

Jesus is our Bond in Community

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Jesus invited his disciples to live together to share his love, peace, and joy with each other and to offer them to others. Though we are different from each other in appearance, culture, color, and language, we choose to live in community to find support in our daily activities.

From my time in formation, I was taught to relate to my companions from different cultures. I cherish my unique call to our congregation. My sisters taught me to respect each one's talents, background, culture, and needs. I am grateful to all my sisters who promote young women from all cultures without discrimination to follow Christ in the spirituality of St. Francis.

In accepting a woman, we are opening ourselves to the spirit speaking in her, and we strive to share life together with our own ideas, traditions, and values. I also commit myself to invite women into my community and to participate in forming them so that I may witness fidelity to the call of Jesus and the spirit of our foundresses.

By living together, we become one. We encourage each other to grow in our vocations. My firm conviction is that "Our steadfastness in community communicates hope and gives evidence of God's presence in our midst" (*Response in Faith*, 17). Let our life be rooted in love so that we may become one with the Lord, through the ministries we are entrusted with.