



BENEDICTINE SISTERS

SACRED HEART MONASTERY
in CULLMAN, ALABAMA

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A Statement of the Benedictine Sisters of Cullman, Alabama June 2, 2020

Today, Bishop Robert Baker and Bishop-Elect Steven Raica of the Diocese of Birmingham issued a statement entitled *A Call for Unity and Dialogue*. Their statement concludes, “Our plea to the wonderful people of our city and diocese is the plea St. Paul once made to the people of Ephesus (4:3): ‘Make every effort to preserve the unity which has the Spirit as its origin and peace as its binding force.’”

We, the Benedictine Sisters of Cullman, Alabama, echo their plea. We also echo the recent statements of our U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, especially their call that “each and every Catholic, regardless of their ethnicity, beg God to heal our deeply broken view of each other, as well as our deeply broken society.”

St. Benedict teaches us to receive guests as Christ, adding that Christ is more particularly received in poor people and pilgrims. He urges that great care and concern are to be shown them. As we pray for our deeply broken society, we pray that the spirit of hospitality for which St. Benedict is known may help us receive others as Christ, each one of whom is made in the image of God.

“WE BELIEVE THAT GOD IS HERE AND CAN BE FOUND, AND THAT A DIVERSITY OF PERSONS BONDED INTO UNITY SHOWS CHRIST TO A DIVIDED WORLD.”