



Nel Sangue di Cristo... «nuove tutte le cose» Ap. 21,5

In the Blood of Christ... «all things new» Rev. 21:5



Welcome greeting - Opening celebration

Number 1
July 6, 2023

GA 23 IFRAMET

Good morning to all! Happy Sunday and welcome to this Solemn Opening Celebration of the XXII General Assembly. A special greeting to the sisters who are joined online and a special thanks to His Eminence Mons Joao Braz De Aviz - Prefect of the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, who accepted with willingness and friendship the invitation to preside at this liturgy.

I greet and thank our brothers present to share this moment of communion.

With this celebration we enter the XXII General Assembly "... In the Blood of Christ... 'new are all things'" (Rev. 21:5).

We have looked forward to this moment to find ourselves as a collegial body, to confirm our sense of belonging to the Congregation and to embrace in newness the achievements and challenges of religious life in this time of profound transformation.

We wish to live this Assembly as a synodal expression that will transform us deeply by opening us to God's dream.

We begin our assembly with this Eucharistic celebration, the highest expression of our desire to walk together: the body makes us commensals, sisters summoned by Christ in the breath of the Holy Trinity; the blood of Jesus makes us people of the covenant. The breaking of bread, participation in the same table is the sign of the covenant we are called to weave every day, and our sororal life is human space inhabited by the Trinity.





We consecrated women realize our authentic way of being and living our call to walk together in the art of relationship, cultivating encounter. It is in fraternal relationships, living the "mystique of living together," listening to and welcoming others, making space for each other and searching together for the path to follow, all animated by the Spirit, that we worshippers validate and

shape our identity and life with synodal style.

Synodality is a prophecy for today's world: "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, form one body, so it is also of Christ" (1 Cor. 12:12). Only if we are one in Christ, we are able to overcome uniformity because in Jesus we could integrate our diversity.

Synodality is only possible in an atmosphere in which we could share in freedom and honesty, with open dialogue and truth.

Synodality calls us to live a personal commitment: we are responsible of our decisions, actions and we are corresponsable for the Reign.

The candle is a sign of faith, of our baptism, our consecration... It is a sign of Jesus, the radiant centre of our life together.

We ask the Holy Spirit to clothe us, the Blood of Christ to create in us that inner space to welcome us as sisters. May it make us capable of deep listening, authentic and sincere dialogue and a common will to walk together. May this General Assembly be the expression of this invitation!

Rome, July 2, 2023

*S. Nadia Coppa, ASC
Superior General*



Congratulations to Sister Nadia who on July 5, 2023 was appointed as a member of the Vatican commission for new martyrs - witnesses to the faith

From the INITIAL SALUTE - S. Nadia Coppa, Superior General

We believe that:

What's new, that's us:

- *deeply renewed women, "We are mission":* transformed lives that become proclamation and prophecy. With women's hearts we are encouraged to bring to all the "living Christ who wants us alive" through a simple life rooted in love and essentials. (Christus vivit)
- *women of the Word, ready to "Return to the Gospel which sounds today like a provocation, leading us back to the source of life rooted in Christ" (Scrutiny 8).* Rooted in Christ we are prophetic presence renewing the world.
- *missionary women, ready to bring God's love, His mercy, His tenderness toward all, (Cf. Announced No. 17).* without excluding anyone.
- *ecclesial women, open to synodal journeys and ready to foster dialogue, participation and discernment together with those we serve.*
- *women promoters of "newness" understood as new ways of living relationships with themselves, God and others by bringing enthusiasm, energy and life in qualitative terms therefore lasting and prophetic.*



With confidence in the Blood of Christ that makes all things new I declare the XXII General Assembly open.

May Saint Maria De Mattias accompany us and enlighten us.

I conclude with an invocation to the Holy Spirit by Pope Francis, let us pray:

***Holy Spirit, harmony of God, You who turn fear into confidence
And closure into gift, come into us.***

Give us the joy of resurrection, the everlasting youthfulness of heart.

***Holy Spirit, our harmony, You who make us one body,
infuse Your peace into the Church and the world.***

***Come among us as Fire and Blood, Holy Spirit,
make us artisans of peace, sowers of good,
missionaries of hope (Pentecost 2019).***



Time of Joy and Encounter

Over the last several days, the halls, courtyards and dining room echo with joy as Adorers arrive at the Missionaries of the Precious Blood Rome Provincial house on Via Narni. Faces light up with recognition as sisters reunite. Some of us already met while attending a seminar, general assembly, or spirituality program together, some only a short while ago, others many years ago. While some have only met through zoom gatherings and now have a chance to touch and see the whole person. These beginning days are full of encounters on walks, at table, at prayer, at Eucharist and in the hallway. Encounters of a smile, trying another language, getting to know each other and deeper sharing.

The celebration of the Feast of the Precious Blood widened the circle of joy and encounter to the novices, Adorers living nearby and sisters of other congregations. It was a joy to see the novices as they saw familiar faces from home and the sisters were able to greet the novices with greetings of one's own culture, full of love and joy.

I know that all are accompanying us these days of the assembly. We thank you for the support and prayers. We thank the Missionaries for their welcome and hospitality, especially Fr. Terenzio Pastore, Rome Provincial, and Fr. Giovanni Francilia, house coordinator.

May Joy and Encounter continue to be present throughout the assembly.

S. Michelle Woodruff, ASC

USA



Celebration of the Feast of the Precious Blood of Christ and beginning of the 22nd General Assembly of the Congregation of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ Sisters



First stage: Solemnity of the Precious Blood

On July 1, 2023, when our Congregation of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ celebrated the titular feast of the Precious Blood of Jesus, we, participants in the 22nd General Assembly, gathered at the Generalate in Rome.

In the church, which holds the relics of the foundress St. Maria Maria de Mattias, we participated, with other ASCs, friends and other religious, in the Eucharistic celebration presided over by the Provincial of the Italian Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, Fr. Terenzio Pastore.

Sr. Nadia Coppa, Superior General, extended cordial greetings to the celebrant, the priests present, the sisters, the faithful and, in a special way, to us participants in the Assembly. With full hearts and voices, we celebrated the Precious Blood of Christ and prayed for the Lord to guide and direct our work.

In the afternoon, we gathered in the main hall to share cultures. Each cultural group had the opportunity to introduce themselves in a simple way through songs, dances, national colors and brief sharing. It is not hard to imagine that the Italian sisters sang *O sole mio*. The sisters from Tanzania danced and danced in their own language; we Croatian sisters from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina wearing the color blue, signifying depth, courage and the sea, and sang a national song called *O, Deep Sea*. Sisters from Brazil performed, all tied together by the green ribbon, the symbol of the forest in the Amazon; from India, wearing the colorful ribbons of the land of many cultures. Sisters from Asia (Philippines, Korea, Vietnam) and Latin America (Argentina, Peru, Bolivia) gathered by continent: they highlighted their common cultural elements and their own specificities. The U.S. sisters emphasized that they are part of the land of the dream of freedom that has seen millions of people migrate, especially, from Europe specifically to achieve this goal. The Polish sisters brought the colors of their

flag: the white of purity and the blood of martyrdom, emphasizing the courage of their people in the adversities they faced. Schaan's sister highlighted the beauty of the mountains and nature and the commitment to ecology in a broad sense. Everything was done in a simple and nice way, but also filled with the national and religious pride in feeling part of their country.



Stage II: Official Opening of the XXII ASC General Assembly

On Sunday, July 2, 2023, the solemn opening Eucharist of AG 23 was celebrated by the Prefect of the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, Cardinal João Braz de Aviz. We, members of the AG, entered the beautiful chapel of CPPS provincial house in solemn procession, carrying a large red banner, symbol of the river of the Blood of Christ, singing the Hymn to the Blood of Christ.

With this Eucharist, the 22nd General Assembly officially opened. At the end of the Holy Mass, each member was called by name, expressed her willingness to live faithfully and responsibly her commitment. Having received a lighted candle, again in procession, all AG participants went to the chapter house.

Invoking the Holy Spirit with faith, Superior Sister Nadia officially declared AG 23 open. In the afternoon we had the opportunity to listen to the report of Sr Carmen Ros Nortes, NSC, undersecretary CIVCSVA: *Newness is held within us today.*

For me this is a new experience because I am participating in the General Assembly for the first time. I am grateful to the Lord for this opportunity. I have been entrusted with the task of teller, so I have taken an oath not to divulge confidential information that I might come to know through my service.

I look forward to the beginning of the work and ask for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary so that everything will be in the love of Jesus Christ who shed His Precious Blood for us.

S. Emanuela Skarica, ASC



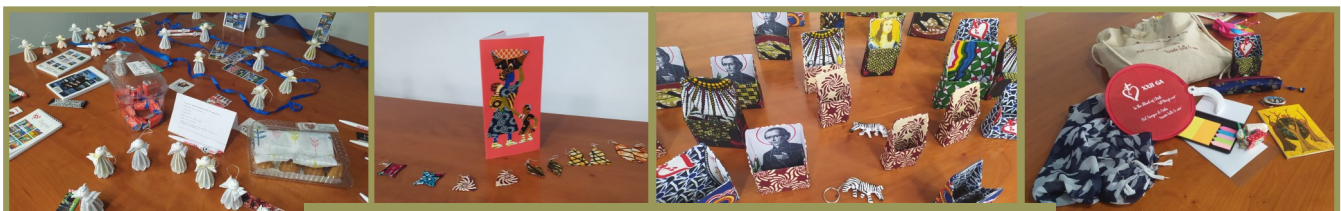
Sr Maria Grazia Boccamazzo, secretary AG
Sr Melania Shirima, teller
Sr Emanuela Škarica, teller

“Jesus is in the boat with the ASCs, while in the world where there is a big storm...”

The signs of Jesus' presence are visible any time the Adorers are "shedding" their own life for those who are in need. They live daily in gratefulness, simplicity, nearness, a spirit of sacrifice, joy and hope.

It is in this way that the Blood of Christ is making everything new

S. Alessandra Pereira, ASC



Gifts and Symbols of Different Cultures

Chronicles



July 1, 2023

We celebrate the solemnity of the Precious Blood in the Generalate. All the members of AG are present together with the members of the international and regional Communities, friends and Sisters of other Congregazione.

GA 23. In the afternoon, after technical testing for translation, we are aided by our facilitator, Sr Mercedes, to better know one another and to share the values of our cultures.

July 2, 2023



Today we began with the Opening Eucharist. The delegates processed into chapel carrying a red cloth, symbolizing the Precious Blood Spirit throughout the world. Each gave her promise to the faithful work of the Assembly and received the light to carry forth. Cardinal Braz de Aviz celebrated Eucharist, encouraging us to be courageous in our sisterhood, witnessing that Christ is the beginning and center of our life for the Church and world. Sr Nadia opened the Assembly with the invitation to be one with the Synodal Church in listening, dialogue, common discernment, welcoming diversity.

The organizational work then began with the approval of the Procedures and Agenda, and those serving in various roles.

In the afternoon, Sr Carmen Ros Nortés, NSC, provided a reflection; The Newness Is Held Within Us Today.

After a very beautiful and full day, all gave thanks until tomorrow with a brief prayer.



July 3, 2023



Today was a day of deeper listening and presence. In the morning, both in large and small groups, the Assembly engaged in "spiritual conversation" as used in the synod conversations. Sr Mercedes, our facilitator guided the group through the process. Using this model, each group further reflected on Sr Carmen's presentation from yesterday.

The morning was truly time of encounter and deep attention.

In the afternoon the reports from across the congregation began. Continuing to listen for the Newness God is creating among us. Today Italy, Croatia, Schaan and Korea reported.





The morning opened, as it does every morning, with the prayer of Lauds and the celebration of the Eucharist. The homilies are supportive and help us grasp how the Word of God appropriately accompanies us on our journey.

In the hall, before the work begins, we again ask for the help of the Holy Spirit. This is followed by the roll call and presentation of the Agenda for the day.

Sr Mercedes, facilitator, and Sr Nadia, president of the AG, moderate the proceedings according to their roles

Today began with Eucharist with our brother, Fr Stephen offering a homily that invited us to follow the readings of the day and not look back, don't stop within ourselves and security, but take steps in mission. If we feel lost at sea, trust Christ in our boat to overcome our fears. Choose to renew our faith. God is God of our time and history.

This prepared us to enter into deeper listening as we heard reports from the USA, Brazil, Tanzania, Guinea Bissau, Poland and India. We truly are a global sisterhood with a global vision.



Today our General Administration presented and engaged the Assembly in a very detailed report of their experiences of this six year journey of leadership. They divided their report into Areas. As each member shared, slides of photos accompanied that illustrated the life of our congregation. Throughout the presentation the General Administration offered recommendations and challenges. Much of this report will be further engaged throughout the agenda of the General Assembly. We are grateful for this careful effort to give an account of their response to the calls and mandates of the 2017 General Assembly - "At your Word..."



More than words in a report, we are aware of the service they have given for the life of communion and community in the congregation. Thank you, sisters for your ministry among us.

In the afternoon sharing after General administration report.

