



Dearest Sisters and young women in formation,

With renewed wonder and deep emotion, I send you the message that forms the foundation of our faith, sustains our hope and motivates our charity: ***Christ is risen. He is truly risen!***

I would like this exultant cry to pass from mouth to mouth in our communities. May each one repeat it to the sister next to her—the person with whom she shares her daily joys and fatigues. Let us welcome this news from one another with the buoyant spirit characteristic of the Gospel accounts of the resurrection, illuminated by the light that accompanied the steps of Mary, Peter and John as they hastened to inform the others about what had happened and thus dispel their doubts, uncertainties and confusion. And, like those first witnesses, let us also help the many brothers and sisters to whom we are sent—our companions on the journey through life—comprehend that Life has conquered death once and for all, that the breath of the Living One continues to sustain the breath of the world, that every day is an unfolding miracle, that the adventurous space of time we call life already bears the imprint of eternity.

Sisters, let us allow ourselves to be pervaded by the *joyful, buoyant news of the resurrection*. Let us cast off everything that shackles us, burdens us, restricts our horizons and wounds us.... Let us thank God for the gift of life, rejoicing in who we are, in who our sisters are, and in what each of us does. Let us hone our vision so as to recognize the many signs of resurrection present in the world and point them out to those both near and far. Let us proclaim the Gospel of peace, communicating the joy we received as a gift from the Risen Lord.

As Pope Benedict XVI said in his beautiful message for World Youth Day 2012: “*Joy is the fruit of faith*. It is being aware of the Lord’s presence and friendship every day: ‘The Lord is near!’ (Phil. 4:5) It is putting our trust in God, and growing in his knowledge and love.”

May joy, “the gift of Christ risen from the tomb, risen in our hearts, risen in humanity” (Fr. Alberione), resound in our paschal Alleluia, as we proclaim to everyone: ***Yes, we are sure: Christ our hope is indeed risen. He is our joy!***

Dearest sisters, I join all the members of the General Government in wishing each and every one of you, your families and all our collaborators a blessed Easter. Thank you all very sincerely for the great good you are accomplishing.

May the light of the Risen Lord illuminate our preparations for our *10th General Charter* and enable us to proclaim our faith boldly and prophetically as we strive to offer everyone “the charity of the truth.”

Affectionately,


Sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato
Superior General