Sisters of Saint Joseph™
CHESTNUT HILL • PHILADELPHIA

The Leadership Team's ...

Response to the August 12, 2017 Deadly Attack in Charlottesville, VA

The Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, PA are deeply disturbed by the horrific events in Charlottesville, Virginia on August 12, 2017. As an expression of our mission of union, the Sisters of Saint Joseph tended the wounded on both sides of the Civil War battlefields. Even as we opposed slavery, we recognized that all soldiers were human beings with a claim to our care and respect.

For the Sisters of Saint Joseph, each person is the dear neighbor, the beloved creation of God and so we reject every form of racism, including the ideology of white supremacy and neo-Nazism. We support mutual respectful dialog among all.

Rooted in our belief in the Blessed Trinity as a community of Love, we seek to foster human communities in that image, a unity that is not uniformity and a diversity that is not division. We support all persons of good will who resist hate by means of peaceful protest.

Conscious of the realities of present day and the brokenness that wearies our world, we believe that becoming one is God's dream for all creation. With hope and courage, we work for mutual healing and foster reconciliation in the daily circumstances of our lives. We pray that God's great love heals divisions and brings people to unity.

August 14, 2017