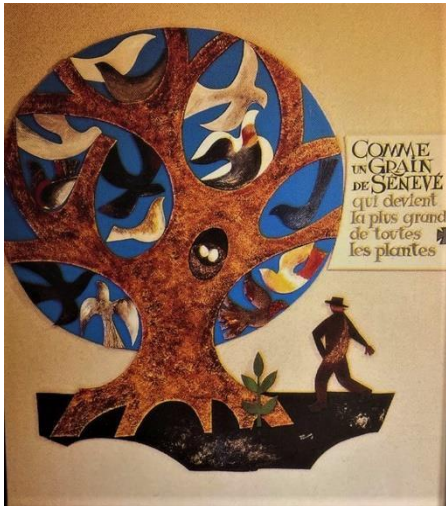


Rome, October 15, 2023

*“Father, that all may be one as we are One.” (John 17:21)*



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends,

To celebrate the 373<sup>rd</sup> year of the birth of the ‘Little Design’ and the Foundation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, is to rekindle in our minds, spirits and hearts, the strength of the great treasure of our Charism of unity, received through our Founder, Father Jean Pierre Médaille, SJ.

In celebration and gratitude, we thank God who freely offered the Charism of unity to us and to the Church, to promote "UNITY, on the path of communion of persons with God and among themselves."

Pope Francis, in one of his homilies, says that "*Jesus prayed to the Father for us, that we might be one.*" This means that we are not enough, with our strength alone, to realize unity. Unity is first and foremost a gift, it is a grace to be asked for with prayer" to live first within ourselves.

Animated by this evangelical spirit, we are all challenged to find a time of silence and intimate listening to God, to savour the meaning of the Charism of unity and of our active presence in the events of the world today.

The spirit of our Charism is alive; it is a sign of the tenderness of God who desires his daughters and sons to experience love – communion.

Let us ask for the intercession of Saint Joseph and of the all who have been a part of the history of our Congregation to help us recognize and be a sign of unity among ourselves, with all people, in the Church and in society.

We ask God’s blessings on each Sister, Associate and Friend of our Congregation.

Happy Foundation Day!

With love,



S. Dolores Lahr S. Celine Kalathoor S. Maria Cristina Gavazzi S. Elisa Fátima Zuanazzi