Piccola Opera della Divina Provvidenza
- Don Orione -

Figli della Divina Provvidenza
Piccole Suore Missionarie della Carità
Istituto Secolare Orionino
Istituto Secolare Maria di Nazareth
Movimento Laicale Orionino

Roma, 16 November 2026

Orionine Vocation Year 2026-2027

"Let us devote a great part of our charity to cultivating vocations."

On the centenary of Don Orione's letter on the "*Quest for Vocations*"

Dear Brothers, Sisters,

Secular Consecrates and Lay Members of the Orionine Charismatic Family

"Let us devote a great part of our charity to cultivating vocations" (1920; cf. Scritti 20, 78). With these words, Don Orione reminds us that caring for vocations is a concrete expression of our charity and our love for the Church. Cultivating vocations means co-operating with the Lord so that every young person may recognise their own calling and respond to it generously, making their life a gift to God and to others.

Our Founder also shows us where to begin: *"We must first renew and transform the hearts of our young people through charity, renew and transform them in Jesus Christ."* He then adds a condition that challenges us above all: *"We ourselves must burn with the charity of Jesus if we want them to burn with it too."* Caring for vocations therefore begins with our own lives. We cannot convey to young people the joy of following Christ unless we experience it ourselves. The witness of a vocation lived with fidelity, joy and passion remains the first and most convincing invitation to follow the Lord.

In this spirit, on the Solemnity of the Mother of Divine Providence, **20 November 2026, we inaugurate the Orionine Vocation Year**, which will accompany us as we celebrate the centenary of the letter of 15 August 1927, in which Don Orione addressed the parish priests of Italy, declaring: *"I have come to beg for vocations!"*

A hundred years later, we wish above all to recover the boldness of that initiative. Don Orione did not simply wait for vocations to come to him: he set out, knocked on doors, sought people out, called them and involved others. His was a genuine quest for vocations, inspired by trust in Divine Providence and by the desire to offer new vocations to the Church.

We wish this Vocation Year to be a time of prayer, witness and renewed commitment for our entire Charismatic Family. We want to ask the Lord for the gift of new vocations to consecrated life and the priesthood, but also to accompany young people in discerning their calling, helping them discover the beauty of a life given in service, through the different vocations and forms of service to the Church.

We therefore invite all the communities, Provinces, Delegations, groups and works of the Orionine Charismatic Family to live this Year with creativity and a spirit of communion. Let us build on existing initiatives and promote new ones, especially at local level, involving religious men and women, consecrated members of secular institutes and lay people. May every community and every one of our works become a place where young men and women encounter Christ, feel welcomed and accompanied, and find the courage to respond to His call.

We entrust this journey to the Mother of Divine Providence, asking her to help us cherish and foster the gift of vocations in the Church.

May Don Orione's exhortation accompany us once again: *"Everything will be renewed if we carry the lamp of the charity of Jesus Christ, burning in our hands and held high, very high, in our hearts!"*

May this be our commitment for the Vocation Year: to keep the lamp of charity burning, so that the desire to follow Christ and serve others may also burn in the hearts of new generations.

With fraternal affection,

P. Tarcisio G. Vieira
Sons of Divine Providence

Sr. M. Alicja Kedziora
Little Missionary Sisters of Charity

Rosita Dore
Orionine Secular Institute

Dina Guardini
Mary of Nazareth Secular Institute

Armanda Sano
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