

Piccole Suore Missionarie della Carità (Opera Don Orione) Casa generale Via Monte Acero, 5 – 00141 Roma www.suoredonorione.org

Prot. MG 17/21

Re: Final document of the General Assembly of evaluation LMSC

## To all the Little Missionary Sisters of Charity

## **Dearest Sisters!**

Today, on the Feast of the Annunciation of Mary, it's with great joy that I am writing to you to communicate to all of you the CONCLUSIONS of the General Assembly of Evaluation, celebrated in physical-digital form, from March 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>.

I have chosen to publish this final Document precisely today, in this liturgical celebration in which Mary, who has accompanied the entire process of the Assembly, is inviting us to renew our "yes".

The Angel, who brought to Mary the message of the great mystery of the Incarnation, comes today to each of us, with this same "message". It represents also the fruit of the Holy Spirit who has covered and accompanied our Congregation with his "shadow" in the long itinerary of the Assembly: from the Local Assemblies to the Provincial and Regional ones and then, in this last part of the journey, to the General one. The Holy Spirit, who made Mary's womb fruitful, also made the womb of our Congregation fruitful, and gave us all this "fruit": the CONCLUSIONS for the life and mission of the LMSC in the next two years.

Today, the Angel speaks to us the words addressed to Mary at the Annunciation and awaits our response and adhesion, so that *"the Word becomes flesh"*, so that the Proposals may become life, reality, concreteness in each of us, in every community and in every work and mission, in everyday life, where Jesus makes himself present through our charity.

Another event which may give even more strength to this commitment of ours, will be the Renewal of the IV<sup>th</sup> Vow of Charity, which we will call carry out, together, on April 11<sup>th</sup>, Sunday of Mercy.

Thus, we unite our "yes", to that of Mary. With her, we too say: "I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled"... the word you wanted to "tell us" during the event of the Assembly, and which we will confirm with our renewed "yes" of the Vow of Charity.

The "yes" of Mary in the Annunciation has been immediately transformed into "mission". After the announcement of the Angel, Mary "hurried to a town in the hill country, to Elizabeth's house"! Therefore, to renew the Vow of Charity also means, like Mary, to decide to "hurry" to the places where Jesus is waiting for us in the person of the neighbour, of the poor, of the child, of the elderly, but also of the sister who lives at home with us.



The Conclusions of the Assembly want to help us renew our vocation of charity, of total and joyful belonging to Christ, and our belonging to the Religious Family, in total and joyful dedication to our neighbour.

To welcome the Conclusions of the Assembly from the hands of Mary is to renew the commitment to walk with the two feet that Don Orione wanted for us: "humility and charity":

Humility and resourcefulness, charity and creativity...

*Humility* and generosity, *charity* and holiness...

Humility and openness, charity and freedom...

Humility and courage, charity and availability...

Dearest Sisters, we have repeated many times Elizabeth's words to Mary: "Blessed are you, who believed!".

Once again let us repeat them to each other; let us greet each other by saying with love: "Blessed are you, Sr. Mary ...., who believed!". Let us invite each other to live them accepting these Conclusions, collaborating with what the Provincial and Regional Superiors will propose for the implementation of these proposals, committing ourselves at personal and community level in order to make them visible and concrete. Let us make them alive again in the **Renewal of the IV<sup>th</sup> Vow**, all together, as a Religious Family, as a great fraternity: "Blessed are we, who believed!". We have believed in God's promises and keep trusting Him.

"Blessed are we, who believed and, believing, we love the Congregation", as Don Orione wanted, as "our little but great mother"! Let us love her by honouring her, let us love her by being open and available to bear witness to the love of God and of the neighbour, let us love her in feeling ourselves a living, responsible and creative part of it...

Let us love our Congregation with our fidelity, let us love her in the apparent passivity of age or poor health, let us love her in the vigour of mature age and great responsibilities, let us love it in the ardour of youth and apostolic creativity... let us love her, let us love her always!

The embrace of Mary and Elizabeth means that there are no times, conditions or seasons to believe and love, to serve and praise the Lord, with life and works.

## "Caritas Christi urget nos!":

This is our way of saying today "I am the Lord's servant!".

This is our way of loving the Congregation and the Church!

This is our way of living the Vow of Charity!

This is our way of setting out again, without delay, in haste, towards the land of mission of the poor, of the brother, of the sister!

This is our way of receiving today the Proposals of the Assembly!

## "Caritas Christi urget nos!"

"Urget.." like Mary, like don Orione...

I wish you all a beautiful Feast of the Annunciation that may prepare us to live, after the solemn celebrations of the Holy Week and Easter, the second "Easter", that of renewing the "love of Christ that urges us!" through the Vow of Charity and the acceptance of the proposals that the Holy Spirit gave us in the General Assembly.

Always united in the Lord, I embrace you fraternally and greet you also in the name of the General Councillors. I say to each one: "Blessed are you, who believed!"

Sr. Una Que bil Maquerolo -Sr M. Mabel Spagnalo Superior general

Rome, Generalate House, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Feast of the Annunciation of Mary.