



Rome, Easter 2015

### To All the Sisters

Dearest Sisters,

Easter is here—the Easter of our Centenary and of the Year of Consecrated Life!

Like Mary Magdalene, we are invited to the garden where the Lord was buried so as to hear his voice calling each of us by name; so as to touch his feet, recognize him as the Living One, and respond with immense love: “Rabbuni...Master!”

It has been written that the consecrated life is an attempt to caress the feet of Jesus, sit down and eat with him in Emmaus, place a finger in his wounded side like Thomas, and anoint him with precious aromatic oil in an act of profound adoration, like Mary of Bethany. The consecrated life is therefore a life of gratuitousness, intimacy, donation, mutual belonging and love—a life that preserves the memory of the powerful fascination exerted by the Master and becomes a joyous communication of it:

...You do not absorb all the light that comes from Jesus for yourselves alone but in order to reflect it to others. You are like mirrors angled at the sun: you receive and then give. Be reflectors of the divine light of Jesus (Blessed James Alberione).

In the light of Easter, we realize that we are humble but precious “golden threads” that irradiate the Gospel through the power of our faith and the courage of our witness:

You are golden threads: all together, you form a strong cable—a golden cable uniting you to one another and to God. Dedicate all your energies to this....

Numerous golden threads separated from one another are not very robust. But if those golden threads unite, then the resulting cable will be very sturdy, very strong (FSP54, p. 162).

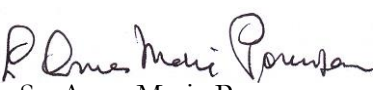
Visiting our communities scattered throughout the world, we have seen for ourselves the many golden threads that enrich the life of the Local Churches: the *golden threads* of our young members, brimming over with enthusiasm; the *golden threads* of our mature sisters, who donate their lives to God on a daily basis; the *golden threads* of our elderly and sick sisters, made even more precious by their sufferings; the *golden threads* of our sisters who live in ongoing martyrdom as a result of particular problems (among these let us remember in a special way our sisters of Pakistan, who are suffering alongside their people and yearn for peace).

*Golden threads* that, bound together in our big family, constitute the vigor of our Pauline evangelization, making the proclamation of the resurrection dynamic and up to date.

Warmest best wishes that the words of the risen Lord will warm our hearts and make us, in spite of our weakness and fragility, courageous witnesses of the living Word, which intimately affects every aspect of our daily life.

A very Happy Easter to all of you!

With deep affection,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan  
Superior General