



**Statement of Desires from the JCAP Social Ministry Meeting,
19-21 August 2019**



We are 24 delegates and other key representatives from JCAP social ministries gathered to discern the calls and conversions arising from the Universal Apostolic Preferences and the 50th Anniversary of the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat.

We believe that the Universal Apostolic Preferences highlight critical issues that require urgent, integrated and well-discerned responses rooted in the hope that only the Spirit can give. Our desire for the *Magis* makes us feel discontent and restless; we cannot remain the same. We are called to change and conversion.

We grieve with the earth and the poor. At the same time, we acknowledge and feel sorrow about our brokenness in the Society of Jesus, and in the Church, such as our lack of hospitality, unity, trust, and solidarity, as well as the abuse of minors.

We feel strongly that change and conversion will not take place without a real encounter with God, which also means encountering the poor. We treasure our Ignatian heritage which emphasizes the unity of these dimensions in our life and mission. Being contemplatives in action, we acknowledge the need to reclaim the balance and integration between being, doing and knowing.

We need to move out of indifference towards a solidarity that transforms and brings life, especially with the most marginalized and the youth. We need to be audacious and go beyond our comfort zone. Only if we do so are we able to see the covered face of the faceless, hear the voice of the voiceless, and discover the strength of the powerless.

We recognize that without strong collaboration between Jesuits, laity, and other companions/consecrated people, this mission is impossible.

We see the Spirit working outside the Society of Jesus - the broader church, secular groups, other faiths, the youth, grassroots movements and international networks. We seek to listen to, learn from, and work collaboratively with others. This calls for greater humility and willingness to join their efforts.

As the social apostolate, we resolve to:

- Deepen in Ignatian Spirituality and its application to our work.
- Safeguard and protect children and vulnerable adults.
- Seek out and deepen our relationship with the poorest, going beyond our comfort zone with courage and humility.
- Work as One Body in common mission and not as isolated units or individuals.
- Be bold and prophetic in advocating internally within the Society of Jesus for a greater commitment to the poor and to our common home, and to strengthening the social apostolate.
- Engage in discernment, joint planning, and common works across apostolates.
- Collaborate with the broader church, other faiths, and secular civil society.

At the same time, we call on the Society of Jesus to give real expression to its commitment to the poor and to our common home by:

- Strengthening the social apostolate and ensuring commitment of personnel and resources.
- Opening up more spaces for its members to encounter and be with the poorest.
- Promoting broader apostolic dialogue and planning across sectors.
- Recognizing and taking action on the climate crisis as a matter of universal urgency.
- Committing ourselves to promote dialogue and reconciliation when facing social and political conflicts in our societies.
- Assessing the need to change structures in order to better respond to mission.

We desire to do so:

- full of Gratitude, for those Jesuits, lay and other consecrated people who preceded us in this mission;
- full of Joy, for being called to be Christ's servants and companions in His Mission of Reconciliation and Justice;
- full of Hope, for knowing that He will give us what we need to respond with courage, urgency, and generosity to His Call to us in these critical times.

Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 21 August 2019