

Warmest greetings to all of our dear Becoming Neighbours friends,

It is apt that on March 08 we will **Celebrate International Women's Day**,

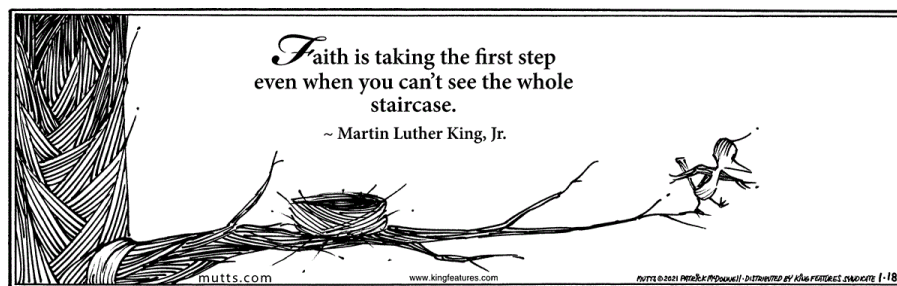


a time to give thanks to God for the mutuality we have experienced with all the women who have and who are guiding us, nurturing us and calling forth life within us.

Nothing by chance, by accident, March 08-14 is also celebrated as US Catholic Sisters Week, a time to acknowledge that *"52 weeks a year, women religious stand with the poor and refugees, educate children, fight injustice, heal the sick, share spirituality, empower women, defend the planet, promote peace, create community and offer hope for a better world"*.

One such woman to have done so is ANNE SCHENCK, CSJ who has inspired so many of us to deepen our baptismal commitment in responding to *"our dear neighbour"*. Anne truly epitomized what a mid-wife was all about: she invited others, in the messiness of the moment, to collaborate with her in birthing new and unexpected alternative Gospel ways to respond to unmet human needs. How blessed and privileged the Furniture Bank, Becoming Neighbours and Herron Place Refugee Centre were to have a person of the caliber of Anne Schenck!

Giving thanks to God, Anne, for the witness of your faith and your all-inclusive love with and for refugees, even when you could not *"see the whole staircase"*.



In this spirit of gratitude and solidarity, please find attached the *"Fridge Notes for Companions"*.

Together let us continue to open our hearts to all refugees.

Lois Anne Bordowitz, FCJ

Peter McKenna, SCJ