

**“You won’t save
what you don’t love”**

By Sister Martha Ann Kirk, Th.D.

University of the Incarnate Word Professor of Religious Studies
Chair of the Incarnate Word Sisters International Justice, Peace,
and Integrity of Creation Committee

We have much scientific knowledge about climate change and other environmental challenges.

What is needed is the will to change, to transform.

“You won’t save what you don’t love.” How do we help ourselves and the next generation to passionately love the beauty of creation?

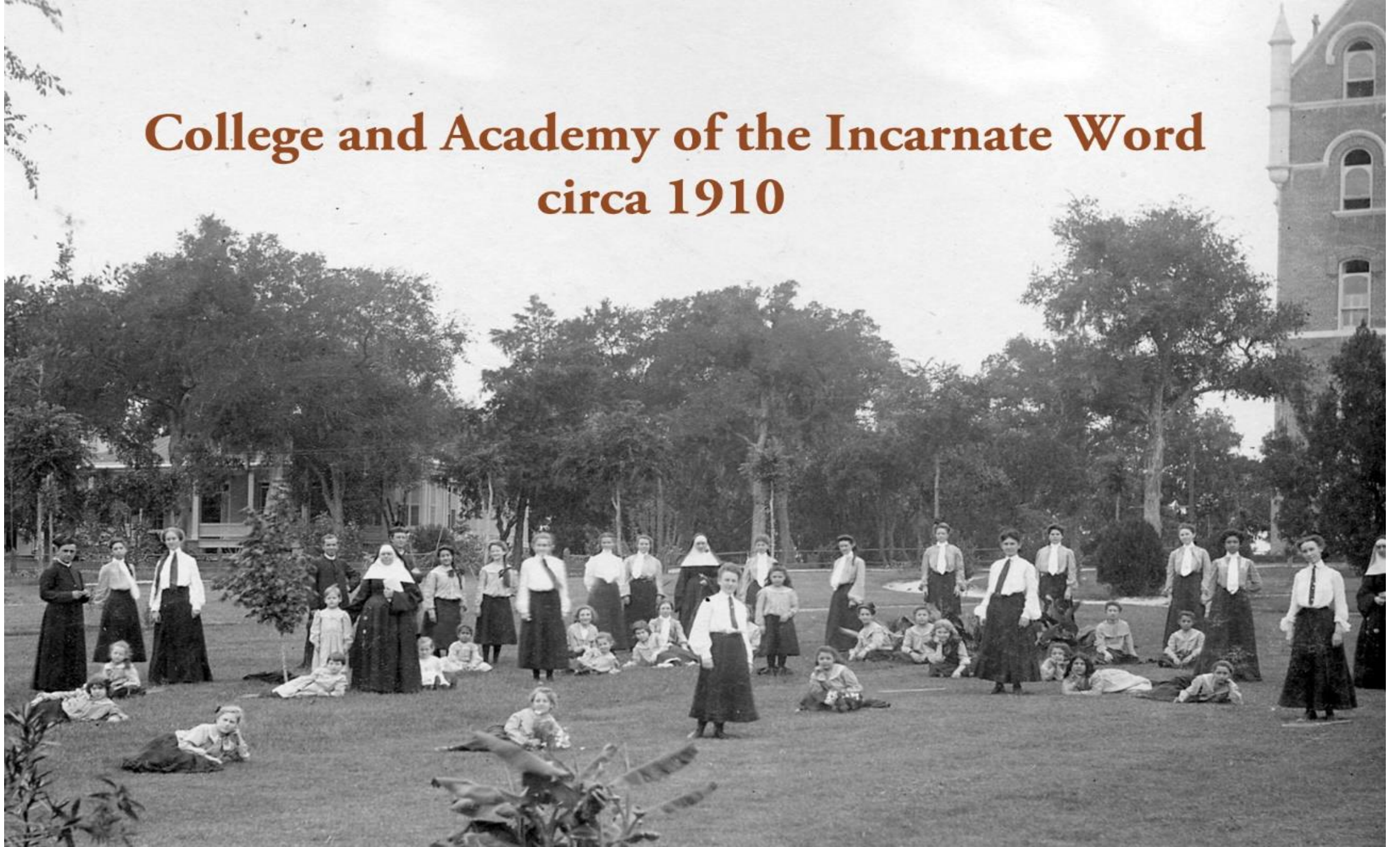
Can we be led by love rather than driven by fear?

The Incarnate Word Sisters, founders of our university, in the 1890's worked hard to buy the land around the Blue Hole, the source of the San Antonio River though they could not really afford it, because they believed that nature can help students learn and nature is emotionally and spiritually renewing.



San Antonio River - College Grove.
College and Academy of the Incarnate Word, Alamo Heights, San Antonio, Texas.

**College and Academy of the Incarnate Word
circa 1910**





La Alcaque

Swan Island



The San Antonio River as it flowed through the Sisters' property.
circa 1920s

Sister Mary Gabriel Mother Mary John A. Flasseur,

Now the Headwaters at Incarnate Word is a 53-acre nature sanctuary <https://www.headwaters-iw.org/> open to all.

It is near the Solar House <http://www.uiw.edu/solarhouse/> which was built by UIW students and it used to educate others.

Education in sustainability is a high priority for us.

If things don't change, researchers say air pollution worsened by climate change could cost tens of thousands of lives a year.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/.../air-pollution-deaths-expected-to-rise-because-of-climate-...>

More than 150000 people could die
as a result of climate change each
year in ...

www.independent.co.uk/.../deaths-year-climate-change-global-warming-extreme-weat...

Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year, from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat related diseases ...

- www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs266/en/

Led by love for our children, all persons,
all of creation

rather than driven by the violence of
hurricanes or fires

rather than driven by fear or anger

Brother Sun, Sister Moon,

Brother Fire, Sister Water,

Brother Wind, Sister Earth

A familial relationship with creation,
a sense of solidarity with all

The earth is our common home

Pope Francis, the leader of the Catholic Church wrote of the earth as “our common home” and urged all people of good will to be united in education and action at this critical time of climate change and ecological destruction.

We are happy for UIW to be partnering with the Texas Climate Tour for this program.

Women's Global Connection, a ministry of the incarnate Word Sisters, works with African women and families in need of water.



UIW has community gardens and works with schools and neighborhoods in our city to promote more.





Learn a little of UIW

<http://www.uiw.edu/sustainability/>

You are invited to follow the Incarnate Word Sisters blog considering ordinary people's efforts in regard to the environment

<http://saccvi.blogspot.pe/search/label/Environment>

Thank you