



Letter From the President

Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends,

During the cold winter months that we have just left behind, we tended to be more mindful about the plight of people who are homeless. Likewise, after the earthquake in Haiti, we were conscious of the urgent need for the survivors to find housing, even if only substantial tents, before the rainy season arrived. We recall that countless numbers of volunteers rushed to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to assist in the rebuilding of homes; their efforts continue even now, five years later. This issue of *Vision* focuses on the different types of housing that the Sisters of Charity have been involved in providing for diverse populations in the New York area.

I invite you to take a look at your own home with fresh eyes. The American poet John Howard Payne wrote this memorable line, "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home." It may or may not be humble, but look around and see the many blessings it offers you. One formerly homeless man in New York City said that each and every day he awakes and thanks God that he now has a home - and heat and hot water. Daily, he continues to be amazed that this single room occupancy is actually his. What blessings does your home provide? Have you become so accustomed to your home that you no longer really "see" it?

One's home often goes beyond the physical amenities and bespeaks hospitality. It is a place where we welcome others and engage in life-giving conversation. It is a place where we find true comfort, even when we are alone. It is a place where we can truly be ourselves, where we become renewed physically, intellectually and spiritually.

Jesus tells us, "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full." (John 10:10). May God grant us the grace to live life fully as we go forth from our homes each day with gratitude and with the knowledge that God has emboldened us to be people of love.

Sincerely in Christ,

Sr. Dorothy Metz
Sr. Dorothy Metz, SC
President

Vision enables the Sisters of Charity of New York to make a cohesive statement about how they reveal God's love in their lives and the many and varied ways in which they respond to the signs of the times.



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