



Dear Sisters,

It seems that in recent times, thanks to vaccines that are spreading more and more, the pandemic is being brought somewhat under control. Let us continue to entrust our world to the Lord, as we respond as best we can to the challenges of the times.

With this issue of INFO, we begin to look at the countries of Latin America. It is interesting to note that the early arrival of the French sisters in these young countries made them participants in very important moments of their nascent history. In Chile, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador, we have to go back to the 19th century, when these republics were just being formed and much was still to be done. For this reason, the contribution that our sisters made to the education of women, both in free schools (faithful to the wishes of the Good Mother) and in boarding schools and high-class schools, is remarkable. This is what we shall see in this and the following issues.

In this INFO we meet the sisters of the Territory of Peru, Brazil, Mexico and Bolivia. Four Latin American countries, very different from each other, some of them quite far apart, and that for various reasons this has happened over time, they have been grouped together in a single territory, which undoubtedly brings them riches and challenges. The structure in zones and territories that we have given ourselves maintains our diversity. Some territories have one country, others have two, three, four or even five. We can easily imagine that internationality has its nuances among us. The sisters of this territory live it very closely all the time.

And we will not dwell on the richness of diversity. We have talked about it a lot. But it will be important to read these INFOs with that key. May it not be enough for us to know a little more about the life and mission of the sisters in other countries. May it not be enough to recognise faces, places, and communities of which we have had echoes, or of which we have some memory. Let us read the reality that is shown to us looking for the richness of difference. Let us ask ourselves, when we learn about the history, communities, and presence among the people, what is the originality that these sisters bring to the Congregation as a whole. That newness of their own, which allows us to rejoice in what they live and have managed to build as an ss.cc. presence. May we deepen our sense of belonging to the Congregation, loving these differences for growth in communion.

The reflection we offer you this month is a brief presentation of Sr. Hermasie Paget, a missionary in Peru from a very young age until the end of her days. Remembering her takes us far beyond the anecdotal because of the various tributes and awards she received. Her contribution, as you will see, is not only related to this. Hermasie leaves us a valuable missionary witness through her commitment to the people who welcomed her, her whole life devoted to the services entrusted to her, her sensitivity and good humour, her kind presence, ... This is how her pupils and all those who knew her remembered her. Let her life speak to us.

Warmest regards.