

Dear Sisters,

I would like to extend my warm wishes to each one of you on this gracious occasion of the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, the Patroness of our Congregation.



This renowned fresco of Our Lady of Good Counsel, enshrined in the church located in the small town of Genazzano, vividly manifests the tender maternal expression of our Heavenly Mother towards her Son and the intense affection Christ Jesus has for his Mother. We see the Son encircling the delicate neck of his Mother in a gesture of profound admiration and the Mother intimately holding the Divine Infant with tenderness and sublime adoration, leaning on his forehead, as though seeking to penetrate his thoughts.

In fact, Mother Mary derives all her knowledge and wisdom from him and continues to counsel, all those who seek her intercession, by making her messages felt internally in souls and also manifesting them externally. She is an inexhaustible treasure of wisdom as she conceived the Word of God himself and humbly submitted her entire life to doing God's will and understanding his plan in the silence of her being, as we read in the Holy Scriptures: "Mary, from her part, kept all these things pondering them in her heart" (Luke 2:19).

In the Marian conference delivered by our Mother Foundress, we see the role of the Mother of Good Counsel in her life and in our Institute. Let us follow her example and pray to Mary, the Mother of Good Counsel, to help us make wise decisions in our everyday activities and never be deceived by evil disguised as good. As her privileged daughters, let us seek the counsel of our Heavenly Mother to enlighten us and give us true wisdom and an understanding heart that knows the difference between right and wrong.

Dear Sisters, we will be celebrating the 130th Anniversary of our Foundation on 29 April 2024. Let us take a moment to reflect on the many blessings God has bestowed on our Religious Family over the past years. I request you to schedule a thanksgiving Holy Eucharist on this day in all our communities in deep gratitude to God. May the memories of our past, help us to live our present with great passion and guide us towards a bright future.

Dear Sisters, I would like to communicate to you the following information:

- Sr. Reena Rose Thoppil has been appointed as the Superior of the community at Nagpur Formation House. This appointment will take effect from 29 April 2024. We wish her all God's blessings as she assumes this responsibility.
- In my previous communication, I had informed you that the Annual Retreat and the Congress will be held in Austria. In the meantime, we have received a positive response from the *mater ecclesiae* college offering us the possibility to host the aforementioned events at Castel Gandolfo. Therefore, the Annual Retreat, scheduled from 09 - 16 July 2024 followed by the Congress from 17 - 20 July 2024, will be held at Castel Gandolfo.
- On the occasion of the 130th Anniversary of our Foundation, I would like to share with you the "Historical Outline" of our Congregation prepared by Sr. Agata Mech. I take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to Sr. Agata for meticulously doing this research work and making it available to the sisters.

I wish you a joyous and meaningful celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel and God's abundant blessings.

Yours Sincerely,

Sr. Selin Konikattil
Superior General

Rome, 25 April 2024