution about beef and pork was put to McDonald's shareholders. Though the corporate board advised a No vote, the Benedictines got 29.7%. This is more than enough, writes Mika, "to continue to raise the question" within the company.

Some background on the thinking of the McDonald's board: Like other fast food chains, McDonald's is already using antibiotic-free chickens. Cattle and pigs though are hard to monitor because thousands of ranches are involved; a single cow might move from farm to farm before slaughter; and McDonald's, unlike with a chicken, buys only part of each cow.

Nonetheless, the concern is serious. Super-bacteria are already resistant to some common antibiotics and needless exposure to antibiotics in food makes treatment of infections increasingly difficult. The Benedictines are aware that some animals need antibiotics when they are ill. Their stockholder campaign is against indiscriminate use of those drugs in animal feed and in sprays.

(Chicago Tribune, 4/18/17 and Chicago Sun Times, 4/19/17)

Mika and her fellow Benedictines are hardly the only ones involved with socially responsible investing.

**National Center for the Laity
Initiatives in Support of Christians in the World
September 2017 Issue**

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers asked for Kroger Proxies from our members to attend the Shareholder Meeting in Cincinnati. Here is one of their stories.

Hello. I am Silvia. Our coalition has been to the Kroger shareholders' meeting for 8 years where we invite Kroger to join the Fair Food Program, which transforms the lives of farm workers.

I want to share about farm worker Alejandrina, whose story was recently told by CNN. At 14, Alejandrina was working the fields when her supervisor promised her a better job in the warehouse, then took her to an isolated area, and tried to sexually assault her. Another worker heard her and stopped the assault, but **both** were fired the next day. Today, however, she works in an FFP farm, where conditions are drastically improved, telling CNN: "You're not going to be harassed, you're not going to be insulted, you're not going to be forced to work. There's more respect now."

The FFP is the most widely recognized social responsibility program in the nation, with recognition by the White House, the Labor and Justice Departments, the EEOC, and the United Nations due to its impact in the agriculture industry. The Program has even won the Presidential Medal of Honor.

There are 30,000 men and women like Alejandrina who now have rights such as access to shade, restrooms and the ability to complain without fear. Under the FFP, women are now free to work without the fear of sexual harassment.

This is why we are inviting Kroger to join. Last year, Kroger bought tomatoes from a grower who was fined \$1.4 million by the Labor Department for wage violations. If Kroger does not join the Fair Food Program, it is perpetuating these conditions.

Renewable Energy Hits a Milestone

This year for the first time, nuclear power generation (expensive to expand and politically unsavory) has been surpassed by renewable energy sources like wind, solar, and geothermal. This spring, renewable energy widened its lead and shows no signs of powering down.

Fortune Magazine, August 1, 2017

Major Company CEOs Made 271 Times the Typical U.S. Worker in 2016

By Jena McGregor, The Washington Post, July 20, 2017

❖ Chief executives of America's 350 largest companies made an average of \$15.6 million in 2016, or 271 time more than what the typical worker made last year.

❖ The CEO-to-worker pay ratio has been getting much more attention in recent years after a controversial measure was included in the Dodd-Frank Act that would require individual companies to calculate their CEO's pay and compare it with the median pay of their workers, starting next year.

Solidarity is a free response born from the heart of each and every one. ... When one realizes that life, even in the middle of so many contradictions, is a gift, that love is the source and the meaning of life, how can they withhold their urge to do good to another fellow being?

Pope Francis, TED talk, April 25, 2017

Reflections

In Memory of Fr. Mike Crosby

Fr. Mike Crosby recently lost his struggle with cancer. He started many of the Catholic Coalitions for Responsible (CRIs) in the 1970s and early 1980s. Our national group, the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), was started by several Protestant Churches in 1971. Fr. Mike realized quickly that we needed to have a Catholic presence in this important ministry and set out to make that happen.



He has made such a difference in our corporate responsibility work over all these years! He worked on tobacco issues for decades, challenging the tobacco companies about their practices and transparency in the effects of tobacco on our bodies. He worked on Exxon Mobil issues for decades, especially climate change. He challenged Exxon Mobil to put a person on the Board of Directors who has environmental expertise. ExxonMobil, after years of getting this resolution, decided to put such a person on the Board. After withdrawing this resolution, Mike was featured in numerous articles about this. Mike wrote numerous books, developed a whole series of Talks on Compassion, gave countless retreats and spoke at so many conventions/gatherings/education events.

Mike was always about bringing about justice – to those most in need, to those who were voiceless, to companies who needed to hear this message about their practices, to each of us to examine who we are and how we live, to the church which he loved.

Mike, may you rest in peace from your many labors! You served well in the vineyard of God's reign. We will miss you and your energy and that persistent voice mightily!

Sr. Susan Mika, OSB

Reflection on Las Ramblas

Going into my first trip to Europe I knew it would be a very diverse region. I expected to see different traditions, food, religion, culture and races all within a short train ride of each other. It turned out to be even more culturally diverse and inclusive of outsiders than I expected, especially in Barcelona which was one of my favorite cities that I visited. I got to see different cultures from all over Spain and the world living together in a beautiful coastal city that seems to have it all. I was looking forward to practicing the Spanish that I had picked up while traveling. A simple "hola" or "gracias" was met with so much hospitality from friendly people all over the city. It was this diverse group of people that came **together** after the horrible tragedy in Las Ramblas to show the perpetrators, and the rest of the world, that these events will **not** define their city nor instill fear in its residents. Like Pope Francis said in his recent TED talk, it's up to us to build these all-encompassing communities that accept and include people from all backgrounds and walks of life. Countries are only going to get more diverse and its cities more culturally intermingled. I walked "La Ramba" every day I was there, and it was incredibly powerful to see the people of Barcelona coming together to show compassion, strength, and solidarity.



Street scene of Las Ramblas, Barcelona

by E. J. Urbanczyk

E.J. Urbanczyk
former intern - Benedictine CRI

Total Solar Eclipse: Sharing God's Love and Bringing the World Together

Atchison, Kansas was one of those fortunate places within the path of the total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017, and so the Atchison Benedictine Sisters chose to share the event with nearly 500 umbraphiles, that is people who are addicted to the majesty of total solar eclipses and searching for the perfect location to view the eclipse.

The Sisters hosted a weekend retreat, **The Cosmos Within**, at Sophia Center for 50 guests from across the country led by professor of physics and astronomy, Dr. Aileen O'Donoghue from St. Lawrence University in New York. The retreat concluded on the day of the eclipse with a final lecture open to the nearly 500 visitors who joined us for the day and the viewing of the eclipse.

For me, wrapping the day in prayer and reflection on the immensity of our universe and the abundance of God's love, enriched the experience of viewing the eclipse. As Aileen said, "All of God's created cosmos is intended to reveal the sharing of God's life and love. The darkness came into being through the Word and is not separate from God's creative love." And so it was...as we experienced the sudden darkness of the total eclipse. At the point of totality, the clouds hid the sun from view for the umbraphiles in Atchison, but God was no less present in the experience of darkness and community.



Sr. Barbara McCracken

Sr. Rose Marie Stallbaumer, OSB - Mount St. Scholastica, Atchison

Inspiration from Pope Francis and Our New Members

The Only Future Worth Building Includes Everyone

In a TED talk on April 25, 2017, Pope Francis spoke eloquently about the need to recognize how interconnected everyone is, and how that interconnectedness affects our future. Here are excerpts from this talk:

... We can only build the future by standing together, including everyone.

... Solidarity is a free response born from the heart of each and everyone. Yes, a free response!

... Hope is the virtue of a heart that doesn't lock itself into darkness, that doesn't dwell on the past, does not simply get by in the present, but is able to see a tomorrow. Hope is the door that opens onto the future.

... What is tenderness? It is love that comes close and becomes real. Tenderness means to use our eyes to see the other, our ears to hear the other, to listen to the children, the poor, those afraid of the future. To listen also to the silent cry of our common home, of our sick and polluted earth.

... Yes, tenderness is the path of choice for the strongest, most courageous men and women. Tenderness is not weakness; it is fortitude. It is the path of humility.

... But the future is, most of all, in the hands of those people who recognize the other as a "you" and themselves as part of an "us." We all need each other.

The Benedictine Coalition for Responsible Investment

P. O. Box 200423 San Antonio, TX 78220 Phone: 210-348-6704

Members of the Benedictine CRI work to influence corporate practices on issues relating to basic human rights. For further information about the coalition's work, please complete the following and mail it to the coalition at the address above. The Coalition staff includes: Sr. Susan Mika OSB, Ruben Lopez and Linda Murphy.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
E-MAIL _____ MONASTERY (or other affiliation) _____

Our Newest Members Introduce Themselves

Sacred Heart Monastery, Cullman, Alabama

Here at Sacred Heart, we are 37 women who seek to follow Jesus in the footsteps of Saints Benedict and Scholastica. After having heard for years from and about the dedicated and selfless service of Sr. Susan Mika in the area of responsible investment, our monastery finally took the plunge, believing it is important to put our money/our voice where our mouth (and faith!) are.

When most of our communities began investing, we did so to provide future security. However, that same rationale has become a way for us to secure a better future for our world through joining in shareholder resolutions that can make a positive difference in the way corporations do business. This year's ExxonMobil resolution which Sacred Heart joined is an example of that. Not all shareholder resolutions bear immediate fruit, but our community believes that truth must be spoken to power. We encourage other communities to join BCRI where strength in numbers can make a difference!

Sr. Lynn McKenzie, OSB Sacred Heart Monastery



Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Leavenworth, Kansas

The Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth work with another investment entity which does all the investment paperwork and votes the proxies for us. I am on our Health Investment Committee, so I have a voice in how we screen investments and allocate our resources for our needs. The Benedictine CRI has such a network of sharing best practices and advocacy that our leadership team and our community want to become more informed and active in investing in sustainable projects. The BCRI will provide us with guidance, information and networking.

Sr. Jean Panisko, SCL, Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth

Benedictine Sisters of Elizabeth, New Jersey

We live in an intensely multi-cultural environment in the New York metropolitan area, and I think that appreciation of multi-cultural realities comes naturally to us for that reason. Both our high school and pre-school are richly blessed with diversity. The present climate of "them and us" that seems to dominate the national stage is abhorrent to us.

Our mission and ministry fit nicely into that of the BCRI. Directed by the Rule of St. Benedict, the Sisters of St. Walburga Monastery work towards the just and equitable distribution of resources for the common good. We're doing our best to recycle, and when we "declutter," we take whatever is usable to our St. Joseph Social Service Center. We look forward to the opportunity to network with other member communities in building a just world.

Sr. Marlene Milasus, OSB, St. Walburga Monastery



Planet in Crisis

Planet in Crisis: A Startling Snapshot

Hurricane Irma

- 2 million evacuated in Cuba; 1,413 evacuated from Barbuda to Antigua
- 90% electricity infrastructure damaged in Barbuda
- 1,000 evacuated from New Providence to the Bahamas
- 99% of the buildings destroyed in Barbuda
- 90% of government buildings damaged in Anguilla
- Spent 3 days as a Category 5, sustained winds of 185 mph for 37 hours
- 6,300,000 people were ordered to evacuate Florida
- 16 million homes without power across Florida, Georgia and S. Carolina
- Estimated damage to Florida: \$20 to \$40 billion

Hurricane Harvey

- Estimated damage: \$190 billion
- 51.9 inches of rain (set a new record)
- 19 trillion gallons of rain over southeast Texas, 5.5 trillion over Louisiana
- sustained winds of 132 mph
- 500,000 families already registered for FEMA housing assistance
- 17,500 hotel rooms currently provided by FEMA
- 500,000 cars and trucks have been rendered inoperable

Mass Migration Crisis from Myanmar

- From Aug. 25-Sept. 11, over 370,000 Muslim Rohingya refugees have fled into Bangladesh

Pacific Northwest Fires

- Portland: 35 fires were active across the region
- Chetco Bar Fire burned more than 175,000 acres; Diamond Creek Fire about 105,000 acres
- Norse Peak Fire has scorched almost 45,000 acres of land

Mexico's Strongest Earthquake

- 8.1 magnitude quake felt as far away as Mexico City and Guatemala City
- Epicenter was in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Oaxaca and Chiapas
- The quake had a depth of 43 miles into the Earth's core
- 1.85 million homes lost electricity

Mexico's Power Outage

- Sunday, September 10, power supply failures left the states of Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas without power
- The state of Tamaulipas reported economic losses of 100 million pesos due to the power outage.



A Sign of the Times?



Fuel trucks waiting to be filled at a fuel depot in San Antonio, Texas

San Antonio, Texas Gas Shortage

- After Hurricane Harvey impacted Texas, social media term #gasshortage generated panic among citizens, causing widespread gas shortages
- 575 of 630 San Antonio area gas stations reportedly out of fuel, according to GasBuddy on September 3, 2017
- 20% of total US refining capacity was taken offline due to the hurricane
- Texas pipelines bringing fuel inland from the coast were shut down

Miami, Florida Gas Shortage

- Due to Hurricane Irma, at least 60% of the gas stations in Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Gainesville are without fuel
- 34% of the gas stations in West Palm beach are dry
- 30% in Fort Myers-Naples area have no fuel
- Gas shortages generated due to the closure of Florida's ports where fuel shipments are received

A Flood Revisited

Watching the devastation wrought by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma evoked strong memories of my family's own experiences in the "big Texas flood" of 1998. Although we only had 22 inches of flood water in our home, the long journey to restoring our lives was intense ... and something only flood victims can relate to completely.

On flood day, we made three 911 calls while sitting on our roof with my neighbor's kids and my extended family — as the waters went from a gentle trickle over our curb into swirling, chest-high waters rushing down our street in one half-hour. Those emergency calls and the thousands of others made by fearful people throughout our region went unanswered because the system was under siege. Finally, as night fell, the waters began to recede and we packed everyone into a truck to navigate the darkened roads and reunite our neighbors with their children.

The next day we returned to our home, opened the door, and were nauseated by the combination of flood water and compromised sewer system odors. My husband and I looked at each other and voiced our sense of overwhelming heartbreak with the simple question, "Where do we begin?"

However, our story does not end in despair. People from every part of our lives — colleagues from Randolph AFB; the students at St. John the Evangelist Catholic School, who literally stuffed my office with cleaning supplies, household goods and LOVE; our pastor, who drove around the streets of our subdivision with boxes of fried chicken for anyone he saw — each one of these offered support, encouragement, "elbow grease" and the strength to start anew.

May the people of South Texas, Florida and the devastated islands of the Caribbean find such hope and help as they begin the journey back to normal.

Linda Murphy

Administrative Assistant, BCRI



San Antonio newspapers capture the drama and devastation after Hurricane Harvey's landfall.



Immigration Updates/Prayer for Peace

60 Immigrants Found Dead in Refrigerated Truck Trailer in Texas

By the Associated Press, Aug. 21, 2017

❖ Sixty immigrants have been found in a load of ice-covered broccoli in a refrigerated trailer that was searched at the Falfurrias Texas checkpoint.

20 Immigrants Found Locked in a Semi-Truck Trailer in West Texas

By the Associated Press, Aug. 16, 2017

❖ Border Patrol agents found 20 immigrants crammed into a locked semitrailer at a checkpoint in Sierra Blanca, about 85 miles (136 kilometers) southwest of El Paso.

Police: 16 Immigrants Locked Inside Rig at Edinburg Truck Stop

By the Associated Press, Aug. 14, 2017

❖ Police in Edinburg Texas found 16 immigrants locked inside a tractor-trailer parked at a gas station.

9 Found Dead in Sweltering Truck in Immigrant-Smuggling Attempt in Texas

By Eric Gay and Will Weissert, Associated Press, July 23, 2017

❖ At least nine people died after being crammed into a sweltering tractor-trailer found parked outside a Walmart in San Antonio, Texas.

U.S. Judge Deals Blow to Texas 'Sanctuary City' Law

By Jon Herskovitz, Reuters, Aug. 10, 2017

❖ U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks rejected a Texas effort to pass a law that would punish so-called sanctuary cities. Senate Bill 4 calls for jailing police chiefs, sheriffs and possibly frontline officers who fail to cooperate with U.S. immigration officials. The measure also allows police to ask about immigration status during a lawful detention.

❖ In the federal case in San Antonio, a small border town and some of the largest Texas cities told a judge in June that SB 4 could lead to an immigration police state and establish illegal racial profiling. They asked the court to halt it, saying it was unconstitutional.

San Antonio Judge Blocks Texas' Sanctuary Cities Law

By Jason Buch and Guillermo Contreras, San Antonio Express-News, 8/30/2017

❖ U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia halted penalties for officials who endorse policies in violation of Senate Bill 4 on Wednesday, August 30, 2017. SB 4 was to go into effect on September 1, 2017.

❖ SB4 will permit local law enforcement officers to question legally detained or arrested people about their immigration status. It also would punish officials who don't cooperate with federal immigration detainer requests, subjecting sheriffs, police chiefs, constables and local elected leaders to misdemeanor charges. The measure provides for civil penalties for violators of the law, beginning with a \$1,000 fine for a first offense and up to \$25,000 for each infraction that follows. Elected officials may even be removed from office.

Peace in Korea

On September 14, 2017, Benedictines for Peace held a **Holy Hour for Peace in Korea and for nuclear disarmament**. This hour of quiet prayer, reflective readings and song was held at Mount St. Benedict Monastery Chapel in Erie, Pennsylvania.



As leaders of the United States and North Korea threaten nuclear war, this holy hour invited those gathering as seekers of peace to pray for the de-escalation of tensions between our countries and the complete disarming of these weapons of mass destruction. Focusing on the interconnectedness of the global community, those who attended prayed with and for the people of Korea. They also prayed in solidarity with our Benedictine Sisters from around the world who were gathered in South Korea September 5-19 for the annual conference of the Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum (CIB), an international association of leaders of Benedictine women's communities. Sister Anne Wambach, prioress of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, was a delegate to the conference and Sister Mary Jane Vergotz, serves as secretary of the CIB.

The community invites all who seek peace around the world to continue daily prayers for the de-escalation of tensions and for respectful dialogue leading to lasting peace and justice.

Sr. Anne McCarthy, OSB
Mount St. Benedict, Erie

DACA Program Rescinded

On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, President Donald Trump scrapped a program that protects from deportation almost 800,000 young men and women brought into the U.S. as children, giving a gridlocked Congress 6 months to decide their fate.

The program, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, was created by former President Barack Obama and supported by Democrats and many business leaders. Trump's action, deferring the actual end of the program to March 5, 2018, effectively kicks responsibility for the fate of the Dreamers to his fellow Republicans who control Congress.

summarized from article by Steve Holland @Reuters
Tuesday, September 5, 2017

S.A., Texas State Leaders React to Decision to Rescind DACA

By Madalyn Mendez, San Antonio Express-News, Sept. 5, 2017

❖ On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, President Donald Trump ordered the phase-out of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, implemented in 2012 by President Obama.

❖ DACA shielded young immigrants who were brought into the U.S. as children from deportation. Under DACA, unauthorized immigrants who came to the U.S. before age 16 could stay in the U.S. to study or work, provided they met certain conditions.

❖ Texas has the second-largest share of DACA recipients in the country, behind only California. Texas has approved about 121,000 DACA applications - Pew Research Center.

Media Coverage of Coalition Work

Another Shareholder Proposal? McDonald's Deserves a Break Today

Opinion Editorial by James R. Copland, Wall Street Journal, July 6, 2017

✦ When McDonald's stockholders gathered for the company's annual meeting in May, they voted on seven shareholder proposals. Among these was a proposal against the company's use of antibiotics in its meat supply, brought by the **Benedictine Sisters of Boerne, Texas**; and one by the nonprofit Holy Land Principles, wanting the company to modify its employment practices in Israel. **The Boerne Sisters own 52 McDonald's shares; the Holy Land group 47.** None of this year's sponsoring shareholders owned more than 0.0001% of the company's stock.

✦ All seven proposals failed. Four were opposed by more than 90% of shareholders. Still, all but two of the proposals could be introduced on McDonald's proxy ballots next year. Holy Land Principles introduced the same anti-Israel proposal in 2016, and almost 97% of shareholders voted against it.

✦ The Securities and Exchange Commission has long enabled small shareholders to pursue such agendas. Under current SEC rules, any shareholder in a publicly traded corporation that has held at least \$2,000 in stock for at least a year may place a proposal on the company's proxy ballot. A shareholder can introduce the same proposal year after year, even when 90% of all voting shareholders consistently oppose it.

✦ Such permissive rules come at a cost. According to an SEC survey, it costs more than \$100,000 merely to respond to a shareholder proposal and include it on the ballot. The far greater cost comes from the distractions such proposals create for directors and senior executives, as well as the risk that companies will change their policies under pressure.

✦ McDonald's is unlikely to change its food-supply practices based on a few nuns' activism, but in many cases boards have capitulated even when most shareholders rejected a proposal. Since the start of 2006, the 250 largest publicly traded companies in America, tracked in the Manhattan Institute's Proxy Monitor database, have faced 515 proposals to change how they disclose or engage in political activity and lobbying. Only one of these received majority shareholder support over board opposition.

✦ This could all change if Congress enacts the Financial Choice Act 2.0. Principally an overhaul of the 2010 Dodd-Frank financial legislation, the 602-page bill, which the House passed last month, would also make it harder to resubmit failed shareholder proposals. Although a proposal could be resubmitted if only 6% of voting shareholders support it in its first year, that threshold would rise to 30% of voting shareholders by its third year.

✦ The reform is modest. Historically, the 30% threshold would exclude only about one-third of all resubmitted shareholder proposals. Still, the new rule would prevent activists pushing agendas with minuscule shareholder support from co-opting corporate annual meetings year after year.

✦ The Choice Act's approach to shareholder ownership is more sweeping and more controversial. The legislation would eliminate the \$2,000 ownership threshold and require shareholders to own 1% of the company's stock to introduce a shareholder proposal. In addition, the shareholder would need to have held the stock for three years, not just one.

Letter to Wall Street Journal In Response to J. Copland's July 6, 2017 Opinion Editorial [See Column 1]

Mr. Copland's assertion, "McDonald's is unlikely to change its food-supply practices based on a few nuns' activism," is false. Because of shareholder resolutions filed by religious and socially responsible investors, McDonald's removed medically important antibiotics from its chicken supply in 2015. Given that experts estimate antibiotic-resistant infections could kill 10 million people annually by 2050, this is a prudent business decision, protecting market share and mitigating significant risks. McDonald's concedes this in its **Global Vision for Antimicrobial Stewardship in Food Animals**. Our resolution asked to extend this policy to other meat products and achieved a 30.97% vote by McDonald's stockholders — hardly evidence of the proposal's "unpopularity."

The Benedictine Sisters of Boerne, Texas, may be **small investors but are long-term stakeholders** who care deeply about the sustainability of the companies we own and their impact on society. Proposed changes in the Financial CHOICE Act would deny shareholders, like ourselves, a voice—to the detriment of companies and society. We have raised important questions for three decades, which hardly qualifies us to be **'gadflies.'** We use our shareholder power to raise questions in a respectful manner to bring about increased justice, not just profits in corporate America.

Sr. Bernadine Reyes, OSB, Prioress

Alphabet Set to Face Down Shareholder Dissent

By Madison Marriage and Richard Waters, Financial Times, June 4, 2017

✦ Three of the most influential advisers to large investors — ISS, Glass Lewis and PIRC — have recommended shareholders oppose Alphabet's board on a number of issues, including last year's \$200m pay package for Google chief executive Sundar Pichai.

✦ The advisory firms are also backing calls for more disclosure about how much Alphabet spends on political lobbying and whether Google pays female employees fairly.

✦ Google has strongly denied the labor department's claims about pay discrimination, and Alphabet rejected the shareholder proposals for the meeting,

arguing that it already went well beyond legal disclosure requirements.

✦ Google founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin together control nearly 51 per cent of the company's voting power. They defended the concentration of power at the time of the IPO as a way to give them the ability to focus on the long term rather than react to short-term stock market pressures....

✦ Mr Pichai was paid \$200m in 2016, the bulk of which came in the form of shares in the company, and received \$100m the year before.

✦ Walden Asset Management and the **Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore** are among 20 shareholders who signed a proposal asking the technology giant to provide an annual breakdown of its efforts to influence legislation.

✦ The shareholder filing states that Alphabet spent approximately \$80m on federal lobbying between 2010 and 2015, although this figure excludes expenditure on lobbying at state level, through trade associations and overseas.



Caricature of Nuns in article

NUNS CHASTISE GOOGLE AND ERIC NAMES LARRY GREATEST HUMAN ALIVE By Kat Hall—The Register UK—Jun. 8, 2017

The Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore and of Pan de Vida, among other investors, demanded that Google's Alphabet show greater transparency over "dark money" lobbying practices. They were interested in learning about Alphabet's contributions made to non-profit organizations that use cash to influence elections without disclosing the sources of their funding. Since 2012, dark money groups fit more than 670 million to influence electoral outcomes. It's not the first time the issue of dark money raised has been brought up. Shareholders were snubbed last year when they raised the subject at the AGM. Another familiar issue to arise was Alphabet's failure to report its companywide pay gap. Payscale reports the Company has a mean pay gap of 13 per cent over \$13,000 and Glassdoor has reported \$25,000 gap at the senior engineering level. Alphabet is currently subject of an investigation by the Department of Labor alleging extreme gender pay disparity.



Benedictine Coalition for Responsible Investment

P.O. Box 200423 San Antonio, TX 78220

Our Mission

Recognizing the directive from the Rule of St. Benedict that distribution should be made to each according to need, the Benedictine Coalition for Responsible Investment works to build a world in which corporate policies and practices reflect just and equitable distribution of resources for the common good.

Upcoming Dates

ICCR — Sept. 25 - 29, 2017
New York, New York
RCRI — Oct. 31 - Nov. 3, 2017
St. Louis, Missouri

**We give heartfelt thanks for our generous donors. This work
would not be possible without your continued support!**

Our Members 2016-17:

- **Mount St. Scholastica**
(Atchison, Kansas)
- **St. Scholastica Monastery**
(Boerne, Texas)
- **Benedictine Sisters of Virginia**
(Bristow, Virginia)
- **St. Scholastica Monastery**
(Chicago, Illinois)
- **Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration** (Clyde, Missouri)
- **Benet Hill Monastery**
(Colorado Springs, Colorado)
- **Sacred Heart Monastery**
(Cullman, Alabama)
- **Benedictine Sisters of Erie**
(Erie, Pennsylvania)
- **St. Scholastica Monastery**
(Fort Smith, Arkansas)
- **Sacred Heart Monastery**
(Lisle, Illinois)
- **Benedictine Sisters of Baltimore**
(Lutherville, Maryland)
- **Benedictine Women — Holy Wisdom Monastery** (Madison, Wisconsin)

- **Monasterio de San Benito**
(Mexico, D.F.)
- **Immaculata Monastery**
(Norfolk, Nebraska)
- **Mount Saviour Monastery**
(Pine City, New York)
- **St. Gertrude Monastery**
(Ridgely, Maryland)
- **Benedictine Sisters of Florida**
(St. Leo, Florida)
- **Subiaco Abbey**
(Subiaco, Arkansas)
- **Monasterio Pan De Vida**
(Torreon, Coahuila, Mexico)
- **Mother of God Monastery**
(Watertown, SD)

Partner Community:

- **Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth**
(Leavenworth, Kansas)

Supporting Monasteries:

- **Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict**
(St. Joseph, MN)

- **Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict**
(Rock Island, IL)
- **St. Paul's Monastery**
(St. Paul, MN)
- **Our Lady of Grace Monastery**
(Beech Grove, IN)
- **Benedictine Sisters Benevolent Association**
(Duluth, MN)
- **Sacred Heath Monastery**
(Yankton, SD)
- **Queen of Heaven Monastery**
(Warren, OH)

Supporting Individuals / Oblates:

- Eugenia Schuler
- Gertrude Mika
- Marion Worthington

