

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

## Prot. MG 26/25

## Re: 110 YEARS OF FOUNDATION: 29-06-1915 - 2025

Dearest Sisters,

we are celebrating the 110 years of our Foundation! A significant anniversary to thank God who, through Saint Luigi Orione, gave the Church the Little Work of Divine Providence in which we were born, to carry out our specific mission as consecrated women.

We were born in a historical phase marked by great development but also by much suffering caused by the War and natural disasters, but also by the distancing of human heart from God.

In this very difficult scenario Don Orione asked us to "annihilate ourselves in the Heart of Jesus", that is, to renounce our own ego to entrust ourselves completely to the will of God. He wanted from us this act of humility and total abandonment to divine mercy, so that God could make us joyful and trusting instruments of his love for the world. He wrote: "The hand of Divine Providence has gathered you all in this nascent and minimal Congregation and it seems that He has done so with the manifest plan that you, annihilating yourselves in His Heart and in the hands of the Holy Church of Rome, and all inflamed by the charity of Jesus Crucified, go to revive in the souls and peoples the love of God and men" (Writings, 65,248).

We have responded to this sublime call and today we continue to "spread charity" in the four continents.

Now we find ourselves in a world scenario of great concern. The anthropological crisis that affects every human being and every institution makes us understand the unsustainability of the old form of humanity. We are aware that we too are often part of it. We experience what Pope Francis wrote in the Encyclical "Dilexit nos" that is: "Love for our brothers and sisters is not simply the fruit of our own efforts; it demands the transformation of our selfish hearts". (168) and for this reason we often pray: "Jesus, make our hearts more like your own" opening our heart to the care, and to the tender love of God that envelops us and restores us to be people of "disarmed and disarming peace" (Leo XIV). Here begins our new humanity!

Our mission, wherever we are, is this: "To live Christ and to make the whole world live of Christ" (Don Orione) and this requires us to no longer live ourselves, in the old form, but to allow Christ to live in us. This is the great revolution that the world needs, and consecrated life is called to this prophetic witness. Don Orione firmly believed in this renewal when he wrote: "A new era is opening: an era of faith, justice and love of humanity in the maternal arms of the Holy Church of Christ, one and true! (...) and humanity, renewed in Christ, will await the divine sign for a new path!" (Writings, 114,262).

This is the message of hope in this Jubilee Year and 60 years after the approval of the Congregation by the Church. The renewed Constitutions that we will receive this same year will help us to better realize our mission in the Church for the good of humanity.

May the Virgin Mary, our heavenly Foundress, and St. Luigi Orione accompany and protect us on this journey.



Sr M. Alicja Kędziora Sr M. Alicja Kędziora Superior general

Tortona, Mother House, June 29th, 2025 - SS. Peter and Paul