**Philosophy of Retirement**

**“I have come that you might have life and have it to the full.”** *John 10:10*

We believe each person is the creative act of a loving God, possessing inherent dignity and value.

We believe life is a gift holding promise and potential in each of its developmental stages.

We believe each stage of life is a natural, holistic process with its own characteristics, pains and joys.

We believe that a wellness lifestyle and reasonable healthcare are lifelong goals and values.

We believe that as individuals and together as a community we create opportunities for mission and ministry in the context of the changing realities of our lives and of society

We believe in fostering opportunities for personal choice and shared decision-making

We believe retirement is a call to live fully within a community of believers.

We believe retirement can be a time of blessings and opportunity for the entire community and for each individual sister.

* *A time to deepen and grow spiritually through prayer and reflection.*
* *A time to continue making visible to others the presence of God.*
* *A time to develop and deepen relationships.*
* *A time to explore new learnings, skills and opportunities.*
* *A time to except suffering, diminishment and loss, participating in their transformative power.*
* *A time to enjoy leisure.*
* *A time to do justice.*
* *A time to integrate life’s experiences in preparation for eternal life.*

We believe retirement is a sacred time, a holy time, a blessing.

Retirement advisory committee, September 1977