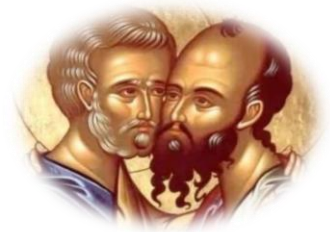




Piccole Suore Missionarie della Carità
(Opera Don Orione)
Casa generale
Via Monte Acero, 5 – 00141 Roma
www.suoredonorione.org



Prot. MG 17/23

Dearest Sisters!

On the day we celebrate the 108th anniversary of our foundation, I want to be close to you all in giving thanks for the great things that God has done in us and, through us, in this world loved by the Lord.

Maybe sometimes we aren't actually realizing it fully, but we are really participating in God's unfathomable Project that comes true despite our littleness. Even the Apostles we are celebrating today -Saints Peter and Paul-, were only humble and trustful instruments who have been able to tune into the frequencies of the Holy Spirit and let themselves be transformed and used totally for the Work of salvation. "Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world" (Ps 19) so far today.

We are placed here, with our clearer and clearer identity as Little Missionary Sisters of Charity, in communion with all the members of the Orionine Charismatic Family. This vocation broadens our heart and prepares it to welcome these new challenges with enthusiasm:

To carry out the proposals of the XIIIth General Chapter in a filial and active way.

Our journey was truly synodal and we felt involved in the Chapter event from the beginning through the questionnaire, and the Local, Provincial and General Chapters. Now we are about to approach a new phase of listening to the Spirit. Through the Planning Assemblies we are called to take the "possible step" to respond to the challenges that arise in our Provinces and Delegations.

To learn to "walking together".

We can respond to challenges if we are united. With a strong determination, the Church has been proposing the synodality. However, we feel that we are always beginners along this journey.

The image of Saint Peter and Paul, so different but embraced because of the Gospel, challenges us and encourages us to work with awareness and with all the tools we have at our disposal to be more humble, open to others and their values.

Today, more than ever, there is an urgent need to form oneself in the ability of relationships, and in mutual acceptance, in order to bear witness together to the prophecy of fraternity.

To be Samaritans and pilgrims of hope

Both the Chapter and the synodal journey help us in preparing for the Jubilee of 2025, that is, a special year of grace.

Pope Francis wrote: "The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee: *Pilgrims of Hope*. This will indeed be the case if we are capable of recovering a sense of universal fraternity and refuse to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of rampant poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity" (February 11th, 2022).

Our dear Father Founder encourages us on this journey: "O brothers, we hear the anguished cry of so many other brothers of ours, who suffer and yearn for Christ; let us

go to meet them as good Samaritans, let us serve the truth, the Church, the country, in charity" (*Writings*, 80,170).

With these challenges and others that the Spirit may make us understand, let us joyfully celebrate our anniversary of foundation in the footsteps of Saint Peter and Paul, of all the saints and prophets and of the saints of our Charismatic Family. "If these (were capable of so much), *why not me?*" wrote St. Augustine.

With these sentiments of gratitude and apostolic desires, let the song "Caritas Christi urget nos!" spring from our hearts.

United to each one in prayer and fraternal affection, I also greet you in the name of the General Councillors.



Sr M. Alicja Kędziora

Sr M. Alicja Kędziora
Superior general

Rome, General House, June 29th, 2023.

Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles.

Feast of the Pope!