



## **Chapter Statement**

**Northern European  
Provincial Chapter**

**15 – 18 October 2018**



**Women of Hope, Joy, Compassion**

**Making a difference**

Gathered at our 2018 Provincial Chapter, we listened to the sharing of our Sisters and our Extended Family about life and mission and recognised the gift of being members of an international Institute. We studied proposals that had emerged during our 'see, judge and act' process during the past year. As we reflected on these proposals and the situations of our world today, we felt called anew to be women who reach out in hope, joy and compassion. We expressed our response in commitments that will move us into the future.

1. Recognising that the Spirit speaks to the Churches and to the Institute through the encyclicals of Pope Francis, we will:

- network and share with our Extended Family and others in a reflective study of the encyclicals, so that our lives are imbued with the joy of the gospel.
- respond to Pope Francis's call to holiness and to the option for justice, care of the earth, the poor, the marginalised, the most vulnerable, the homeless, trafficked persons and refugees.

2. We will further explore networking with coalitions and groups involved with refugees and asylum seekers in our local areas. In response to Pope Francis's call to religious congregations, where possible we will offer empty province properties as crisis shelter/temporary accommodation. Given our reality, we also support the sharing of our resources in other ways.

3. As disciples in mission, we will assume our responsibility for the care and well-being of each other, offering pastoral support in relation to our needs as we get older, including end of life care, so that our relationships with one another free and empower us to be women of hope, joy and compassion.

4. In order to strengthen networking across provinces and with other groups, we will engage our lay collaborators, including our Extended Family members, in RSHM teams, in view of mission now and in the future.

We commit ourselves to engaging with the ongoing process for new structures that will support our mission and the care of our sisters, "that all may have life".

Assuming our responsibility to live life to the full, we trust in the Spirit to be with us as we embrace the future.