

**Servas de Nossa Senhora de Fátima
(Servants of Our Lady Of Fátima)**

Laudato Si

When we heard about LS for the first time, in 2015, we were aware that we needed to understand and reflect on it very carefully in our communities and in our lives.

In this context, SNSF (Servas de Nossa Senhora de Fátima) found three particular ways to put LS in action: in our communities, in Família Andaluz (a canonical association of the lay-faithful who share with us the same charisma) and in our social institutions.

The first way

In April 2016, we had a training session for the superiors of our communities about human maturity and LS. In that meeting, the general government of the Congregation recommended a communitarian study of LS, from which would arise a commitment for ecological conversion.

For that communitarian study a relation between each chapter of LS and our constitutions, norms and program was suggested, having as a consequence a concrete proposal for reflection or action.

With that study, we wished to reach one global aim from our community program 2016-2021. Which was: *To hear with compassion the cry of mankind (Ex. 3.7), caused by different exclusions, which boost to act, in the society and in church.*

Moreover, during the year (2016), the spiritual exercises (7 days) for all sisters were based on LS.

The second way – Família Andaluz

In this case LS was reflected on monthly in group meetings, from the end of 2015 to the beginning 2016, with concrete proposals for change.

As an example, I could use a group, in the North of Mozambique, which decided to recover their wooden houses, degraded by ants.

This worked as an appeal for the remaining community to seek to improve their housing conditions even if the raw material was only wood. And this population had neither piped water system nor sewage network.

The third way was certified training for workers in our social institutions,

The Luiza Andaluz Foundation (Santarém) and Ericeira's Social Centre, from January to June 2017; Through the invitation of the Benedita Social Centre (Alcobaça) in 2018, and Torres Vedras Social Centre, this year (2019).

The main goal of this training is to provide a human education, based on Christian values, from the social doctrine of the Church, in a professional context.

And the specific goals are: Expand the Christian worldview and its complex relationships; Evaluate personal attitudes and behaviour towards nature, to others and to oneself, in the context of integral ecology; Apply, in a professional context, the reflections made during training towards a new way of life.

However, we couldn't yet reach the aim of LS. It's easy to turn off the lights or recycle paper, but, indeed, our lives have not yet been transformed by the proposals of LS and the Gospel. So, we've decided to continue our efforts to reach that in the next three years, by:

- Taking part in networks that care of the planet or integral ecology, for example, the project of UISG: "Sowing hope for the planet (2018-2020); *Our Common House Network and Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Group* (CIRP), in Portugal.
- Reaffirm our commitment to ecological conversion, in our communities.
- Take action on some ecological dates: World water day, The Earth Day, among others.

And God help us to reach so huge and important aim.

Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope (LS, 244).