

INFO SS.CC. SISTERS N°69 – MARCH 20TH, 2020



WOMEN CALLED – CONSECRATION (I)

Dear Sisters,

You will receive this issue of INFO a little later than usual, at a time of a world-wide health crisis that has us all confined within our communities, in quarantine, and hearing in the news that we have not yet experienced the worst. In this communication, it would be difficult not to consider this.

According to the programming that we have for this year's INFO, we will continue to share the themes of the Apostolic Plan of the Congregation that guides our mission over the next few years. You will find in this issue the reflection of various communities on the challenges of our Consecration as Women Called.

We will see that some highlight the importance of strengthening our spiritual life from the Word of God, the Eucharist and reparatory adoration, remembering the ministry of each sister, regardless of her age or state of health. There are those who speak of deepening the knowledge of the charism so that our life will always follow the example of the founders who knew how to embrace their crosses and suffer peacefully and courageously. We will also find calls to strengthen values, to create bonds, to weave bridges by listening attentively, keeping in mind the family spirit so that the places where we find ourselves are "healing". Others emphasize the need for more communion and dialogue so that we may be signs of God's tenderness in today's world; that our mission may make us face the evil in the world by always putting ourselves on the side of the oppressed, with living testimonies that renew our consecration... All the reflections of the communities point to what we must strengthen so that our Consecration may be meaningful in today's society and touch on the essential dimensions of our life.

At a time when the whole world is in anguish, fighting a virus that is killing many people, there is fear, much suffering and despair. The news is not comforting, and many feel frightened and insecure about what will happen next economically and socially. For others the confinement, sometimes in small spaces, is affecting their psychological health and they have signs of depression, there are family misunderstandings, boredom... It is not easy to be forced to stay at home, and even more so with the inevitable stress of the new situation we are experiencing.

Our consecration makes us prophets of faith and hope. We are sent to encourage, accompany, console others. It is a good time to ask ourselves how we can help, what we can do for others, even from our own confines. Prayer is certainly very important. Our adoration should present to the Lord, the pain of our world, the deceased and their families, the health personnel, the health authorities, ... Let us also try to discover those who may need us. Those who are alone, distressed or too stressed, and who, with a phone call or a WhatsApp message with a word of reassurance, could be encouraged. We do this so often among ourselves, or with our friends. Let us look a little further these days... Let us be creative in finding ways to reach out to others with the hope that faith gives us, and with the certainty that our founders had that in a society that was breaking apart, God was present, in some way, loving his sons and daughters with his Father/Mother tenderness.

With every Good wish,