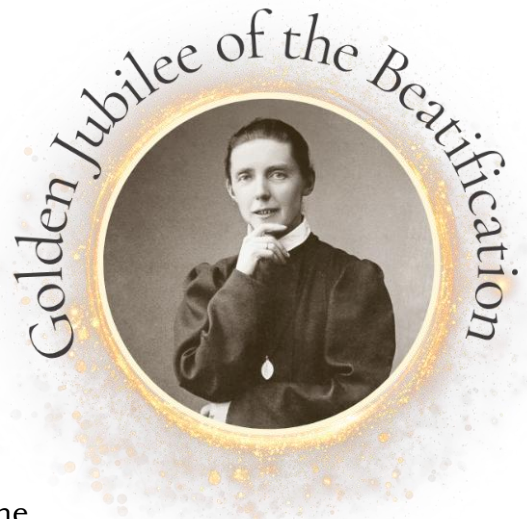


Dear Sisters,

As we joyfully celebrate the **Golden Jubilee of the Beatification of our Mother Foundress, Blessed Maria Theresa Ledóchowska**, we give thanks to God for the luminous witness of a woman who allowed herself to be set ablaze by the fire of the Gospel and responded with heroic generosity to the missionary call of her time.



Fifty years have passed since that radiant day when Pope Paul VI proclaimed her as Blessed. It was 19 October 1975, World Mission Sunday, and the whole Church rejoiced to recognize in her the burning love that made her life itself a mission and an example of faithful discipleship for the times to come. On the day of her beatification Pope Paul VI, in his homily said that “Inspired by the spirit of the Gospel and Christian charity, she was, in an exemplary way, a pioneer of the modern call for literacy.” He described her as a woman seized by the fire of love for God and for all peoples. In her, he saw how holiness is not bound by time or circumstance, and that the call to mission flows as wide as the heart of Christ.

Blessed Maria Theresa was a woman ahead of her time, noble by birth, but even nobler by heart. She heard the cry of Africa through the voice of Cardinal Lavigerie and responded with her whole being. She recognized the power of the written word and communication as a tool for evangelization and social transformation. Through her charism of missionary support, she awakened hearts, raised awareness and galvanized resources to aid missionaries labouring in the vineyard of the Lord. Her founding of the Sodality of St. Peter Claver, today our Congregation, was not just a religious act; it was a revolution of love, carried out in humility, creativity and unwavering trust in Divine Providence. Today we give thanks for the fruit of her generous yes: for the lives she touched, the missionaries she inspired and the flame she kindled that still illumines our Congregation. Her trust in God turned fragility into strength; her heart, wholly given, became a light for many.

This jubilee invites each of us to pause before that same flame. Blessed Mary Theresa did not wait for ideal conditions; she began with what she had: a pen, a prayer and an unshakable conviction that the Gospel was worth everything. Her life reminds us that God’s grace needs only a willing heart to do great things. May her example renew in us a missionary spirit that is creative, courageous and deeply rooted in love for Jesus and His people.

We mark this anniversary within the Jubilee Year 2025, guided by the theme “Pilgrims of Hope.” Blessed Mary Theresa was indeed a pilgrim of hope; walking by faith through uncertainty, trusting the providence of God more than her own plans. She teaches us to travel lightly, to remain open to surprise and to carry hope where it seems most fragile. As pilgrims, we walk together, not as those who have arrived, but as those who keep trusting the One who leads.

In his Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi Te*, the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, reminds us that every vocation begins and endures in love, a love that contemplates Christ and reflects Him in the ordinary, especially among the most vulnerable and the poor. “He loved you first,” he writes, “so that your love may become His light in the world.” These words speak directly to us, daughters of Maria Theresa, calling us to let ourselves be loved by Christ until that love shapes our prayer, our community life and our apostolate. When love is our source, even the smallest act becomes a participation in His redemptive work. Blessed Maria Theresa lived by this very dictum of love. Moved by Christ’s love, she reached out to those who had fallen prey to the evils of slavery in her time.

Let us also raise our hearts in prayer for the canonization of our Mother Foundress. Her witness of missionary zeal and joyful surrender still blesses the Church and the world. May the Lord, who worked wonders through her life, now glorify her among the saints, so that her example may shine more brightly and draw many to give their lives for the Gospel.

May this commemoration serve not only as a moment of remembrance but as a renewal of our hope, our unity and our unwavering readiness to love without measure. May her legacy inspire within us a deepened commitment to the missionary mandate of Christ: to proclaim the Gospel with creativity, wisdom and love. May her vision continue to live on and her enduring voice for the voiceless continue to **Echo** through our work.

As we celebrate this momentous anniversary, our joy is further deepened by the Religious Profession of our Novice, Claudiane Fernanda da Silva, in Brazil. Let us accompany her with our prayers and affection, that her yes may be steadfast, joyful and filled with the missionary ardour of our Foundress.

We are also pleased to share with you the new appointments of the superiors in the following communities:

Sr. Monika Czapska	Cracovia
Sr. Silvia Simas	Sao Paolo
Sr. Susmita Kullu	Nagpur (Formation House)
Sr. Seema Panna	Novice Mistress (Nagpur)

Let us extend our warm wishes to them as they prepare to assume their new responsibilities on 01 November 2025. May the Holy Spirit guide and sustain them in their service and may our communion of prayer accompany them in this new mission of love and leadership.

With a grateful heart and in prayer before the tomb of our Blessed Foundress, I earnestly implore God’s abundant blessings upon each of you.

*Sr. Selin Karikkattil*  
Superior General

Rome, 18 October 2025