



“For Everyone is Our Neighbor”

*Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska,
Foundress of the Felician Sisters*

This quote from Blessed Mary Angela serves as the foundation for one of the Felician Sisters of North America’s Corporate Stands. The description of this stand states, “As followers of the nonviolent Jesus and St. Francis of Assisi and as women who strive to be prophetic witnesses to a world in need of healing, the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Felix of Cantalice (Felician Sisters), stand in solidarity with the millions of people globally who are alarmed and appalled by the escalation of war and violence in our world.”

The smartphones many of us carry around in our pockets and purses offer us both the gift and challenge of connectivity to our friends, family, and the stories of the wider world beyond our immediate circles.

This connectivity is a gift because it helps us stay in touch with loved ones and has expanded our horizons and awareness of current events in the far reaches of the world we would not encounter without the global digital network.

The challenge of this connectivity comes from the reality that this amount of information about places far away can be overwhelming and can lead us to a sense of disconnection and helplessness. This can arise in a unique way when we view the tragedies of war and violence through our phone or computer screens.

With the Corporate Stand, “For Everyone is Our Neighbor,” in mind this Mission & Heritage Week, we contemplate the ways we can hold our neighbors both near and far close to our hearts. Let us seek ways to bring about the healing of the world through both prayer and action.

Reflection:

What tragedies in distant lands have captured my attention in recent days? What tragedies in my own backyard? How might I be moved to pray for these tragedies both near and far?

How have I felt connected or disconnected to my community? To the greater world? What small action could I take today to seek greater connection to my neighbors?