

# TOGETHER on the JOURNEY

Sisters of the Holy Cross

INFO n.2/ March 2020

Dear Sister,

During these days, while I was reflecting on the strength and beauty of being "*Rooted in Christ*" I remembered what a young woman said to me: "Before becoming a believer, when I thought about my childhood, marked by the absence and limits of my parents, I felt a void, a sense of cold." I often asked myself: "*where are my roots?*" I did not find them and *I felt the need...* I carried for many years this sense of malaise... this empty space within me that I knew only an encounter with Jesus could fill and flourish."



*"I felt the need to be in touch with my roots..."* recalling this memory, I spontaneously connected this expression to a biblical passage (Nehemiah, 8,1-4.5-6.7-12) in which the people of Israel, after more than seventy years of exile in Babylon could say, ...he rallies again "as one man" in the square in front of the gate of the Waters (one of the gates of the wall of Jerusalem); there he asks the priest Ezra to bring the book of the Law. And everyone listens: men and women together, listening to the one Word, that one Word that really united them. Listening to the explanation, they were moved. In that Word they found their roots: the Presence of God in the midst of His people. After so many years, this people passes "from the tears of sadness to the tears of joy, from the tears of weakness at being far from their roots, to the tears of belonging: 'I'm home'. I am at home." (Pope Francis, 5 October 2017)

*I find in*

*You*

*my roots*

*Rooting ourselves in Christ* is therefore not simply a commitment but first of all a need. We all need to belong to Someone who truly loves us and to feel that our life is rooted in something that cannot collapse or disappoint. Only in Jesus, dead and risen, can we find our deepest roots because His love is real, true, faithful. We must continually return to him, with our minds and our hearts (cf. Pope's Message, Lent 2020) in order not to let ourselves be anesthetized by the current mentality that makes us forget our true Christian roots, promoting lifestyles that can take away our meaning, rob us of our sense of belonging and this can happen also at the level of the Congregation.



Our founders, in love with Christ, have communicated this wonderful intuition to the world: to help the new generations not to lose their roots in Christ. In him every life flourishes and transforms the world. It is the most beautiful gift that we can live and share!

*May the existential need to be rooted in Christ always remain alive in our hearts! Good Lent dear Sister. Thanks for the journey lived together!*

*sr. Dorina*



## **TOGETHER IN THE WAY. CONCRETE STEPS**

---

During a recent workshop facilitated by Sr Piluca Benavente, a sister of the Congregation of the Missionaries of our Lady of Africa, and reflection upon our lived experience over the past three months as CLT, we started planning some steps to be taken in this year 2020. We entrust these steps to the Lord and your prayers.

In the light of the Message of the General Chapter, we believe it is very important to share and enrich each other in the context of "*Leadership and Formation for transformation*", with the specific gift of our charism. We have therefore planned a *3-day Workshop* for Provincial Leaders and Formators (initial and ongoing) at *Continental levels*. We will also participate in the forthcoming *Provincial Elective Chapters*. Please see below our calendar

### **Continental Meetings**

April 27-29	<b>Continental Meeting Africa</b> in Cape Town - in the Cape Province
21-23 July	<b>South America Continental Meeting</b> in Cunco-in the Province of Cunco
3-5 November	<b>Continental Meeting Asia</b> in the South India Province
9-11 December	<b>Continental Europe Meeting</b> in Menzingen- in the Swiss Province

### **Elective Chapters**

13-17 July	<i>in the Cunco Province</i>
10-18 September	<i>in the Central India Province</i>
22-28 September	<i>in the North India Province</i>

### **Visitation**

Cape Province :	<i>1-12 May</i>
South India Province :	<i>October- 15 November</i>

**Visit of House Italy** *23-30 May*

We are grateful to the Provincial Leaders and the Sisters of the Provinces who have given their willingness to collaborate for the concrete realization of each event; in them we will also try to experience the value of inter-culturality at the service of the same mission in the world.

---

### **Holidays and Spiritual Exercises of the CLT**

Our holidays and our Spiritual Exercises will take place during the months of June and August.

### **Special prayer intentions**

We join the Church's prayer for all the situations of illness and violence that are marking the world in this period

---

*May every step of our journey be born and nourished in the Dream of God for our Congregation at the service of His Kingdom.*

*Sr Dorina, Sr Bernadette, Sr Fatima, Sr Matilde, Sr Rose Paul*

*Where there is  
a Dream,  
there is a way...*