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CS JOURNAL

Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambéry

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GENERAL COUNCIL

SUMMARY

ON THE PATHWAYS TO PEACE

S. Cristina Gavazzi

General Council



“With refugees at the crossroads of history” is the theme of the 2022 Day of Refugees at the Centro Astalli, the Jesuit Refugee Service in Rome. It is the preposition “with” that makes the difference. At a time when we struggle to share, it is yet more necessary to emphasize its importance. With the refugees, fellow travellers, and at the crossroads of history – where the most important decisions are played out – we need the courage to try ways that permit us to journey together toward a future that will be for all and whose foundation is friendship.

To stand with the refugees at the crossroads of history today means choosing to take the way of disarmament and non-violence which leads to peace.

We are the ones who write a history which is both personal and collective. Each one writes justice, solidarity, equality, peace. This we do each day with the words we choose, to live, to tell our story, to take a road that is rich only if made with encounters, relationships, projects, peace. Peace is a goal, but first comes a shared path, the work of patient building.

On the occasion of the World Refugee Day, Centro

GENERAL COUNCIL

On the pathways to peace

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Astalli organized, at the Gregorian University, Rome, on June 14, a colloquium on migration based on the theme “With the refugees at the crossroads of history”. Speakers included the Vatican Secretary for relationships with States, a political scientist from Columbia University, USA, the president of Centro Astalli, and the director of the weekly newspaper *Avvenire*. The meeting opened with a video of testimonies of some refugees who had been welcomed at Centro Astalli and who are now integrated in the Italian society.

To celebrate the 2022 World Refugee Day, Centro Astalli organized a “Festival of Welcoming” on June 22 at the Parish of San Saba in Rome: an evening of fellowship and music with the refugees. Father Arturo Sosa, Superior General of the Jesuits, spoke and met workers, refugees, volunteers and friends during an evening of interaction and coming to know one another. He said: “Encounter is that dimension of culture which is a tool to help overcome injustice, transform society and arrive at reconciliation with persons, peoples and the environment in



Gregorian University -World Refugee Day -2022

which life unfolds.”

One call of the 2021 General Chapter is: “As women ‘connected with the world,’ we are called to lean toward and support one another and to care for and protect all creation and our most vulnerable dear neighbor.” The constantly increasing migration flows around the world reveal the existence of deep inequities, but also offer the opportunity for a large-scale cultural exchange. We can discern in this reality an important sign of the times that calls us to deepen intercultural

encounters, understood as a mutual exchange among cultures, that leads to the transformation and enrichment of all concerned, seeking to build bridges and promote an easy interchange among all cultures. Interculturality, thus, implies building a relationship with other persons and their culture, sharing the values of one’s culture to be enriched by the contributions of cultural diversity. Intercultural encounter thus becomes a springboard to social justice, fraternity and peace.

NEW SAINTS

Sr. Clara Celina	92	Brazil	17.06.2022
Sr. Betty Derwin	87	Ireland	23.06.2022
Sr. Mary Peter	94	Ireland	30.06.2022
Sr. Birgit Maria	89	Denmark	05.07.2022

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MISSION

S. Pratibha Purty

Sweden



On the day we receive the sacrament of Confirmation, each one is called to be a missionary, in the Church, family, religious community, society, among the rich and the poor. Mission work is

effective when we address both the spiritual and physical needs of persons and thus have an impact on their lives.

Our presence as Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambéry has been felt in different parts of Sweden since

1862. Sisters lived their call to mission in the fields of education, social-pastoral work, and work with immigrants. At present we have only one mission community in Sundsvall, in central-northern Sweden, with three sisters: Sr. Lila



Family Visit

and Sr. Beatriz from Brazil and Sr. Pratibha from India.

Though Sweden is known to be a country of wealth and rich in Christianity, we experience that Christ has been forgotten by the younger generation. So our role in the Church challenges us to find suitable soil to sow the seed of faith in the hearts of the present generation. We take various opportunities to share our God experiences, to touch the hearts of the faithful with the love of Christ: conversations, family visits and giving moral support in times of sorrow and anxiety. We also encourage the faithful to participate in the liturgy. With the collaboration of the priests, we participate in Mass in the sub-stations, located about 200-300 kilometers from the Parish. We also attend funeral services to console the families that have lost a loved one. Through the retreats we conduct once a year, preparing children for the sacraments and teaching catechism to both

children and adults, we remind the faithful of the love of God. To the many elderly who suffer from loneliness, and lose hope, we try to bring hope and joy with our visits. We also visit the sick in the hospital and in families.

As a mission community in Sundsvall, Sweden, we try to meet the needs of the Church and the society. Caritas of Sweden is a great help for our mission, aiding us to give material assistance to many needy immigrants from Iraq, Eritrea, Uganda, Burundi, Chile, Lebanon, Peru, Cameroon, Mexico, El Salvador, Vietnam. Waiting for their resident permit for more than 7-8 years, many fall into depression. We see that they are supported both spiritually and financially to meet their basic needs.

We believe that our simple acts of charity with great love of God for the people of Sweden and the immigrants from all over the world make a difference.

We were very happy to

welcome the visit of Sr. Elisa and Sr. Mariaelena to our community, July 11 to 17, 2022. By helping us to understand more about interculturality in community living, their visit had a positive impact on our community as our mission. Intercultural life is a sign of Prophetic Hope in today's world. In intercultural life, we are called to take off our shoes each day and enter the garden of the other to bring beauty to the other by imbibing the sacred culture of the place.

This is a challenge in our mission as we offer the people coming from 38 nations an opportunity to interact with their different cultures, arranging refreshments after the Mass on Sunday. Though we lack knowledge of the many different languages of the people, we communicate to all with the language of love. In this way we, as community, strive to be effective missionaries in every stage of our lives.

NEW SAINTS

Sr. Clelia Rinna	96	Italy	07.07.2022
Sr. Rosalie Bean	78	USA	10.07.2022
Sr. Marianne Zyber	91	Denmark	13.07.2022
Sr. Olímpia Miliavacca	89	Brazil	19.07.2022
Sr. Cicília Pasuch	97	Brazil	20.07.2022
Sr. Silvina Beserra	95	Brazil	25.07.2022
Sr. Emilia Hammerschmtd	84	Brazil	26.07.2022

MEDIA EDUCATION: URGENT IN A TIME OF FAKE NEWS



S. Eliana Aparecida dos Santos & Anari Felipe Nantes

Brazil



The way we communicate has changed a lot in recent years: Internet, Social Networks, virtual environments and various media. Every day we are flooded with information from different corners of the planet. We are encouraged to continually devour all that comes to us. And we also become content creators and multipliers of the content. We make our voices heard far and wide by publishing and sharing information. But, are we really prepared to deal with the enormous amount of information and misinformation that comes to us?

The world of networks connects us: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and WhatsApp offer us instant communication with friends, families, work groups, communities, society and multiple interests. This is fantastic! We get the opportunity to participate in public discussions and have our voice heard. Many good things occur in these virtual environments. Antônio Spadaro says that “the internet is, at least potentially, a space for communion”. But is it all really so good? So easy and

promising? Unfortunately, Social Networks have not only ease, speed and pleasure. There is a lot of hate, offensive speech, lack of respect, irresponsibility, scams, etc.

The challenge is great, how to distinguish what is reliable, true, good and worthy of belief?

or false? All of us who have a profile on Social Networks or are members of WhatsApp groups are vulnerable to receiving false information. Some is passed on due to naivete, some out of malice and with the desire for discord. Unfortunately, there are more vulnerable audiences in



Srs. Ighes Malinoski, Regina Celia List, Ericka Rodriguez, Josiane Mota Coelho

What can we and should we share? How do we know if the information we received is true

this context, and among them the elderly. Research shows that an elderly person is seven times

more likely to pass on fake news. There are several reasons for this, namely: they believe more easily in something that has been published, trust more the people from whom they receive it (friend, family member), and have less ability to deal with technologies, among others.

Pope Francis, in his message for the World Day of Social Communications 2018, presented two ways to use communication. On the one hand, communication based on truth brings people together and contributes to the construction of fraternity. On the other, communication based on selfish pride, which is

a biased way of communication, alters or distorts the truth. This is what we call “Fake News”. I would like to draw attention to “Fake News” at this moment. Digital social networks increase the circulation of information which is not always accurate and true, and people run the risk of becoming unwitting actors in the dissemination of biased and unfounded opinions. Circulating Fake News on social networks is a crime and the responsibility of the person who does it, whoever they may be. For this reason, it is extremely necessary to check the information before sharing it on social networks, even if it is from family members or friends.

Considering this issue we

see that we face many challenges and, considering that this is an election year in Brazil, the concern is even greater. With this in mind, the Brazilian bishops, at the end of the 59th General Assembly of the CNBB, said: “The spread of fake news, through lies and hate, distorts reality. They carry within themselves the dangerous potential to manipulate consciences, modify the will of the people, affront democracy and fraudulently enable projects manipulatively presented by some leaders. An authentic commitment to the truth and respect for election results is essential. Brazilian democracy, still under construction, cannot be put at risk”.

LEADERS AS LEAVEN: INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOPS IN INDIA



S. Navya Neelam

Province of Pachmarhi, India

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” Mahatma Gandhi.

After a gap of two years, Leaders as Leaven - India, the leadership training program for the three congregations of St. Joseph, has resumed. As a preparation for the

scheduled gathering in November 2022 at Pune, the mentors and participants gathered in three different locations - Bangalore, Bhubaneswar and Nagpur - for introductory workshops.

The first of the three mentors' workshops was held in Ananda Sadan - Provincialate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyon, Bangalore, India. Thirteen mentors from the three

congregations of Chambéry, Ancey and Lyon participated 18 to 19 July, in a two-day workshop, given by Barbara Bozak CSJ, the director of Leaders as Leaven – India. The second mentor workshop welcomed 10 sisters in Bhubaneswar with the Ancey sisters hosting the group and the third, hosted by Chambéry sisters at the provincial house in Nagpur welcomed twelve. The mentor workshops were followed by participant workshops, each of two days, with one planned for each of the three locations. Lack of registration for the participant workshop in Bhubaneswar led to the group coming either to Bangalore, where 10 gathered, or Nagpur with a large group of 23.

The workshops were planned to give both mentors and participants an introduction that would prepare them to engage in the program and its process. Barbara began the sessions by considering what leadership is, first from the wisdom of the group, then from the viewpoint of Jesus, Gandhiji and Medaille. All considered leadership to be service rather than authority or position. This is the foundation of Leaders as Leaven – India which stresses that every sister is a leader – in her ministry, her community, in the church and society.

The mentors also received an explanation of the Leadership Circle Profile which the participants will be working with during the year. Then the role of a mentor, the process of mentoring and qualities of a mentor were explained, clearly differentiating counseling and mentoring. The group, through role play, also had mock mentoring sessions that



benefitted all and helped clear their doubts.

The participant workshops had a somewhat different focus, though the topics of leadership and the Leadership Circle Profile were addressed. Leadership was considered from the viewpoint of relationality and developing the giftedness of each person. As she becomes more aware of how her actions and reaction impact others, the leader is invited to engage in a process of deepened

self-awareness and personal growth. The participants were also given detailed information on what they would be doing over the course of the year and what is needed for success.

The mentors and mentees shared how helpful and insightful the two-day sessions were. The groups also appreciated Barbara for her deep commitment to organize this program in India for the three congregations witnessing to interculturality.



PROVINCIAL CHAPTER, SYNODAL PROCESS

S. Rosália Fávero

Brazil



Our province is living a time of deep listening in the preparation for the 3rd Provincial Chapter as a single province in Brazil. It is a time of great grace and of pursuing new paths. Integrating the teachings of Pope Francis, we realize that we, as church, are called to walk together, enriching ourselves with the values of other people who create history with us.

Our missionary journey in fidelity to the Spirit, in this time of change, is carried out in partnership with many lay people who walk side by side with us living our spirituality and charism.

Recognizing the valuable collaboration of the laity, they were called to be part of the online sessions of our provincial chapter, to actively participate in the process of preparing the missionary direction to be taken up, and to implement the decisions of the 2021 General Chapter.

We invited six representatives of the associates, four lay people engaged in missionary cooperation, and six collaborators/employees of our

institutions. The group of 16 lay people had prior preparation on what a chapter is, how it takes place and what its purpose is. The preparation was a very significant moment. All expressed how useful it was to be integrated into

the Chapter process and felt the responsibility entrusted to them to help us Sisters to find the way to be a more daring and prophetic response in our society.

I believe this to be the fruit of our reflection on the Church



which goes out to attend to its people and journey with them. All, as baptized, are bearers of the Good News. Participation, communion, listening, open us to dialogue with the one who is different and helps to integrate values and build a more authentic response to the challenges of our day.

I am very happy to see that our chapter is a Synodal

Journey and that we can advance greatly this process of journeying together as Church, people of God, and as a congregation serving the Reign of God.

The more the congregation advances in the listening process, the more synodal it will be. Each one has a place to teach and to learn mutually in a Church, Servant

and Samaritan.

Our charism is essentially Synodal, for communion and unity are built in giving and receiving through relational processes. We pray that St. Joseph, pilgrim of faith, and Mary, a woman, attentive listener to the Spirit, help us in the process of changing our mindset so that Synodality may be with us in our daily practice and in all our pursuits.

PLATINUM JUBILEE YEAR BEGINS

S. Sumaira CSJ

Pakistan



July 21st, 2022, was a day of great joy for the region of Pakistan as we celebrated the opening of our platinum anniversary year. Clergy and laity gathered with the sisters in the Quetta convent for a Eucharistic celebration of thanksgiving for our 75 years in Pakistan. The opening ritual was marked by the sound of band and trumpet. With joyful gestures of thanksgiving, we paid homage to all the sisters who labored devotedly and zealously in Pakistan, whose spirit we still carry forward. School staff, co-workers, former students who had been educated by our pioneers were also invited to be with us as one body,



paying homage together to our rich heritage, a story of love and service.

The international Josephite family has been present here since 1948, these many years filled

with surprises, ups and downs, certainties and uncertainties, but always in God's hand. Here our mission, living out the Little Design and witnessing love and unity in the Islamic state of Pakistan, we believe that we can help hope to bloom and flourish.

On this red letter day for us, Sisters of St. Joseph in Pakistan, we recalled our history, announcing the joy of being consecrated women, partakers in God's plan. Sr. Nasreen gave a brief history, beginning with the sisters who came to Pakistan at the time of partition when one country was divided into India and Pakistan. The first sisters came from India. Then they were joined by missionaries, mostly Irish and American. They established God's mission at a very crucial time, starting with the ministry of education in schools for the poor.

At one point in history, Indian sisters were forced to return to their country, as also happened later with others, all because of political issues. Formation was closed for almost ten years, a disappointment to the sisters, but hope never dies. With the support and collaboration of the General Council, life started again after a dark period. Formation reopened in 1998, with the four pillars of our region, our Pakistani sisters, Catherine, Shakila, Permila and Nasreen. These courageous women were willing and ready to give of themselves for the stability of the mission in Pakistan. Now



we see the future filled with hope and young members who are full of life and energy to give flesh to the charism. At present, our region has 10 finally professed sisters, 4 temporary professed sisters, 4 novices, 1 postulant and candidates who are a hope for our future. We seek to meet the needs of the time, currently

and working collectively with Gypsies' faith formation. We also have lay associates, who are with us actively reaching out.

In fact Bishop Khalid Rehmat, OFM Cap, Bishop of the Quetta Vicariate, admires our presence, our dedication and our involvement in our ministries so much that he is inviting us

to take up a new mission in Quetta, a new school. We are honored by this invitation. Sr. Shakila, coordinator of the Pakistan region, addressed those gathered, saying: "This Jubilee Year, celebrating 75 years of life and faithfulness, challenges



us. How are we going to be the Magis, living Ignatian spirituality and carrying out the spirit of our founder, foundresses and our pioneers?" Our firm faith is that our saints are interceding for us and for our life and mission.

in the provinces of Punjab and Baluchistan. Besides working in the field of education, we are at the peripheries, sharing our charism of oneness and living the spirituality of littleness, empowering women and youth

us. How are we going to be the Magis, living Ignatian spirituality and carrying out the spirit of our founder, foundresses and our pioneers?" Our firm faith is that our saints are interceding for us and for our life and mission.

SOMEDAY IS NOW

Social justice, (pop-) art and religious life

S. Gisela Heitz

Region of Denmark



An exhibition about a Catholic nun and her art in Protestant Denmark is not an everyday occurrence. Media interest was high, while the Catholic Church did not really notice this remarkable exhibition. What is it about? Danh Vo is a renowned Catholic Vietnamese-Danish artist who in the 1980s was an altar boy at Masses with the sisters of St. Joseph at Stella Matutina (now our retreat center) and whose mother was employed by the sisters shortly after the family arrived in Denmark as refugees from Vietnam in the early 1980s. This young artist discovered the artistic work of Sister Corita Kent (1918-1986) while being in the United States. "Corita was an artist with

an innovative approach to design and education. By the 1960s, her vibrant serigraphs were drawing international acclaim. Corita's work reflected her concerns about poverty, racism, and war, and her messages of hope and peace, love and social justice continue

to resonate with audiences today." (www.corita.org) This is why Danh Vo presents the art of Corita at Nivaa Gaards Malerisamling, the art museum just a few minutes from the Stella Matutina retreat center in North Zealand.

It is clear that the form



The community at Stella Matutina: S. Angela, Jaya, Suzanne, and Gisela with Danh Vo and his mother

and content of Corita`s art have a provocative character and effect, wanting to disturb the audience. This was made clear by Maren Bramsen, head of the museum, in her words during the vernissage on June 22, 2022: "Power Up is written across the room in one hall. The words block the straight path, so we have to deal with them. The slogan actually came from an oil company and it was oil and petrol that was being advertised - but what does Corita want us to fill up with? Corita`s hints of depth, poetry and message are given in all the works. On Power Up, the fine print is about material versus spiritual poverty, and perhaps

that`s what she wants to remind us: to refuel the mental and spiritual. The work had been placed above an altar with a photo of race riots on one side and the Pope on the other. Imagine going to Mass with such a striking altar in the center!"

In 1936 Elizabeth Kent entered the sisters of the Immaculate Heart in Los Angeles, California and was called Sr. Corita (Little Heart). From 1938 to 1968 she taught at Immaculate Heart College where she was a charismatic teacher with a progressive and creative approach to teaching and artistic production. In

her book Learning by Heart: Teachings to Free the Creative Spirit she presents rules for students and teacher. Here are a few which the exhibition offers as a poster:

Rule 2: General duties of a student: pull everything out of your teacher; pull everything out of your fellow students.

Rule 3: General duties of a teacher: pull everything out of your students.

Rule 5: Be self-disciplined: this means finding someone wise or smart and choosing to follow them. To be disciplined is to follow in a good way. To be self-disciplined is to follow in a better way.

NEW SAINTS

Sr. Carmen Vittone	86	Italy	27.07.2022
Sr. Agnes Moussiere	98	France	30.07.2022
Sr. Augustine Kumbakapilly	97	Nirmala	05.08.2022
Sr. Mary Kelly	89	USA	06.08.2022
Sr. Cassilda Bavaresco	92	Brazil	06.08.2022
Sr. Lucia Stafin	81	Brazil	13.08.2022
Sr. Rosina Bernardone	88	Italy	13.08.2022
Sr. Luce-Marie Vuidepot	98	France	13.08.2022
Sr. Alexandrina della Giustina	90	Brazil	21.08.2022
Sr. Santina Baldiuno Cella	84	Brazil	24.08.2022

TRANSFORMING LIVES



Sr. Ighes Malinoski & Sr. Maria Inês Leite Ramos



Brazil

God always makes use of the gaps that humans leave to write a love story, a story of “Life in Abundance.”

Sr. Maria Inez Leite Ramos, when she lived in Mocimboa da Praia, Mozambique, and I, Sr. Ighes Malinoski, when I was in the Amazon region in Pará, both felt the touch of God challenging us in face of the needs of the mission. We felt that we needed to do something more in response to the people who came to us, not only to ask for prayers but to be listened to and helped with problems, relationships, existential crises, and illnesses. We asked ourselves how to help them to be more integrated and happier people, the people of God’s dream.

God’s plans are mysterious, and now we are together in the same community. Through prayer and sharing we came to realize that we have something in common: to touch people at their deepest being. Thus, we prepared ourselves through courses in alternative integrative therapies (such as Reiki, Access Bars, Magnified Healing, Phytotherapy, and Neural Stimulation) as well as spiritual accompaniment, to respond to many needs that were

made worse by the pandemic: fears, insecurity, depression, loss of meaning in life and new illnesses that are emerging.

Today we dedicate ourselves with great joy and gratitude to this mission. Our goal is to awaken care for life and health, listening and applying therapeutic

medicine and the use of medicinal herbs through teas, ointments, and tinctures in health care and curing diseases, promoting a better quality of life.

Our service is daily and each person who comes to us, Sisters, fathers, mothers, children, thirsty for relief from their emotional



techniques according to the needs of each person. We give assistance through listening, offering personal and spiritual guidance, raising awareness about the importance of alternative

pain, their problems and anguish. After we attend to them, they go out relieved and happier, wanting to live, challenged to face life with more joy and determination.

One example is that of a

person who, for two years, hadn't gotten out of bed due to depression. Her sister and brother-in-law came to us to ask for help. We had to go to her house to meet her for an initial contact. Now she comes every week and we are noticing signs of improvement. In other situations, a husband came to talk and agreed to therapy. He told us his wife needed therapy, and soon after, the son also came. After

we attend to them, the son asked his mother: "Mom, after you talk with Sister, do you feel relief in your heart?"

We are touched by the openness and confidence with which they talk about themselves and their story. We feel that we are only instruments of divine action in people's lives. If they open up to the process of liberation, of transformation, the grace of God makes them more

integrated and happier people.

The Lord is opening and lighting the way and Pope Francis' words enlighten us: "To see with the heart is to see the world and our brothers and sisters through the eyes of God. Jesus invites us to renew our way of seeing people and things." And, "the Church is like a field hospital. How many wounded people, how many brothers and sisters need an outstretched hand to heal their wounds!"

A GRAIN OF SAND IN THE IMMENSE OCEAN

My Experience in the Pastoral Work of Healing

S. Ortenilla Furlanetto

Bolivia



In the parish of Maria Rainha das Americas, located in the Americas neighborhood of the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra in Bolivia, I am blessed to have the opportunity to offer my service in the ministry of healing together with a wonderful team of lay people. They dedicate their free time, with much love and availability, to visiting homes, conducting retreats, and holding activities such as fairs/bazaars to raise funds to help

people with medicine and food.

Even though there is a lot of insecurity about health at this time, we are slowly opening our places for meetings and community celebrations, which include a spiritual aspect such as the sacraments of reconciliation and the anointing of the sick. We also offer families guidance concerning healthcare.

We try to implement the message of Pope Francis for

the XXX World Day of the Sick, celebrated on February 11, 2022: "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful" (Lk 6:36). Be at the side of those who suffer, walking with them in compassion. "...

"A patient is always more important than their disease, and for this reason, no therapeutic approach can escape listening to the patient, their story, anxieties, and fears. Even when healing is not possible, it is always possible to care, to console, to make

people feel a closeness that shows interest in the person rather than in their disease”.

I feel that this message of mercy comes alive every time I go by myself or with someone on the team to meet people and their families where we feel their need to be listened to, understood, loved and supported. We feel that from the little or much that we do, we are healing, caring, and comforting, with closeness and love that encourages them in their pain, their anguish, the powerlessness of their illness, psychological or spiritual.

I am grateful for this experience that constantly challenges me at this time of my life, now 86 years old with 65 years in religious life, to continue giving, dedicating myself to the



mission with our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, with the joy of knowing that I am not doing

it alone, but with others, and trusting in God and St. Joseph who always accompany us.

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNITY



S. Flonia Hafeez

Pakistan

We, Sisters Flonia, Mehwish, Maria and Kinata, temporary professed sisters in Pakistan, attended a session on 19th July 2022 on interculturality, during our Regional Assembly in Quetta. Sr. Abida, who participated in the 2021 General Chapter, as a delegate, was the facilitator. She



gave input and spoke about the new call of the General Chapter, to respond to and implement interculturality.

While multiculturalism refers to the existence of diverse cultures in a single setting, interculturality involves dialogue, respect and mutual relationships while preserving the cultural identity of each individual. Interculturality applies not only to individuals from different countries or regions of the world, but also and importantly, to individuals within the same country and community who have different ethnic or social backgrounds or different points of view.

The capacity to interact responsibly and productively with persons from various cultural backgrounds is known as intercultural competence. A person who is interculturally competent understands that perception, reasoning, emotional expression, judgments may vary from culture to culture and uses this understanding in communication and activities.



Living with an intercultural mindset is a choice of the heart and a gift from God. The General Chapter urged us, as committed disciples, to go from multiculturalism to interculturality, to not simply live together with a variety of cultural or ethnic groupings, but to have a high level of respect and understanding for all the differences. It calls us to live without discrimination, accepting differences in colour, caste, culture, beliefs, age, opinions, arguments, food, life style and letting them shape

us. Interculturality enables us to view life from different perspectives promoting interpersonal relationships and active engagement with all others. An intercultural community spirit will enable us to promote an ethical society based on love, care, support, dialogue, and be a sign of hope in today's world.

Our 30th General Chapter in 2021 encourages us to live the spirit of interculturality within our country and communities, at all levels, to become truly Eucharistic Women.

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