

Sharing with the Good Mother



Dear Sisters,

It is still Christmas time, and we are still filled with the feelings of joy and hope that this important feast for the Catholic world always brings. The Church invites us to prolong the joy of the birth of Jesus. The festive liturgy of these days keeps our hearts full of gratitude in the certainty that Jesus accompanies the life of humanity forever, as a brother. It is a special time of grace that we must not miss in such difficult times in our world. How many men and women today will have felt themselves reflected in the gospel stories of Christmas, hearing that “there was no room for them in the inns”! How many children will have been born in the same conditions, out in the open, lying on the straw of a manger, in a corner of a tent, or on the road because they did not make it! Looking at our altarpieces with their colorful decorations and ornaments, we must not lose sight of the fact that there were no lights or garlands in the Bethlehem crib; that for them there were no carols other than the singing of the angels to the shepherds, and that Jesus slept on the straw of a manger for the animals. Only in this way will we give Christmas its deepest meaning and recognize in the poor a sacrament of God.

And at this time, as we celebrate also, the birth of the Congregation, we have asked some sisters to write a letter to the Good Mother for this issue of INFO. Henriette, together with the Good Father, offered her life in the silence and darkness of a Christmas night amidst the uncertainty and daring of a new path, and sealed a life of generous dedication and risky dreams, with her gaze fixed on Jesus, and her steps attached to the will of God.

Since that night we have associated the birth of Jesus with that of the Congregation, in a celebration that revitalizes our consecration to the Sacred Hearts. We will read in these letters the affection we feel today for the Good Mother; the confidence we have in her constant accompaniment and closeness, and the vitality she bequeathed to us, which has allowed us to continue this “Work of God” for more than two hundred years. With gratitude we welcome these testimonies which we can continue with our own in our silent prayer.

At the end of this issue, you will find a summary of the results of the survey we conducted on the impact of INFO among the sisters. This summary will help us to plan the next issues, their frequency, content, format, etc. Thus, we are projecting editions of INFO for the years 2023 and 2024. We are grateful for the responses received.

You will receive this INFO when the year 2023 begins. We wish you many happy returns and ask the Lord to give us more strength, more enthusiasm, more dynamism this year to do good and to serve those He puts before us.

With affection.