This theme beautifully applies to Jesus’ self-giving, our personal calls, and the life/call of our provinces.

To help ground it “… in the reality of our current situation, and that of the world....” I note that, despite God’s action there, wheat cannot grow on land —

- that is parched or flooded;
- degraded by toxic fertilizers and pesticides;
- eroded by industrial agriculture;
- polluted by oceanic salt water;
- and destroyed by war.

At least 33% of the world’s food-producing land has been lost since the 1970’s, primarily caused by global warming and deforestation.

The resulting starvation, migration, and extinctions affect millions world-wide. Families sometimes sell children to traffickers or for early marriages. Environmental racism, population increases, and war exacerbate crises.

As we consider individual justice issues, let us be mindful that “Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork....” (LS, 217) can nurture increased unity among us.

What does a grain of wheat dropping into the ground of a planet in crisis say to me/us for SHCJ GC22?