



TOGETHER ON THE JOURNEY

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HOW DO

Some years ago, during a meeting with a group of teachers, I had the opportunity to see a very interesting film: "Taare Zameen Par" (Stars on Earth). This film, produced in India, tells the story of **Ishaan**, a child with dyslexia problems. Every time Ishaan was invited to read or look at a text on the blackboard he saw the letters of the words move: everything became incomprehensible, boring, inaccessible, suffered. Ishaan had never told anyone about this problem, because even he didn't know what it was ... To overcome boredom and discomfort he assumed particular behaviors and this made him to be judged by others as maladjusted, listless, unintelligent child ... Only after a few vicissitudes, in a college away from home, a teacher managed to grasp the real unease of Ishaan: giving him trust and attention, he accompanied him step by step to discover the world of writing and reading ... He helped him to discover his gifts and to be happy. *This teacher had led Ishaan (and all the adults around him) to look at the limit, their limit, from another perspective. A perspective capable of bringing out of the dark of discomfort to discover love of life. A perspective that allowed Ishaan to write a new page in his history.*

YOU

Why did I think of this film precisely in this period, in which the world is fighting against a mysterious virus, which has marked the lives of many families, many nations on an emotional, social, political, economic and religious level? I think that what is happening in this year 2020 urgently asks us to be able to read the signs that emerge from the limit and dark situations that all humanity is experiencing. Perhaps, like Ishaan, we are recognizing, alongside all humanity, our "dyslexia", our difficulty in linking "the letters" of events to each other. We are feeling the strong need for someone to help us look at things from a different perspective than that offered by Social Media. *We probably wish to have that perspective which helped Mother Bernarda to go through the dark moments of the foundation, gaining in them a deep trust, a reading of solid, luminous faith, for herself and her sisters.* To be creatively faithful to God's call and to the purpose for which our Congregation was born.

READ

Like Ishaan, like the disciples heading for Emmaus, even the people of our time want to find someone who stands beside them and listens to them patiently. Someone who can help them read the true meaning of what has happened! There are many challenges that each country will have to face in order to "rise" up again... I am sure that if in this period we allow ourselves to be led by the Holy Spirit to deepen our identity as Sisters of the Holy Cross, we will be able to discover together, once again, that precious treasure, inherited from our Founders, which leads us to see the world and the needs of the time from the perspective of the Crucified and Risen Christ. We must not be afraid of fragility and a sense of helplessness; they are part of life. We must rather fear that we do not want to learn to live the events with faith, that we cannot know how to see the beauty and life that are developing even in this time ... We must fear the temptation to remain sad at the empty tomb of our personal safety and discomforts, which we all feel. *The Lord is Risen and He is here, now!*

Dear Sisters, I wish you and me to treasure all that we are discovering in our personal lives and in our communities. Our plans are proceeding at a rhythm that we no longer decide and this allows us to be more attentive to listening to that rhythm of the Will of God, which His Word and history reveal to us every day. We need it. Let's trust and trust him, always!

sr. Dorina

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Thanks for this journey together.

ENGAGING IN OUR FORMATION...



In these first months in Lucerne we have paid particular attention to our formation as a community of Leadership of the Congregation and to the knowledge of the path that is taking place in our Religious Family after the General Chapter 2019. Together we are wondering how to engage in our personal formation to help us to respond significantly to the challenges of today's world.

It is possible to grasp a part of our first journey in these two *"places of sharing and formation"*.

THE "LIFE" MAGAZINE



Continuing what the previous General Leadership has started and edited with such passion, we have decided to publish LIFE magazine only once a year. Each edition is divided into two parts. The first part contains the experiences lived in each Province. The second part offers each of us inputs for our personal and communal formation in the light of our charism and our spirituality. Each edition will also include articles written by lay people, to offer us a broader vision of the reality in which we live.

The title of this first Edition is: "Celebrate and support the good that is happening" and highlights how each Province is beginning to live the Message of the 2019 General Chapter. There is so much good that we are living and giving to the world!

The magazine is ready. We will proceed to print it in the next few days. The shipment will take place at different times, based on the restrictions laid down by each country for the Covid-19 problem.

THE WEB SITE www.holycross-menzingen.org



By the first days of May the new Congregation website should be ready and accessible to all. We have updated its structure and content, essentially focusing on some elements:

- celebrate the life that takes place in our Congregation
- offer some food for thought for anyone who accesses this site
- offer ideas to learn more about the reality in which we are immersed
- involve competent lay people in some areas (Holy Scripture, Pedagogy, Art ...)

We will try to know through you, people who with their competence and depth can enrich us and the world through these Social Media articles.

THE STRENGTH OF THE WORD, THE RICHNESS OF LIFE



The Word of God is an inexhaustible source of wisdom and inspiration, because it is the good God who speaks to us and is present in it. I sincerely thank every sister who in these first months have shared with me, via email, some reflections on life or on Gospel texts. They were a precious gift. Sharing faith always unites and gives light. I think it might be interesting to share, even if only once a year, your reflection on a particular passage of Scripture with me, or with a Councilor, or with a sister from your Province, or with a sister from another Province or Continent. ... *(we can find in our Catalog the e-mails of all sisters)*. Almost without realizing it, like that farmer in the Parable (Mk 4: 26-27), the Word of God whom we will be able to share will bring forth new life and true communion. I believe it! Let's try ...

As an Italian priest, Don Cristiano Mauri, wrote, in one of his Easter wishes:

Surprise yourselves ... Surprise ...

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