2016 Chapter Visioning Statement
“That all may be one…” (Jn. 17: 21)

Stimulated by the Holy Spirit and conscious of the aching, gaping needs of our wounded world, we pledge ourselves to grow and deepen our identity as the Congregation of the Great Love of God. We long to participate in the Mission of Jesus, a mission of generous courage and self-emptying love, in joyful service to the dear neighbor without distinction.

Individually and communally, we pray for the grace to:

**Unleash and animate the charism of reconciling, inclusive love by:**

- Enhancing and supporting formation in the CSJ charism through programs and opportunities open to our own members and to those beyond vowed membership using our human, financial, material and technological resources;

- Expanding and enhancing our charism of unity and reconciliation through the programs and structures that currently exist and those that may develop;

- Supporting the spiritual and ministerial mission of women religious, within and beyond our borders.

**Respond to the signs of the times and continue to seek out the needs of people, by dividing the city and serving the dear neighbor without distinction by:**

- Igniting our ministerial passion to inspire and enhance our creative response to ministry;

- Renewing our sense of “being called and sent” in the name of the congregation;

- Creating ways for all sisters to take personal responsibility and action;

- Focusing upon the needs of refugees, immigrants, those with mental illness or without homes;

- Expanding our understanding and efforts to address issues of ecological justice and care for our common home;

- Partnering with other religious congregations to address unmet needs.
Respond to the call to expand our boundaries, to strengthen our relationships and to foster mutual partnerships among ourselves, in the Church, and with others in our world by:

- Partnering among ourselves (leaders to members, members to leaders) and among members and companions in mission;

- Broadening the involvement of members through the structures we have been developing as well as new structures as yet unknown;

- Enlivening consecrated religious life through solidarity with other women religious.

- Opening up inter-faith conversations and collaborative efforts.

Witness joyfully to God’s abundant love through the quality of presence we bring to one another in community and to those with whom we minister and live by:

- Strengthening our communal bonds and capacity to heal, in order to attend to the needs of the whole self so that, together, we may continue to embrace new life, supported by our prayers and community life;

- Continuing to develop the CARE skills among ourselves and with others, in order to build trust and respect, to do the needed grief work, to heal, reconcile and to create bonds of mutuality that endure;

- Addressing cultures of prejudice, racism, divisive language and behaviors against any who suffer discrimination;

- Becoming the face of God’s mercy to the world.

In and through these actions, we pray that we might continue to respond to God’s abundant love by living out our life “with one desire only: to be always what God wants us to be, in nature, grace, and glory for time and for eternity.” (Maxim 73)

Vigil of Pentecost
May 14, 2016