

ASC International Communications – General Administration - Via Maria De Mattias, 10 - 00183 Rome www.adoratrici-asc.org

# Walking with the Church

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." (1Cor 12:4-7)

A meeting was held at the headquarters of the International Union on June 26 for the presentation of the Synod of Superiors General Working Document (*Instrumentum Laboris.*) Sr. Nadia participated, giving a reflection in light of the reading of the document from the perspective of religious life.

We are aware that the synodal process offers an opportunity for encounter in faith that grows the bond with the Lord, fraternity among people and love for the Church, not only at the individual level, but involving and energizing the entire community. It is emphasized several times that "the protagonist of the Synod is the Holy Spirit" and that the invitation to walk together has become the path on which the People of God proceed with enthusiasm, but without naiveté. The document reminds us that to be a synodal church is to recognize the common dignity deriving from Baptism, which makes those who receive it sons and daughters of God, members of his family, and therefore brothers and sisters in Christ and sent to fulfill a common

mission. (IL no. 20) The Church is to be a Church of listening that characterizes and transforms all the relationships the community establishes with its members, with other faith communities and with society as a whole. (IL n.22)

The text highlights three priority issues for the Synodal Church: these are challenges with which the Church, but also each community, must measure itself in order to take a step forward and grow in its own synodal being at all levels and from a variety of perspectives. Addressing them requires walking together as a people, with all its constituents.

The three priorities are inter-related with the three key words of the synod: **communion**, **mission**, **participation**. They are mutually complementing experiences and challenges that feed and support each other.

In addition to its in-depth first part, the document offers reflection and discernment sheets (in part two) that will encourage listening in the dynamic of spiritual conversation.

Communion and mission intertwine and mirror each other because "Communion and mission are profoundly joined together, interpenetrating and mutually implying, to the point that communion represents the source and at the same time the fruit of mission: communion is missionary and mission is for communion." (St. John Paul II)

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First of all, communion is a gift from God and, at the same time, a never ending task of building the "we" of the People of God. It weaves together a vertical dimension, "union with God," and a horizontal one, "the unity of the human race," in a strong eschatological dynamic: the path of communion is a path in which we are called to grow. (IL n.46)

Synodal life is not an organizational strategy, but the experience of being able to find a unity that embraces diversity without eliminating it, because it is founded on union with God in the confession of the same faith. This dynamic possesses a driving force that pushes to continuously broaden the scope of communion and is ready to embrace even the contradictions, limitations and wounds of history.

**Co-responsibility in mission** inevitably evokes the missionary nature of the Church and "consists in going out [... from self] to seek the good of others, even to the point of giving one's life." That is, mission allows us to relive the experience of Pentecost: the proclamation of Jesus who died and rose again. (IL #51)

**Participation** is essentially an expression of creativity and the nurturing of relationships of hospitality, welcome and human empowerment at the heart of mission and communion. From the concern for participation flows the

third priority that emerged: the question of authority, its meaning and the style of its exercise within a synodal Church.

The synodal journey invites us to a deep reflection on service in authority understood as the capacity to grow, and thus service to the personal originality of each person, as a support for creativity and not a control that hinders it, but fosters the freedom of the person and is not a tether that keeps them bound.

During the meeting, Sr Nadia clearly emphasized that formation in synodality is urgently needed to grow and become sisters. We need holistic initial and ongoing formation to make our communities places for listening, participation and mission.

Institutions and structures, in fact, are not enough to make the Church synodal: what is needed is a synodal culture and spirituality, animated by a desire for conversion and sustained by adequate formation, which is not limited to updating the content, but concerns all the abilities and gifts of the person.

The synodal experience, lived in sharing and spiritual conversation, will be the opportunity to grow as a synodal community in that beauty and harmony that attracts.

Sr. Nadia Coppa, ASC



# Presentation of the Working Document of the Synod

Tuesday, June 20, was an important day for all of us. Sr. Nadia Coppa, as President of UISG, participated in the Press Conference in the Vatican press room as a panelist in the presentation of the Synod's Instrumentum Laboris (Working Document.) The document, the culmination of the two-year journey together of listening, is offered as a starting point for the second phase of the Synod. The document will guide the work of the General Assembly in October 2023 and 2024 on the theme of synodality. It was an important experience for Sr. Nadia that saw her engaged in the preparation and that we followed with trepidation live from the Vatican Studios. Other members of the panel were cardinals and bishops in charge of the Synod: the General Secretary, Cardinal Mario Grech, the General Rapporteur of the Synod, Cardinal Jean-Claude Holleriche, Father Giacomo Costa, Consultor of the General Secretariat of the Synod, a lay representative of the Church in Switzerland. A large number of journalists from different parts of the world were present. The document was presented from various aspects and each panelist tried to highlight one of them.

The text of the Working Document is "like a cookbook. Cooks receive the book together with some ingredients: their mission is to put the different ingredients together to satisfy different palates," thanks to the Holy Spirit who guides them "to find a new food harmony." A document "of the whole Church, not written at a desk, but in which all are co-authors, each for the part he or she is called to play in the Church."

So it is "not a theological treatise on synodality," Hollerich explained, but "the fruit of a Church experience, of a journey in which we have all learned more" in which, Cardinal Grech clarified, "the voice of no one is missing: of the Holy People of God; of the pastors, who have guaranteed ecclesial discernment with their participation; of the Pope, who has always accompanied us, supported us, encouraged us to go forward." A text that "does not give answers, but merely poses questions." It will be the bishops who will try "to give answers

in harmony-consensus-guidance of the Spirit." We will not have to find all the answers in October, Grech clarified, but "a truly synodal Church will be able to answer many of the questions of humanity today." Among them, we will ask, "What concrete steps are needed to go to meet people who feel excluded from the Church because of their affectivity and sexuality (e.g., remarried divorcees, people in polygamous marriages, LGBTQ+ people, etc.)." Stimulated by reporters, Cardinal Hollerich replied that this issue will also be the subject of the discernment of the Assembly members and that "we do not have an already prepared agenda."

As president of the International Union of Superiors General, Sr. Nadia Coppa explained that the document will soon be presented to the nearly 2,000 Superiors General of women's congregations in an online Webinar. She stressed the validity of the insights offered by the worksheets of the Working Document, which "touch on different and important perspectives (theological, pastoral, canonical)." In responding to questions about the expectations of women religious regarding the Synod, Sr. Nadia left a positive message by calling it an opportunity and a tool for the growth of the whole Church in respect and acceptance of differences.

We celebrated together her return home and congratulated her by having ice cream together. We expressed our gratitude to her for her service on behalf of all Consecrated Life in the Church.

Sr. Maria Grazia Boccamazzo, ASC



Continental Area: the Americas
Region of Brazil

# Reflection Meeting with ASC collaborators

On May 19 the monthly meeting with the collaborators working at the Regional House and at the Nazaré House was held. Sister Terezinha de Jesus Moreira spoke about the importance of silence: slowing down to be able to contemplate God's presence in creation, to cultivate simplicity, to contemplate the sunrise and sunset and feel the peace they instill in us.

Each staff member felt motivated to pursue this process of becoming aware, of being more attentive to the environment in which they work, which, by the way, has many trees and many singing birds. In short, they want to look at nature as a gift from God and at the same time one of the places where God communicates with us. This experience made us feel gratitude.

Tatiana Santana

Continental Area: the Americas
USA Region

# **Chronicles from the United States**

#### 100 Years

On Saturday, May 6, the sisters gathered in the Wichita Center Main Dining Room at 11:30 a.m. to help Sr.



Francella Bahr celebrate 100 years of life. After her favorite meal of stromboli, she shared highlights of the 100 years during an interview with "reporters" Diana Rawlings and Fran Schumer. Sisters also had an opportunity to share their own stories of Francella. In the afternoon the celebration continued with cupcakes and ice cream with the sisters in Caritas.

#### 95 Years



On May 13, the community helped Sr. Marilyn Rupp celebrate her 95th birthday with an evening meal of Pizza Hut pizza (her request), and stories of her life shared by Marilyn and sisters who had lived and ministered with her.

### **National Nursing Home Week**

May 14-20 was National Nursing Home Week and this year's theme was "Cultivating Kindness." Staff and sisters wrote words of kindness that were displayed in the hall in Caritas. Other events of the week included a spa afternoon for sisters and staff, free car washes for the staff, writing of cards of hope, cake decorating contest, and a special musical performance.



#### **20th Anniversary of Maria's Canonization**

Sisters had an opportunity to take part in the roundtable and the anniversary Mass commemorating the 20th anniversary of St. Maria's Canonization from Rome. At the Center we celebrated with Mass. At the dinner following, Sr. Jenny Sellaro shared a reflection on Maria.

### **Vow Anniversaries**



On Ascension Sunday, the Wichita community gathered to celebrate the vow anniversaries of three sisters – Sr. Helen Lindsey (70 years) and Sr. Tarcisia Roths, and Sr. Rosina Mies (75).

Sr. Fran Schumer, ASC

Continental Area: the Americas

21.5A Region

# Vocation Day at St. Leo the Great School

While attending a 40 Hours dinner in May at St. Leo's Church, Lancaster, PA, I was approached by a member of the school staff who asked if I would like to participate in their Vocation Day program on April 27. I readily accepted the invitation.

Two weeks before the scheduled event I received an itinerary for Vocation Day at St. Leo the Great Catholic School. Twelve people were invited to participate – the pastor and assistant, two recently ordained priests, two Glenmary Brothers from Philadelphia, two Sisters from the order of Servants of the Lord the Virgin of Matara (Argentina, South America), two local sisters, Sr. Anna, OFM from Holy Trinity, Columbia PA, and myself, plus two deacons.

The day began with Mass at 9:00 a.m. with the students taking care of all parts of the liturgy – music - including playing the organ and piano, leading the singing, servers, readers, etc. After Mass the guests had coffee and muffins as the students returned to their classrooms and waited for a speaker to appear.

Before we began the visits to the various assigned rooms, the presenters all appeared on stage as the entire student body congregated in the assembly room. When we received the itinerary for Vocation Day we also received a questionnaire.

The questionnaire was to help kick off the day – which began in school with a "Guess Who" game. We each had 22 questions to answers – the students would guess who belonged to that response. Example: Did you ever receive detention as a child? The pastor, Fr. Hahn, had the highest number. Did you know you had a vocation as a child? After spending about a half hour with the entire school, the students returned to their respective rooms and we went to the assigned rooms for the given time.

Each of the presenters was given a classroom and time limit. I had both kindergartens, shared a sixth grade with Sr. Anna, OSF, and ended up with a fourth grade class.

We received a St. Leo the Great carry bag, St. Leo baseball cap, a metal insulated coffee mug, note pad and pen, and a snack.

It was a wonderful day with the students. Hopefully, the students had a better image of various vocations and will respond to whatever their call is.

Sr. Leona Hunter, ASC



Continental Area: Europe Region of Italy

# **20**<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Canonization

**Days of Vallecorsa** 

".....We greatly believe in young people, but before us Maria de Mattias had trusted in them. .... Enlightened by her teaching, we humbly attempt to walk the path that she blazed. We are aware of the enormous difficulties, but that does not make us disheartened....."

These were the opening words of the first issue of the quarterly "The Echo of the Valley" of the Maria De Mattias Study and Research Center. It was on March 31, 2000, almost on the eve of the conclusion of the canonization process that had begun in the first months after Maria's death on August 20, 1866, by Fr. John Merlini, who extolled the spirit of holiness with which Maria de Mattias had led her life.

The 20th anniversary of the canonization, May 18, 2023, saw me in some ways with a prominent role and made me relive the days of the celebration with lively participation and the same emotions as on that extraordinary day of May 18, 2003.

For us at the Study and Research Center, this date was preceded by 14 publications of the newspaper, as a kind of preparatory phase, a preparation for an event that we could not predict, but which we perceived would happen at any moment.

After all, it was the same feeling felt by the entire citizenry of Vallecorsa fueled in their desire for the news from the columns of our newspaper.

And when John Paul II finally proclaimed our fellow citizen a saint, the town was ready to welcome the happy news with emotion, with enthusiasm and with pride.

These were the same feelings, the same participation, the same involvement experienced this year for the celebration of the 20th

anniversary.

The idea of our parish priest, Father Francesco Paglia, to have St. Maria De Mattias travel through the streets of the village, receiving tokens of devotion in each of the three Churches of the town, turned out to be an extraordinary intuition because of the message of love and union that surged among the hymns and prayers raised to our Holy Fellow Citizen.

During these days it was like hearing Pope John Paul II's words on the occasion of the canonization echoing through the alleys of the town, "The canonization of Maria De Mattias is a propitious occasion to deepen our understanding of her life lesson and to draw from her example useful guidelines for our own existence. I am thinking first of all of you, dear Sisters Adorers of the Blood of Christ, who rejoice to see your Foundress glorified, and of all of you, faithful devotees of her, who form her spiritual family."

And this spiritual family was reunited during the days of the feast celebrated this year, attested to by the warm welcome that the people of Vallecorsa were able and willing to extend to the Adorers of the Blood of Christ and their General Superior, Sister Nadia Coppa.



I took it upon myself to convey to the beloved Sister Nadia the great esteem and deep affection that binds the entire population of Vallecorsa to her.

These sentiments were sealed by the thunderous applause raised spontaneously by the devotees who crowded the pews of the church of Santa Maria.

On this occasion, the Study Center wished to underscore the close link that unites in a single life project the activities and purposes of the Association with the deeply Christian spirit lived by Maria De Mattias.

The gift to Sister Nadia of the 68 issues of the quarterly by the Study Center symbolizes the inseparable link between the ASC Institute and our Association.

In its 24 years of existence, "The Valley Echo" has constantly kept Maria De Mattias' presence in the foreground with news coverage and indepth articles, which have highlighted certain aspects of Maria De Mattias' life and mission.

fact. the presence, universalism, solidarism, sanctification, ecologism, mercy, citizen were emphasized, all of which contributed to the flourishing in us Vallecorsans of the seed she spread widely and imbued with love for the Blood of Jesus.

The Vallecorsan days of the 20th anniversary celebration have profoundly affected the already solid devotion to St. Maria De Mattias and leave us looking with rosier hope for the complete affirmation of the Christian commandment of love. Our Maria had dedicated her whole self to the popularization of that love.

In these difficult times in the life of the whole world, the sentiment of love and the need for peace with the overcoming of difficult and dramatic situations, return powerfully to the forefront.

Maria de Mattias taught us that it is possible. Each of us is an insignificant grain of sand, but together we all make up the pleasant scenery of a welcoming and sunny beach.

> Davide Mirabella Vallecorsa 6-6-23



Area Continentale: Europa Regione Wrocław

### **Bolesławiec: In honor of St. Maria De Mattias**

#### Introduction and remembrance

Bolesławiec is a small town of 40,000 inhabitants, 54% of whom are women and 46% men. It is the only city in the world to have chosen St. Maria De Mattias as its patron saint and protector before God. The event took place on May 18, 2008 (5th anniversary of MDM's canonization), in the presence of the Apostolic Nuncio to Poland, Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk, numerous bishops, priests and many ASCs from all over the world. Three ASC General Superiors participated in the occasion: Sr. Giuseppina Fragasso, Sr. Vittoria Tomarelli, and Sr. Bernarda Kristić. In the persons of the former and the current General Superior of the Congregation, the history and the present met.

#### The Present - 2023

The Bolesławiec Days Celebration was held May 26-28, 2023. The slogan of this celebration was "We live in Europe, Europe is in us." The program included children's activities, exhibitions, a motorcycle rally, and a concert by the band ANOTHER PINK FLOYD. However, our focus was on the celebration of two important anniversaries and jubilees for us Sisters and for the residents: the 20th Anniversary of Maria's Canonization and 15th Anniversary of the proclamation of St. Maria De Mattias as patroness of the city.

The citizens of Bolesławiec and the ASC Sisters of the Wrocław Province were joined in the celebration by Sister Nadia Coppa - General Superior; Sister Maria Grazia Boccamazzo - General Secretary and Sister Monica Rini - General Treasurer, and the inhabitants and representatives of Acuto and Vallecorsa, sister cities of Bolesławiec. Nineteen people came from Acuto, led by Augusto Agostini - Mayor of Acuto, and a delegation of four people from Vallecorsa with Massimo Ferracci, Councilor of the City of Vallecorsa.



May 26 - (In Poland Mother's Day is celebrated on this day.) At 10:00 a.m. in the Municipal Public Library - Bolesławiec Knowledge Center, the "Maria De Mattias - through the eyes of children and youth" exhibition was opened. Artwork by children from Bolesławiec's kindergartens and elementary schools were presented. The exhibition was open from May 27 to June 24, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It was surrounded by MDM images, the "Being Woman" voice contest was held for kindergarten and elementary school children, inspired by and dedicated to the city's patron saint. About 180 works were exhibited at the Center, while another 178 wonderful masterpieces -- made by the children -- were displayed at the ASC Motherhouse at the St. Maria De Mattias Spirituality Center. There, during an outdoor event in the convent gardens, four huge portraits of MDM made as collective works by the youngest residents of Boleslawiec were also presented.

**May 27** - the so-called NIGHT OF MUSEUMS is celebrated in Poland.

In Boleslawiec, in addition to the Ceramics Museum, the convent of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ houses the Museum of St. Maria De Mattias and the beginnings of the ASCs in Poland. On this evening, with the help of the Ceramics Museum staff, about 500 people visited our museum between 6 p.m. and midnight. The visit, in groups of 20 people, was free of charge and ended with a prayer in the house chapel before the relics of St. MDM, St. Gasper del Bufalo, St. John Paul II and St. Faustina Kowalska.



# Sunday May 28 – The Solemnity of Pentecost – Day of Jubilee and Thanksgiving

Sister Nadia Coppa arrived at the religious house in Boleslawiec at 8:10 a.m. After a joyful welcome, Sister Nadia shared breakfast with the sisters. During lunch, to which the diocesan priests, Fr. Bogdan Witkowski, Curator of the Shrine of the CPPS Precious Blood of Czestochowa, and the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood were invited, there was an exchange of gifts between Sr. Nadia, Superior General of the ASCs, and Sr. Gabriela Wabnic, Superior General of the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood. Sr Nadia presented Sr. Gabriela with the relics of St. Maria De Mattias. All the speeches, gifts and hugs were very moving for everyone. We experienced the gift of the Holy Spirit - the gift of unity in the Family of the Precious Blood.

The main event was the solemn Mass at 2 p.m. in the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, presided over by Bishop Andrzej Siemieniewski of Legnica. Before the Eucharist began, Sister Nadia Coppa welcomed those present, followed by speeches by Piotr Roman, Mayor of Bolesławiec, and Augusto Agostini, Mayor of Acuto. After the Eucharist Michele, a 10-year-old boy from Acuto, hosted an interview on the topic of "The Grandfather." The interview covered the topics of who St. Maria De Mattias was, who she is and what she did. The role of grandfather was played by a 14-year-old student from Boleslawiec School. It was an Italian-Polish, Polish-Italian dialogue. After the Mass, Father Stanislaw Kusik - the pastor - invited everyone to watch and listen to a verbal and musical performance: Maria De Mattias -Charism and Spirituality, prepared by students from the city's elementary schools.

Between the church performance and the events in the castle square, Sister Nadia gave interviews to the local press and television.

After the performance, the celebration with Maria De Mattias continued at the parish picnic, where prizes were awarded for the vocal contest "Being Woman"-a contest inspired by the person of St. Maria De Mattias; for the art contest "Maria De Mattias-through the eyes of children and youth"; and for the trivia contest about the patron saint of Bolesławiec. The awards were presented by the mayors of Bolesławiec and Acuto, the Vallecorsa alderman, and most importantly, Sister Nadia Coppa was invited to this activity. An interesting and previous feature of the vocal competition was the performance of 15-year-old Kasper Gąsiorowski, a student of grade 8 (the last year of elementary school).

And then... for many hours we were able to watch the performances of the following groups: the Municipal Choir "Cantate Deo," Sing and Dance Group "Bolesławiec," the women's groups INIEMAMOCNE and EMENEMSY from the Vocal Studio of the Bolesławiec Cultural Center; then the Akord Band, and finally a musical feast was the performance of the T.I.R. Group, which presented Italian music from the 1960-90s.

After prayers, viewing of the exhibits, presentation of awards and dancing, Bolesławiec city authorities and Italian guests gathered at the House of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ at a communal table over a Polish meal, with Italian wine, to celebrate all things Maria De Mattias and the birthday of Giulia Santonico, president of the Acuto Senior Center.

During the ceremony, Sister Nadia Coppa said, "For all those gathered to celebrate the MDM-related anniversaries, it is a great joy that many years ago the friendship and collaboration between the cities of Vallecorsa, Acuto and Bolesławiec was initiated. It is proof that the spirituality of St. Maria De Mattias transcends borders and spreads to all countries and peoples.

#### **Thanksgiving**

Sister Nadia ... we would like to thank you for your presence among us. You have been here ... only 33 hours. Your face showed no signs of weariness from the difficulties you had to face. You spread the joy, gratitude and spiritual legacy of St. Maria De Mattias.

We also thank Sr. Maria Grazia and Sr. Monica for their joy of celebrating in our midst, for the unity of the charism and for their wonderful presence.

Sr. Gabriela Janikula, ASC

### Continental Area: Europe Region of Sagreb

# In the Library

The Adorers of the Blood of Christ arrived in Bihać, a city in the northwest of Bosnia and Herzegovina located along the banks of the swift and lovely Una in the valley at the foot of the Plješivice mountain. Legend has it that the ancient Romans, who saw its beauty for the first time, exclaimed "UNA" - "Unique!". And indeed, the whole city exudes some uniqueness that is scattered on the streets and that tells the story of its turbulent past.

From old excavations and the legacy of the Japoda tribe, through archaeological research from the era of the Roman Empire, through the traces of the Ottoman Empire in which Bihać and its surroundings were the westernmost province, all the way to the Austro-Hungarian rule and the turbulent and difficult history of the 20th century, it stands by the river and continues to count days.

The Sister Adorers came there in 1894. In the Bihac monastery of St. Josipa ("Kloster") in 1894, a four-grade public school began to operate, followed by a kindergarten and a boarding school for children. Later, the nuns also started a high school for girls, which operated successfully until 1945, when the communist government closed it, and the "cloister" building was nationalized. But for the sisters, giving up working with people, out of a deep desire to "reveal to everyone the love and tenderness of the crucified Jesus" (St. Maria De Mattias) was never an option.

Although it was not easy or painless, the sisters decide to stay in that city. Defying the tumultuous years of war, they stayed with the people coming and going from the area. They are still present today as a self-effacing but strong presence in that city, operating in the parish and working in Library of St. Josip. The library is precisely the place of meeting, socializing, growing in quality coexistence. Even though the sisters are a national minority in the area, because specifically in the city of Bihać about 90% of the Muslim population lives, they feel completely integrated, accepted and treat their dear neighbor wholeheartedly.

As part of the "For Life and Family" project of the Maria De Mattias Foundation, there, in the Library of St. Josipa, on June 2 and 3, a program was



held for children and educational workers in Bihać. It was held on the first day of the program drama-pedagogical workshop and storytelling workshop. More than sixty students of the elementary school "Harmani I" participated in an interactive workshop, reflecting on their own dreams and the path to their realization. The picture book "The Day I Turned into a Bird" by Ingrid Chabbert served as the basis.

In the afternoon, the younger children had the opportunity to play with Emily Haworth-Booth's picture book "The King Who Forbade Darkness". Through the storytelling technique, the workshop was aimed at encouraging and developing the culture of reading and listening to stories from an early age. In the messages that stories bring us, universal lessons about mutual acceptance, kindness, kindness-love are hidden.

The second day was followed by an educational interactive workshop for educators on the topic of dramatic techniques and study methods. The teachers were introduced to drama education, which includes teaching with the use of drama techniques and methods, which are diverse, unexpected, attractive activities and require students to discover, research, solve problems, socialize and cooperate. Teachers have entered the role of students and by studying the life of the first female Nobel Prize winner, Marie Curie, they learned experientially about dramatic techniques and methods.

The workshops and storytelling were led by Sr. Sunčica Kunić, a teacher and drama pedagogue, with the support of Sr. Cecilija Milković, director of the Marija De Mattias Foundation, and Sr. Blanka Šturm, manager of the library of St. Joseph.

These two intense days spent in mutual sharing and socializing left a deep and valuable mark on us. Coexistence interwoven with respect and acceptance is truly healing for this place. To be a bridge, an outstretched hand, to give a warm look and a word of understanding and comfort, is a free but enormous resource in the effort to build the universal brotherhood Pope Francis calls us to.

Sr. Sunčica Kunić, ASC

## **Education for environmental awareness**

As part of the Maria De Mattias Foundation's project "For Life and Family," ASC catechists organized educational workshops within the school and catechetical program. The topics were inspired by the contents of the International and World Days celebrated each year. One of the topics was how to recognize one's emotions and body language based on them. It is amazing how the second graders and fourth graders accomplished it. They made a forest called Zelengrad, full of animals, out of recycled paper.

The little ones realized that it is necessary to recognize the "emotions" of animals that experience the beauty of their environment being polluted by irresponsible people. Here is one of their stories and interesting messages:

One day, in a forest called Zelengrad (Green City), the fox said, "I am so angry with people that I could bite them because they threw garbage into the wild." And the bear added, "I am also very angry with people." Owl asked, "Why are you angry?" "Because when I woke up from my winter sleep, I saw much more garbage than last year." The Owl added, "Every time I fly, I'm afraid of running into the plastic bags that, carried by the wind, fly through the air." And the fish said, "I am very confused and sad, because every time I think a crumpled piece of paper is a little snail." The postman Bunny said, "Every time I deliver the mail, I step on the half-eaten food and get dirty." Owl added, "I can't stand to see so much trash in Zelengrad." "It's disgusting when I walk and fall in the mud because of the cans," said the bunny. "And when I look for my prey, I'm sad and hungry because I can't find anything but a pile of garbage," said the fox. The letter-carrier bunny said, "I am happy because I have a great idea: we should all bravely join together and collect the garbage from Zelengrad." The bear said, "I'm not going to pick up that dirty garbage because it makes me sick." Then everyone bravely started picking up the garbage. And the little bear, getting bored, joined them.

The animals were happy and satisfied because they had cleaned Zelengrad, and the

bear was happy because it had joined them. And so, people, don't throw garbage, but clean nature regularly. The forestry council is right, don't litter in nature!

Sr. Cecilija Milković, ASC





# General Administration Calendar

Adorers of the Blood of Christ - General Assembly Rome, CPPS Provincial House, Via Narni 29, July 1-29, 2023 In the Blood of Christ ... All things new." (Rev. 21.5)

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		other			Working Document	Novitiate	Motherhouse	Acuto
	Reports of the Re-	Reports of the	<b>General Administration</b>	ntion	1	and related pro-	and related pro-	PILGRIMAGE
<u>J</u>	gions, Delegation and	Regions, Delegation	Report	<u> </u>	3:30pm <i>Online</i> Talk: FR Joe Nassal, CPPS	posals	posals	3:30pm Online
1	roundations	and Foundations		•				<b>Eucharistic Celebration</b>
12					8:30pm <i>Online</i> Holy Dance			
	10	11	12		13	14	15	16
	Acuto - Motherhouse	Intermediate	Family of the P. Blood	poo				
	Generalate House	Structures	(ASC, CPPS, Laity):	.;	Proper Law		Proper Law	Spiritual
		and	paths and proposals	als	and related proposals	S Proper Law	•	Discernment
	Som Online	related Proposals	New forms of Consecration	ration				
	Community St. Egidio		to the Blood of Christ 8:30pm Online: Novices	<b>rist</b> ices				
	17	18	19		20	21	22	23
	Discernment	Discernment	Discernment		CIS/VIVAT/GPIC and	Ratio Formationis		PILGRIMAGE
	and	and	and Election Process	ess	related proposals.		GA Acts	of Thanksgiving
	Election Process	Election Process	Celebration		Congregation Fund	Drafting		Lanciano
			6pm Online			Proposals		(Free participation)
			Concert: Sr. Piera Cori	Cori	Economic Directory			
	24	25	26		27	28	29	30
	<b>Proposals</b> arrived	<b>Proposals</b> arrived				Approval of the GA	Official closing of	
	from listening to the	from listening to the	Drafting		Drafting of the	'23 Acts	the XXII GA '23	Departures
	Congregation.	Congregation and Orientations	of the Acts AG '23	ຮ	GA '23 Acts	6pm Online Recital: MDM	11am Online	
_		and Onchranous				Nocital: Nipiki	במכוומו וזמה בכובה:	

# Birthdays: Let's Celebrate Life

50th Birthday

Sr. Laura William Nchupa 07/27/1973 Tanzania

60<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Sr. Elsy Velayappallil 07/01/1963 India

70<sup>th</sup> compleanno

Sr. Jan Renz 07/02/1953 **USA** 

Sr. Mirjana Tikvić Zagreb 07/29/1953

80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Sr. Maria Cifelli 07/05/1943 Italy

Sr. Anna Carcagnì 07/26/1943 Italy

90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Sr. Sophia Kammer 07/11/1933 USA

**AUGUST** 

30th Birthday

Sr. Mercy Angela 08/09/1993 India

40<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Sr. Getruda Edward Mgidila 08/04/1983 Tanzania

60<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Sr. Małgorzata Przybyło 08/07/1963 Wrocław

Sr. Rose Hawa Tantau 08/10/1963 Tanzania

80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Sr. Konzolata Nikifor 08/07/1943 Zagabria

Sr. Emilia Donati 08/17/1943 Italy

Sr. Betty Adams 08/26/1943 USA

90th Birthday

06/10/2023

Sr. Helene Trueitt 08/14/1933 USA

Sr. Adalgisa Raimondi 08/19/1933 Italy

# They have returned to their Heavenly Home

06/08/2023 Sr. Anna Antonia Barone 06/10/2023

Sr. Domenica lori

Sr. Mary Peter Chiodo

Sr. Celestina Stojanović 06/18/2023

Sr. Antonietta Biasini

06/20/2023

07/14/2023 Sr. Maria Addolorata Previtero Italy

01/08/2023 Sr. Luisa Conte Italy

Italy

Italy

USA

Italy

Zagreb

# **Anniversaries of Religious Profession**

### July 1 - BLCS

### 50th Anniversary

Sr. Kris Schrader Sr. Nylas Moser

### 60th Anniversary

Sr. Joan Weiler *Sr. Francine Schuster* Sr. Therese Wetta

### 65th Anniversary

Sr. M. Alan Wurt Sr. Mary Ellen Hubbard Sr. Joan Shalapin Sr. Jean Marie Kumke

### 70th Anniversary

Sr. Hedwig Neff

### 80<sup>th</sup>+ Anniversary

Sr. Dolores Ann Rapp (80) Sr. Leona Luechtefeld (81)

# August 15 - Zagreb

# 60th Anniversary

Sr. Lidija Petrušić

### August 19 - Tanzania

### 25th Anniversary

Sr. Fortunata Shabani Sumbui Sr. Laura William Nchupa Sr. Magdalena Pantaleo Sikay Sr. Yohana Amu Maley

### August 19 - Zagreb

#### 50th Anniversary

Sr. Mirjam Kuštreba

Sr. Cecilija Milković

Sr. Matilda Palić

Sr. Zdenka Pezer

Sr. Jacinta Šokić

Sr. Katica Tušek

### August 19 - Wrocław

25th Anniversary

Sr. Ina Baltsevich

### August 23 - Zagreb

### 25th Anniversary

Sr. Danijela Anić

### August 27 - BLCS

25th Anniversary Sr. Angela Laquet

Our best wishes and prayers



# International News etter Adorers of the Island of Christ

#### **Monthly Communication**

edited by the

Adorers of the Blood of Christ

International Communications – General Administration Via Maria De Mattias, 10 - 00183 ROME

#### Year XXV, Issue 7, July/August 2023

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