



SUORE MISSIONARIE DI SAN CARLO BORROMEO (SCALABRINIANE)
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Topic: Message for the occasion of the Day of Consecrated Life

Dear Sisters and Formands

On this significant date for us religious, let us thank together the Father, who called us to be a follower of Jesus in total adherence to his Gospel and in the service of the Church, and poured into our hearts the Holy Spirit who makes us joyful and witnesses throughout the world of his love of predilection for migrants and refugees.

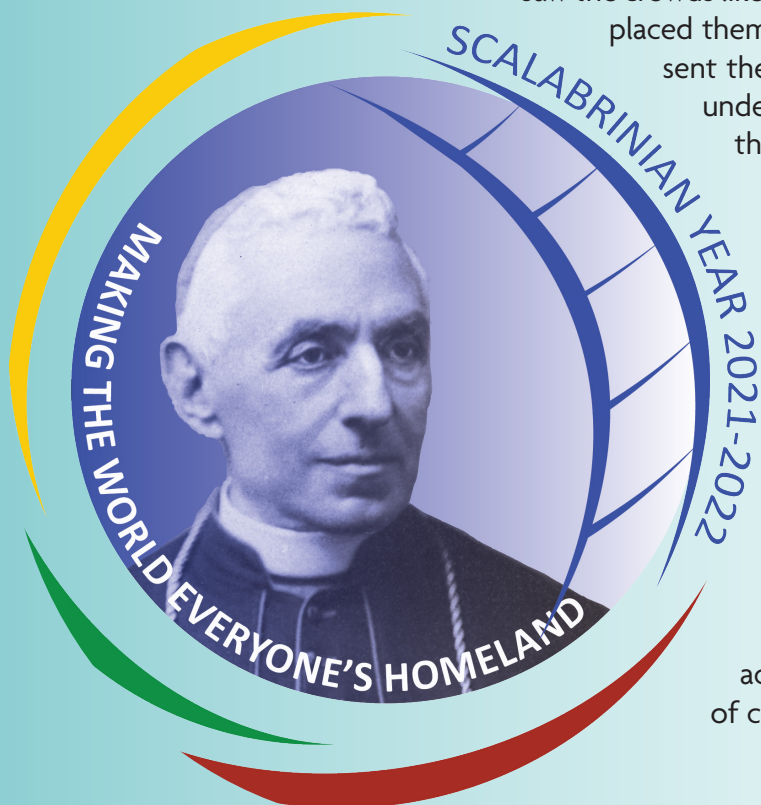
As Scalabrinian Missionary Sisters, we have not only a glorious account to remember and to tell, but a great history to build together, so we want to look to the future, to which the Spirit projects us to accomplish even greater things.

When we look at the past, it opens us to gratitude. We are heirs of rich, charismatic history. This experience conducts us to discover the presence of God's action that in his Spirit called so many co-Sisters to follow Christ, read with the eyes of faith the signs of the times, and respond with creativity to the needs of the Church in the world of human mobility.

Our Founder, Blessed John Baptist Scalabrini, and our Co-Founders, Venerable Father Joseph Marchetti and Blessed Assunta Marchetti, experienced the compassion that Jesus felt in his inner when he saw the crowds like abandoned sheep without a shepherd and, like Jesus, they placed themselves at the service of the humanity to which the Spirit sent them, in the most diverse ways. Charity knew no limits and understood how to open countless ways to bring the breath of the Gospel among the migrants in the different social areas.

The Scalabrinian Year we are celebrating asks us about our creative fidelity in the mission, as women of communion, to be credible signs of the presence of the Spirit that instills hope in our hearts, the fruit of the faith in the Lord of history that keeps repeating to us: "Do not be afraid... for I am with you." (Jer 1,8)

Hope has its basis in Him in whom we put our trust (cf. 2 Tim 1:12) and for whom "nothing is impossible" (Lk 1:37). This is the Hope that does not disappoint, allowing us to give continuity to the writing of an important story in the future. Towards this future, we must direct our gaze, impelled by the Holy Spirit to achieve doing great things in us, continuing to be a school of communion for those near and far, nurturing the freshness



and newness of the centrality of Jesus Christ, bearing witness to the beauty of following Jesus Christ and radiating hope and joy.

On this day of light, let us welcome with gratitude the growth of the internationality of our communities with the presence of young women in formation from different cultures, a sign of God's love that continues to call, giving a new face to our Congregation. The young women, with their potential, are our present and our future because they offer a determinant contribution through the generosity of their choice and the vitality of their enthusiasm. Together with them, we can elaborate new ways of living the Gospel and give ever more adequate answers to the demands of witness and proclamation.

Welcoming still with renewed commitment to the call of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, in the audience during the XIV General Chapter, we want to put our charism more and more at the service of the Church. Let us recognize ourselves in the truth of a communion that is always open to the encounter, dialogue, listening, and mutual help to turn ourselves towards the countless existential peripheries that challenge us.

Dear Sisters and formands, this Scalabrinian Year invites us to concrete gestures of joyful acceptance among ourselves, with the migrants and refugees, and of broader proximity in the proclamation of the Gospel. Walking together is always an enrichment and can open new paths of relationships among peoples and cultures that in these times prove to be so difficult.

Through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, model of Religious Consecration, let us ask the Lord to bless us and confirm us in the personal commitment of renewing our being and acting, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ, in the firm purpose of walking humbly with our God!

Happy and blessed celebration to all of us!

Sr. Neusa de Fatima Mariano, mscs
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General Superior, Councilors and General Secretary

