



Society of the Holy Child Jesus  
AMERICAN PROVINCE

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Updated Statement from

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The Society of the Holy Child Jesus would like to express our deep concern that one of our sisters, Megan Rice, SHCJ, was convicted on May 8<sup>th</sup> of trespassing and defacing government property and intending to harm national security at a federal enriched uranium facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. It should be noted that Sr. Megan was arrested as she and two others engaged in a peaceful protest, offering prayer for the thousands who have lost their lives as a result of nuclear weapons. Sister Megan has accepted personal responsibility for her actions.

The Judge is continuing to deliberate on a request from the defense attorneys to dismiss the more serious of the two convictions, and he will be hearing opinions on this until July. Sr. Megan will remain incarcerated until sentencing. She is assured of our continuing prayer as these matters are resolved.

While we do not condone criminal activity, we would like to point out that Sister Megan has dedicated her life to ending nuclear proliferation. With the Catholic Church, she believes nuclear weapons are incompatible with the peace so desperately needed throughout the world and therefore cannot be justified.

As a 167-year-old community of Catholic women, our Society has a history of standing up for those in need. We are dedicated to helping women, children and families by providing educational, spiritual and social programs across four continents and throughout the United States.

We intend to stand by Sister Megan and our Church's clear teaching against nuclear proliferation as this situation is brought to a conclusion. In similar fashion, we will continue to provide the opportunities, skills and commitment that allow those in need to overcome obstacles and lead productive lives.

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