



Curia Generalizia

Figlie della Carità Canossiane – Roma

Via della Stazione di Ottavia, 70 – 00135 Roma



CHE "AMANO SENZA MISURA"
RICONFIGURAZIONE A UNA VITA DI SANTITÀ NELLA E PER LA MISSIONE, OGGI

Rome, 8 August 2022

*"Women of the Word "loving without measure".
Reconfiguration to a life of holiness in and for the Mission today*

Opening Speech

Today we begin the General Chapter, I think it is appropriate to welcome it with an applause after waiting for it for a long time.

We have known the theme of the Chapter for three and a half years. A theme that we have identified through an intense process of discernment, prayer and sharing, listening to the reality of the Institute, of consecrated life in the Church and of the World.

This process of discernment took place at the "**Enlarged International Consultation**" here, in Octavia, from 16 to 23 November 2018, in which the Provincial and Delegation Superiors participated with their Vicars.

Today the General Chapter begins, it is an experience of faith and grace. We will be together for 24 days. Let us dwell on the theme we have chosen not only to understand it, but above all to seek to live it in our daily lives. It is a commitment that begins with us and extends to the whole institute.

In the theme of the Chapter we have highlighted that we want to be:

- **Women of the Word**

The Word that will be at the center of our prayer and our days, it will be the one that will illuminate our meetings, our discernments, our synodal journey.

The Word invites us *to put at the service of others the gift we have received, says Saint Peter, "as good stewards of the manifold grace of God"* (cf. 1 Pet 4:10-11).

- **Women loving without measure**

We have taken up and highlighted loving without **measure** "Attentive to the Love that shines on the Cross, on which every day, we model our way of loving..." cf ROL. 5).

The Spirit that animated Magdalene, she proposed it to her Daughters and we welcomed it. It is a very high goal which we walk towards all of our life.

- **Reconfiguration to a life of holiness in and for the Mission**

Let us intensify our prayer to the Spirit, confronting ourselves with the sources of the charism, let us ask ourselves: what does Jesus expect from us, from our Congregation, from our choices to be His witness and presence in **the heart of contemporaneity?**

Let us remain open to search together the newness of God in our Institute. With our gaze to the new realities, we look to our Congregation in its totality to discern in the light of the Spirit new ministerial paths, to seek together and find answers to the current needs of the world.

With a free heart, let us open ourselves with great confidence to God's time, to the movement of the Spirit who speaks to each one of us.

We are not alone in living this "ecclesial event", the Sisters of the Institute and the whole Canossian Family follow us and are praying for us.

Let us ask **the intercession of our Foundress** to be faithful to the Spirit who animated her and today must also animate us.

May Mary accompany us, may she give us her faith, her humility, her ability to listen. With her, in this time of grace, we enter into the Chapter experience.

Let us ask, through her intercession, to be creators of a common future and to arrive together at that **rebirth** that the Institute needs.

M. Anna Maria Babbini
Congregational Leader