

INFO SS.CC. SISTERS N°58 – FEBRUARY 25TH 2019



Dear Sisters,

We intend to dedicate INFO to a reflection and sharing of the Apostolic Plan of Congregation (PAC). We will begin by recalling the motto of the Chapter, and in this issue we want to encourage you to look at the Vision and Mission that guide (PAC). Then we will take one by one the priorities that put it into today's reality, and see how these challenges are touching our life and our mission.

Let us look to the horizon. We have a dream, that is deep and that we want to project forward. Women consecrated to the Sacred Hearts, given unreservedly to the service of God and to his loving project that we find reflected in the hearts of his Son and his Mother.

Convoked as a community, we have been called together to the congregation. The Common Mission, of which we often speak, is born of this *con-vocation* that we cannot avoid, without missing the vocation received. This mission is not ours but God's, as the Good Father used to say when he spoke of "the work of God". Mission which, being common, demands of us a joint and ongoing search, community discernment, and the sending forth of the community. How many times have we heard that phrase: "where a sister is present, the congregation is present!" We can say this whenever the sister has been sent by the community to carry out an apostolate, accompaniment or a service. We also experience it when we enter the Chapel to make our adoration and we present to God the pain of the world. We can say this because we participate in the same mission.

We recreate the feelings of Jesus and the attitude of Mary. Going through the pages of the Gospels, we can daily evaluate our mercy and compassion, generosity and detachment. In this way we can see if our communities express this family spirit, so deeply rooted in our congregational tradition from

the beginning: the acceptance of everyone, the welcoming of the youngest, the care of the elderly, the understanding of differences, the weaknesses and difficulties of both... and we can see if the life we lead reflects the tenderness of a God who is especially sensitive to the most vulnerable. Do we bear witness to the world we want, where justice and peace, solidarity and respect are the pillars of living together?

To contemplate, live and proclaim the love of God... With realism and hope we look around us to discover the calls of God to us from the suffering of people who cry out for a dignified space to live. We hear the cry of the poor, the pain of the earth, and the loneliness of so many... We see violence, injustice and neglect... But we are convinced of the transforming power of love, and certain that God's love is present in the world through all those who strive to improve it. We cannot diminish it. With the missionary zeal bequeathed to us by our founders, we are involved, with many others, in the construction of an increasingly humane society. For this we will always be open.

With love,