



Present Ministry



Sr. Irma Dillard, RSCJ
Champion of racial justice

Irma Dillard, RSCJ is an educator and a social activist dedicated to educating and empowering the voiceless to find their voices and take direct action for justice. She is a Change Management Consultant working with not-for-profits, unions, and parishes. With degrees in psychology and counseling, religious studies, and communications, Sister Irma has spent 40 years working with youth and their families, including juvenile offender programs, single mothers’ support groups, and serving three San Francisco parishes doing staff development, diversity training, and facilitating staff and parish retreats. Sister Irma has been and continues to be with the people in the streets, participating in Black Lives Matter, DC Women’s March, Fight for \$15, Poor People’s Campaign, Rise for Climate, People’s Townhall SF, DACA/Dreamers and No Ban, No Wall. She is a leader in her religious congregation’s reparations to the descendants of the estimated 150 persons enslaved by her religious order in Louisiana.

She is presently a member of the Vision Council for Call to Action-USA serving on the Anti-Racism Team and as a mentor with the Re/Generation People of Color Cohort.

Since the COVID pandemic shut down, she has had to re-work her presentations for the Zoom platform. The topics she covers, “Building More Just Communities”, “Racism in our Church Today”, “Legacy of Slavery in the Church”, “A Nation Divided, A Church Divided”.

These presentations include anti-racism work and ways of righting the wrongs through truth-telling— the real historical beginnings of these United States of America and the Catholic Church.

Her work focuses solely to empower those that are forgotten, the marginalized and the people of color that are still the victims of institutional, structural, systemic racism.

One of her mantras:

Speak truth to power or be powerless with the truth.

