May 2021

Dear Friends in Wisdom,

Just having celebrated Earth Day on April 22, 2021, we are about to embark on a major project at our Sound Beach, New York property. This project to replace the seawall/bulkhead on the shore of Long Island Sound is an endeavor in caring for the earth and specifically protecting the site of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Convent — home for our retired Sisters.

Over the years beach erosion due to storm events has destroyed the bulkhead. We had intended to begin this work a few years ago, but the project permits were held up by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation since new specifications were being instituted. In the past, vertical retaining walls (bulkheads) created a condition where tidal and storm surges reflected waves in such a way that caused the loss of sand and beach at the base of the bulkhead. With the new requirements in materials and construction put in place by the DEC, the bulkhead will provide better protection of the shoreline and be more resilient to storm events.

We have the permits and the construction company under contract is ready to begin, but the needed materials on order will not arrive before the end of June. And so, we “hang in there” a little longer. With the new specifications for the bulkhead, the cost is greater. We are very grateful for the donations we have been receiving and for your continued support.

Your assistance is still needed and if you are able, you may designate your donation for the bulkhead or other needs as indicated on the return envelope. We are instituting a new way to donate called Text to Give on our website (www.daughtersofwisdom.org). Also, enclosed is a fact sheet on Text to Give.

Wishing you a bright, warm, and beautiful spring!

Gratefully,

Sr. Catherine Sheehan, D.W.
Provincial Leader