

What is JPIC?

By the Passionist International Solidarity Commission

It is worth noting that over the last 10 years, General Chapters of several [Passionist] Congregations have addressed the subject of JPIC; they have formed commissions and have designated religious, both male and female, to take charge of this area at both General and Provincial levels.

Both human beings and the rest of creation are being deprived of **LIFE**. A passion for **Justice**, a desire for **Peace** and non-violence, an interest in conserving the **Integrity** of the whole of **Creation** (JPIC) are essential if we are to live according to the Gospel. These are not options but a way of life. Action for Justice and participation in the transformation of the world are a fundamental dimension of the preaching of the Gospel and are essential to the Church's mission of liberating the human race from any and all oppressive situations (Justice in the World #5).

Commitment to JPIC differs from Social Action or Social Ministry in that it involves a way of life which leads to JPIC becoming an integral dimension of all our activities and pervading our whole apostolate.

- ☉ JPIC involves a call to shape the whole of our Passionist life and mission.
- ☉ JPIC is a fundamental part of our Passionist mission.
- ☉ JPIC is a priority orientation, a way of living and acting, for the whole Passionist family.
- ☉ We understand JPIC as a way of life and not merely as one more ministry.
- ☉ Justice and Peace cannot be reduced to individual projects led by experts on the issues of Justice and Peace. JPIC is a basic element in our Passionist identity, a gathering together of all our apostolates and all our activities: the one that takes into account the poorest of the poor, those who have no voice and all who are victims.
- ☉ JPIC should pervade, 'laterally' the whole of our life, our apostolate, our spirituality ... JPIC is the transverse axis which must be present in all our fields of action.
- ☉ JPIC is a new paradigm: new as regards subject, ways of working, agents and level of influence.
- ☉ JPIC forms an integral part of our charism. It has, therefore to be the origin, the criteria and the objective of both initial and on-going formation.

The challenges are many, but they could all be reduced to the need to inform ourselves, to become more sensitive and to carry out specific actions with regard to JPIC. In short, it's a question of synchronising our minds (information), our hearts (sensitivity) and our feet (specific actions).