



11th RELEASE OF THE XIIth GENERAL CHAPTER OF THE LITTLE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF CHARITY - CONCLUSION

"Sisters, be missionaries without borders. To all, but especially to the poor, in whom you are called to recognize the flesh of Christ, bring the joy of the Gospel that is Jesus Himself. To all, show the beauty of God's love manifested in the merciful face of Christ. With this beauty, fill the hearts of those you encounter. Proximity, encounter, dialogue, and accompaniment are your missionary approach. And do not allow anyone to steal from you the joy of evangelization".

This is one of the many intense and significant passages of the speech that Pope Francis addressed to the Little Missionary Sisters of Charity in the Private Audience which took place **Friday May 26** in the Vatican. A strong appeal to mission that has resounded on social networks and will constitute the Institute's life and work program for the next 6 years, along with the official acts of the **12th General Chapter, which officially closed on May 29.**

On **Saturday May 27**, the capitular sisters continued their work on discerning and approving decisions on various topics in a free and fraternal ambience. **Sunday 28** was a free day for all participants.

On **Monday 29**, last day of the Chapter, the morning work was devoted to the approval of the latest Decisions, and to reading the minutes prepared so diligently by Sr. M. Gemma and her assistants.

At 12.00 **Don Tarcisio Vieira** Superior General of the Sons of Divine Providence, together with Fr. Pierre and Don Laureano, General Councillors, and Fr. Christopher, Provincial Director of Poland, **presided the Holy Mass of conclusion.** During the homily he drew attention to the "risk of the syndrome of those who feel successful". He said that the General Chapter produced a document but this is not the fruit... It can be the fertilizer we put into the "plant" of the PSMC, so that it can bring fruits with new strength... The real work is to begin now and, in the Gospel of today, Jesus encourages us: "Have confidence, I have won the world!" With this certainty let's return to our reality: the Lord is with us!

After lunch, in the afternoon, the Video message of the Capitular Sisters was recorded. It has been addressed to the entire Congregation and extended to the Charismatic Family. After the greeting from various Provincial and Delegate representatives in various languages, Mother Mabel presented the new General Council by saying: "For all of them, and for me, we are asking lots of prayers, in order to be faithful to this service that the Congregation has entrusted to us". The message was concluded with the song of the *Magnificat*.

The Video message was followed by the **Evaluation of the capitular experience** and by the concluding words of the Superior General. At 6.30 pm all the participants came together for the **Concluding Celebration** entitled: "*Mary Magdalene runs to announce the joy of having met the Risen Jesus*", during which every nun has received a new wineskin with new wine, as a symbol of the main line of the Chapter and the Church's expression in the last CIVCSVA document.

In the coming days, the capitular sisters will return to their respective Provinces/Delegations and apostolate.
Deo gratias et Mariae!

Secretariat of Orionine Communication, Rome, May 30, 2017

