



*Congregación de las Hermanas
de la Caridad de Santa Ana.*

*Delegación General de Formación
y Espiritualidad
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Zaragoza (Spain), November 3, 2023

*“Every time you did it
with one of those brethren of mine
so insignificant,
you did it to me.”
(Mt 25:40)*

TO ALL THE SISTERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Dear Sisters:

Greetings from Spain, how are you? How are your families and the people you care for? May the love of God dwell in your hearts!

It is strange that I write to you at this time; I do it for a specific reason and it is to inform you that, together with the Councillors of Formation and Spirituality of each Province and the Delegation, we have proposed to prepare a monthly document that will be prepared by each of the teams of said Provinces and Delegation, “**Charism-Protection**”, is its name.

In this document we intend to unite what we are called to be, Charity through the practice of Hospitality, and the Pope's call to care for and protect each of the people we encounter, “*today we are challenged as people of God to assume the pain of our brethren violated in their flesh and in their spirit. If in the past omission could become a form of response, today we want solidarity, understood in the deepest and most challenging sense, to become our way of making present and future history, in an area where conflicts, tensions and especially the victims of all kinds of abuse may find an outstretched hand that may protect and rescue them from their pain*” (cf. Letter of the Holy Father, August 20, 2018).

We know that our charism continues alive, that there are realities, poverties and pains of which, before, we were unaware. More than ever, it is necessary that we may open our eyes to the pain of so many people around us, that we may be balm and oil for their wounds, that we may ask ourselves who our neighbour is and go “from compassion to commitment”, that we may not go on generating victims with our actions, words, thoughts or omissions. May we be able to BE and to make alive, in the details of each day, the “with all care”, and “with all love” in our relationships with our Sisters of the Community, with the people who work with us, with the people we serve, with the people we meet on the street, in transportation... May our gestures and words transmit love, care.

In these documents we will go deepening the words that may help us live care and protection. They will consist of a biblical text, a commentary, text of Constitutions and questions for reflection. You can use them personally or in the Community. We invite you to look for moments of community sharing.

We also invite you to tell us your perceptions: if it helps you or not, if you miss something, if other things would help you. Your opinions interest us, and they will help us do something that is useful to you and not just another piece of paper to fill our folders, fill our libraries or throw away.

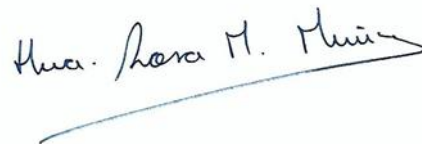
We wanted to choose these dates on which we remember the birth of Maria Raols, that woman who lived Charity through the practice of Hospitality, Care, mercy, compassion, commitment to the poorest of her time; which is an example and encouragement in our being Sisters of Charity of Saint Anne. May it be a moment to renew our commitment, our surrender, our vow of Hospitality, wherever we are and as each one of us is, experiencing the Love that God has for us and transmitting it to those who are with us.

We remember the no. 19 of our Constitutions:

Hospitality, which expresses our Charism and gives shape to our mission, commits us:

- *to surrender ourselves generously and permanently “with the greatest care”, with full detail, “with all love”,*
- *to dedicate ourselves in a total and constant way to the person, showing him/her the love and mercy which Christ has for him/her,*
- *to share who we are and what we have especially with the poorest,*
- *to accept all kinds of works and sufferings for the good of the needy,*
- *to care for our fraternal life, fostering welcome, respect, interpersonal and intercultural relationships, overcoming the differences,*
- *to organize our community life so as to contribute to the better attention to our brethren,*
- *to deepen the spirituality of Hospitality which may impel us to be mystics and prophets,*
- *to foster the culture of Hospitality and to denounce the situations of injustice which oppose it,*
- *to promote an ecological awareness which respects our planet as everyone’s house, defending life in all its manifestations.*

A warm embrace, to which Sr. Carmen Mora and the Sisters of the Council join.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sr. Rosa M. Muñoz". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a long, sweeping horizontal line.

Sr. Rosa M. Muñoz
General Councillor of Formation and Spirituality