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14<sup>th</sup> Circular Letter

Sunday, April 25, 2021

My dear Mothers, Sisters and Oblates,

With joy and gratitude to our Triune God, I invite everyone to live these last days before our May 3<sup>rd</sup> Jubilee in a deepened spirit of prayerful union with God, silence and charity toward each other. Although we cannot be physically together, we know how closely knit together we are by the Holy Spirit.

With only one week left before our Jubilee, I invite you to realize the importance and opportunity of this anniversary. In a spirit of faith, hope and love, we can celebrate this 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our foundation as a new start, a fervent re-foundation of our Institute. On May 3, we can say to our Divine Spouse: “You make all things new. Let us now begin!” By this I do not mean a lot of changes. Rather, I mean that we allow Jesus to make us new, to create in us a new heart and a new spirit.

Therefore, now is the time to stir up in our hearts and communities a continual begging for the life-giving and renewing Holy Spirit to come upon us:

- that same Holy Spirit who rushed upon the young Paul Danei in 1720, anointing him with the charism to be the founder of an entirely new religious institute in the Church, the Passionist priests and brothers;
- that same Holy Spirit who, from the very beginning, created within Paul a longing that one day there would also be cloistered Passionist Nuns who would be on fire with the same charism and mission as their spiritual brothers in the male Congregation;
- that same Holy Spirit who after nearly 50 years of Paul’s prayer, preaching and suffering, at last brought the Passionist Nuns into existence, thanks to the collaboration of Venerable Mother Mary Crucified, of Dominic and Lucia Costantini, and the 10 candidates that Paul himself had formed and prepared.

Let us truly make May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 the start of a new chapter in our history, and let it be a new commitment to do an in-depth prayerful pondering of our revised Constitutions – which are a prophetic gift to us from the Church, for these new times.

In closing, I and the General Council, send you loving greetings and prayers. We will be spiritually present with each of your communities as you celebrate our anniversary. Truly as we prayed at Lauds this morning in Psalm 118: “This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.”

I leave you with these magnificent words from the heart of our founder:

*"The Daughters of the Passion, by their habit, but far more so in heart, mind and actions, are to keep perpetual and loving mourning for our Crucified Lord, and by the continual exercise of every virtue, anoint His sacred wounds." (St. Paul of the Cross)*

Devotedly in Jesus, crucified and risen from the dead,

*Mother Catherine Marie CP*

P.S. A more “newsy” circular letter will arrive hopefully in May.