

# Sisters of St. Joseph

Erie, Pennsylvania

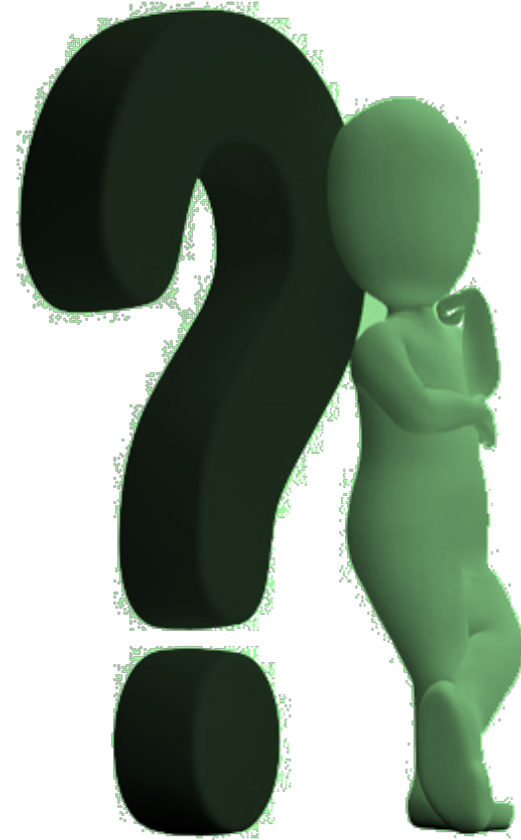


# Afternoon Session



# LCWR Pertinent Questions

- ✓ How many more chapters will you be able to hold?
- ✓ Will you have sufficient delegates for future chapters?



# Can We Re-Imagine Leadership?

- ✔ We moved from a rather hierarchical structure of religious life to a ...
- ✔ Far more collegial structure of religious life to ...



# What is our ability to live into the future if we do nothing?

- ✓ Will we be able to continue to enjoy self-governance?
- ✓ Who will care for our sisters needing assisted living or skilled care arrangements?
- ✓ What will happen to our perhaps large and perhaps underutilized properties?
- ✓ Will we have the finances to provide for our needs?
- ✓ How will our mission continue?
- ✓ Other questions...



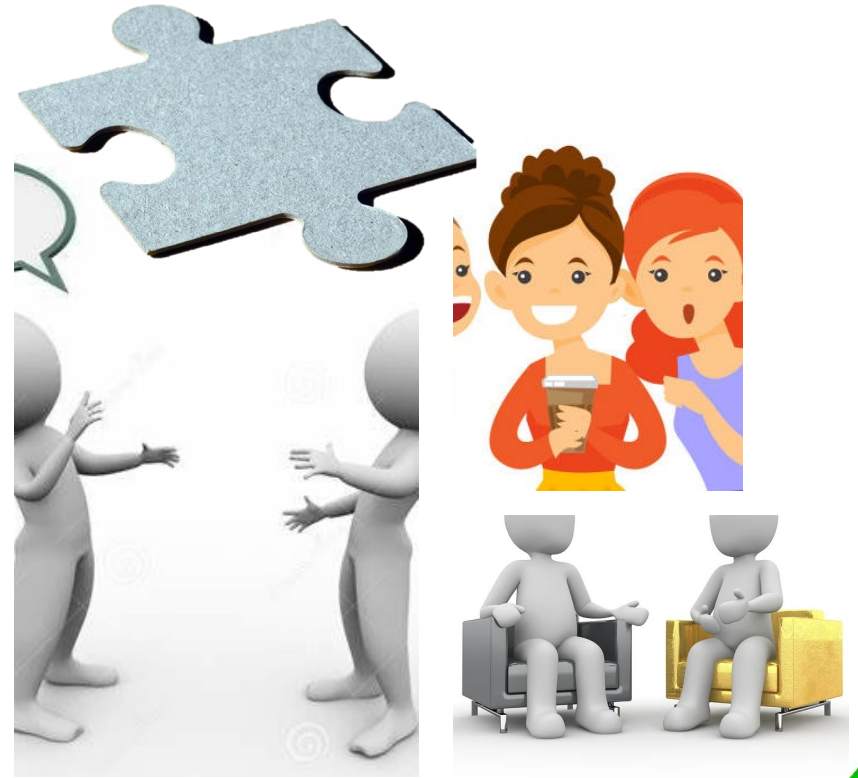
# How Might Collaboration Happen?

- ✓ Collaborate with other religious in a geographic area?
- ✓ Collaborate with other religious in the charism family?
- ✓ Partner with other entities with a common mission?
- ✓ Dream of a new structure?



# Leaders are being encouraged to talk seriously with one another.

What might we do together so religious life can continue?





# Another factor--Internationality

What gifts do we have to share with one another?





# Some Imaginative Ways in Progress

Our Lady of Victory  
Missionary Sisters  
Indiana



# Another...

An initiative of  
the Dominican  
Sisters Conference

Marthas and  
Marys



# Dominicans Sisters in the Northeast

Forming an Association



**With each of these new initiatives,  
there are blessings. There is change.  
There is challenge. There are questions.**



# How will you be with the changes and questions?

- ✓ Refuse to participate...God will take care of us.
- ✓ Opt out and be an armchair critic.
- ✓ Befriend the change and work to bring the best about.



# Can you place your hand in God's hand and know you will not fall?



# Questions?





# For your pondering

- ✓ Can anyone at your table think of an example of a ministry, organization, or business that took the risk of significant change and flourished because of that risk?
- ✓ If you had to rate your own ability to participate in change on a scale from 1-10, what number would you give yourself? What assurances do you most need when contemplating change in something you hold dear?
- ✓ What quality could you best give to the re-imagining of your future?

