

Newsletter

Adorers

Handmaids of the Blessed Sacrament and of Charity

February

2022



Adoratrices
Esclavas del Santísimo Sacramento y de la Caridad

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165 years of the Adorers' Charism

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SUMMARY



DEAR FAMILY OF ADORERS: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Sister Teresa Valenzuela, Superior General of the Congregation, has written a letter at the beginning of the year to the whole Family of Adorers.

The following video shows some extracts from the text. The letter can be read in full in the documents attached to this news item. God comes to our world, to our Church, to our Congregation, to each one of us, and no matter what happens, He continues to be at our side and accompanies us...



[Link to the Letter](#)



165 years of the Adorers' Charism



"Looking at the origins to revitalise the future".

Stage II.

Preparation Team, Asia

Dear Sisters and Laity:

This II Encounter proposes that we travel together with Micaela, her "Foundational Stage", we will dwell on some experiences of the origins. For this purpose, we have selected some texts that tell us about Micaela, about our first sisters in their social and ecclesial context. We are aware that we will touch on aspects that are already known to all, but at the same time, we are ambitious because of the depth and length of the text, which will surely leave us with a taste for more.



We suggest different dynamics, hoping that they will help us to reflect, and celebrate our origin to revitalize our congregational future.

This Encounter, presents the same methodology, but in the same, we will only develop 3 (three) moments with their corresponding annexes:

- Contemplate.
- To make Memory
- Celebrate

Let us listen to the voice of Micaela... and of *"They who have so much to tell us"*.

A warm embrace.



165 years of the Adorers' Charism



MATERIALS FOR REFLECTION



Methodology of Work December

Annexe I

Annex III

Annex III Bis





The first 7 foundations are a challenge of missionary activity up to the present day.

We continue to celebrate the 165th anniversary of the congregation. In the context of the second stage, Looking at the Congregation: congregational values, we share the material: "The first 7 foundations, a challenge of missionary activity up to the present day".

You can download the full article at the link below.



[Download the Document](#)





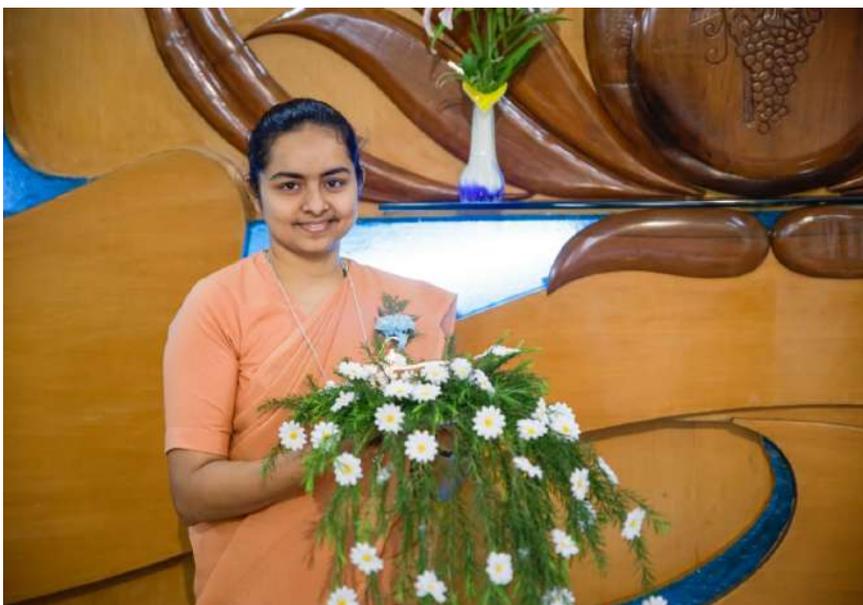
Perpetual vows of Sr Maxina Malu.

January 6th 2022, was a remarkable day written in golden letters in the life of Sr. Maxina Malu as she made her Final commitment to the Lord.

The ceremony was presided over by his grace, Rev Bishop Dominic Savio Bishop of Mumbai, the Parish Priest Fr. Reginald and con celebrants at St. Vincent Pallotti Church Marol Mumbai.

The ceremony was attended by her parents, family members, sisters, laity and few Parishioners. After the Solemn Eucharistic celebration, followed a small felicitation programme and agape in the parish Hall.

The theme chosen by Maxina was » To be formed in love to radiate Joy» In his homily Rev. Bishop urged all adorers to be courageous and dedicated in serving the humanity with love and compassion like Jesus our Master..





Youth of today: "you are God's now".

On the 22nd of January, the second module of the Pastoral Agents Formation took place under the title: Young people of today, "you are God's now".

The training session was given by Víctor Andrés Galindo, pastoral teacher, theologian and philosopher. With his presentation, he helped us to go out to meet the young people, who are living their time and are protagonists in this historical moment.



We were invited to stop, observe and rethink the processes, styles and structures of youth. We must listen more to perceive the rhythm and discover their changes.

The Formation of Pastoral Agents is organised by the International Team for Adorers' Vocation Ministry (EIPVA) within the context of the 165th Anniversary of our Congregational Foundation.

You can watch the session from the following link: <https://cutt.ly/pl57mwD>



Our Projects



Adorers' projects in Brazil.

On this second Sunday of Advent, we go to America to learn in detail about the projects that the Adorers are developing in Brazil.

The foundation of Brazil began 15 years ago in the context of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of the congregation.

In the attached document you can learn in detail about the day to day life of the Adorers in Brazil.



[Article in English](#)



Our Projects



The Project of Liberating Action-Kolkata Navajyoti Dan-Kalighat.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we take a closer look at the Liberating Action project of Kolkata Navajyoti Dan, Kalighat.

History

The Kalighat project started in 2003 with the purpose of welcoming, protecting, empowering women in prostitution with various skills and offering them a dignified life. This project (the contact center) is located in the heart of the red light area, in the city of Kolkata in order to provide alternative livelihoods for women.



The specific objectives are:

- To provide the young women a formative space for recovering and receiving integral support for their better future through training various job oriented skills.
- Reaching out their young daughters through their mothers, through home visits and facilitate them formal educations.
- Providing opportunities to work in production workshops to meet their needs.
- Follow up of the ex-girls and mothers who has already found another alternative and decent living.



Our Projects



This care for the women in prostitution is based on the following principles:

- Acceptance and respect for a person with all her ethnicity, rights, culture and belief.
- Support, individual attention and personal care.
- Working for the personal liberation and find an alternative livelihood.
- Combating for the dignity of a woman and her right.
- Networking with the other NGOs to rescue many young trafficked girls.

In the year 2002 our province initiated the project just with two to three women. Today many of the women have left the prostitution and also we have rescued many girls from being victims of prostitution and trafficked. In the year 2005 we have opened another contact center at Chetla close to Kalighat with the same objective of reaching out and rescuing young mothers and girls in prostitution.

We find ways and means to rehabilitate our women and girls. We have social workers, medical staff, psychologists and other professionals to support the women in their various needs. We also occasionally invite various professionals to guide women in different topics for their growth and social integration .

Since the center began, we have received support from various financial agencies, such as ManosUnidas from Spain, MISSIO from Germany, etc.

Although the contact center has 3 rooms and 2 corridors, it is insufficient for the number of beneficiaries who attend the Center. Due to lack of space, it is managed with a shift system where each beneficiary receives 2 hours of classes a day, from Monday to Friday. Around 50 girls and women regularly attend this center. Some of the admission criteria are as follows:

- Specifically for the women in prostitution.
- Young girls of the prostitute mother.
- Those who express their desire to get out of that situation and want to live a dignified life.
- Non-formal education for the prostitute women. .



Our Projects



Accompanying the women.

The center is always opened for women and they can register their names at any time during the class hour within this time the sisters and the team are always available to listen and attend to the women personally. We encourage and motivate women to participate in the tailoring workshops and for the literacy class.



Short term programs: the center is well aware of the situation of the women and girls. Accordingly it has programmed the syllabus for the women to learn. The duration for this term is six months to one year time. It creates necessary condition for the skill learning, inner healing, healthcare and counselling. We are with them on their journey toward new possibilities.

Long term programs: the centre cares for the weakest and most vulnerable. It gives ample time and opportunities for their growth and learning. The duration is one year to three years. We accompany the women in their various aspects, specially rendering them time for personal healing through active listening, yoga, regular few moments of prayer, meditation and counselling. Keeping in mind the objective of the project to rescue the prostitute women and give alternative livelihood and find a new life in their journey towards a new horizon.

Formative Action.

The project works with the support of a team made up of sisters, laity and professionals. This team is well committed to the project. We give vital importance to the accompaniment and personal integration of women. Besides the skill training they are provided with classes for value education adult education, health and hygiene, personality development and saving schemes. They are given personal guidance to each beneficiary according to her need. Once a while they gather together for recreation, cultural programs and practice dance and songs. Also they have celebrations both national and religious festivals like Christmas, Foundress' day, Women's day, Diwali and Holi etc. The beneficiaries are given orientation programmes to motivate and animate them to come to the center and learn a skill for them. The center provides time for relaxation and occasional group outings to the nearby places. In a word, the center cares for each of the women who want to look to the future with a new vision of new life .



Our Projects



Home of Santa Maria (Japan)

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we go to St. Mary's House which was founded in Japan in 1996. This year it is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

History.

The Home of Santa Maria, is a social assistance project for mothers with their children in Japan. THE STORY BEGINS WITH A DREAM. .

We had a dream, born from the experience of the Shelter, Micaela Ryo. This early welcome project was closed on March 31 st, of this year.



Dreaming of hope, we got the opportunity to carry out a project to care for women with children. 28 years ago the Yokohama City Council offered us the opportunity, and the dream came true. It was not exactly as we had planned, but it opened the possibility for us to begin a journey of approaching young women with their young children.

We are talking about a dream that came true, it was born through the encounters with the girls in Micaela Ryo: The girls who came to Micaela Ryo were young people who became pregnant in adolescence, and gave birth without receiving help and necessary accompaniment from anyone. In the foster home the girls could live with their babies, but only for a short period of three months, at the end of it, they had to leave our Center and move to the next establishment.

In this situation of such a short time of support, it was very difficult for these young women to take care of and care for the child on their own, without the possibility of teaching for mothering and specialized care that could accompany it in the period of life of evolutionary development of the babies, a postnatal period up to 12 months.

The final result was a logical consequence of the lack of specialized care for the mother and her baby: In the new Center where they were transferred, the family unit was broken and the child had to go to a charity and the mother to a reception centre for women, motivated by the mother's inability to care for the baby properly. They could not act the role of MOTHER as the people wanted .



Our Projects



This situation gave us a lot of sadness and from the reflection and listening to our environment and ourselves a dream of HOPE emerged for our women: To open a maternal and child home as the next step to shelter for them. Create a process in which the person can calmly heal and free herself.

ORIGIN OF THE MATERNAL-CHILD-HOME.

Throughout the history of Japan, the Maternity and Children's Home began with the goal of sheltering women and children who had lost their husbands to World War II. They were mothers and children without a home or food.

Almost 40 years later, the Yokohama community realized their dream and founded Santa Maria's Home in 1986 to expand the support provided by Micaela Ryo.

The following year, 1987, the Law and the name were changed to the establishment of Support to obtain the independence of life to the mothers and their children. This also changed the way of developing the objectives of the same. The tasks became clearer and the objectives were increased, on autonomous life, professional independence, financial independence and support for raising their children independently with a view to their social insertion in the future.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SUPPORT TO THE LIFE OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

The development of the Social Work in Japan is carried out within the framework of the Law of Minors and Social Services of the Country. Thus, the Casa de Santa María has to apply and conform within the Law of Social Welfare of Minors, or Law of Protection of Minors. The Casa de Santa María project is organized in such a way that the role of the staff is defined according to the target group.

- Personnel specialized in supporting mothers.
- Personnel specialized in supporting children.
- Staff involved in the development of raising infants and toddlers.

In order to respond to the new need that has arisen due to the situation of migrant women, the number of personnel in charge of assisting and supporting foreign mothers and children and their follow-up has also been increased.



Our Projects



TRAINING ACTIONS.

The training of workers is carried out by psychologists and professionals from other social organizations who support us in training actions for our staff. The opportunity is offered for a supervisory accompaniment in order to reflect periodically on the development of their activity and to be able to provide better support to women.

New problems have also been addressed: We have been working on various initiatives to help children heal from the trauma they have suffered, through training programs and actions. Mothers have been supported to grow as human beings and to be the protagonist of their lives.

PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 25 ANNIVERSARY.

In 2021, when La Casa de Santa María turns 25 years old. On the occasion of the date we wrote and published a documentary book on the history of the Home of Santa Maria. The idea was born from a sister, (Sr. María Eulalia Miyashita) who, although she has already retired from the direction of the Project, continues to accompany the Casa de Santa María as president of the Civil Association of adorers that we call OBRA SOCIAL DE ADORATRICES. She expresses this wish: "I want to write down EVERYTHING WE HAVE DEVELOPED SO FAR. But not as a historical perspective only. We have a role to play in raising issues with society now and for the future."

All our experience in the development of the processes of accompanying women and their children, we have put it in the published book (on the occasion of the celebration of the 25 years), on the HISTORY AND THE FUTURE OF THE HOUSE OF SANTA MARÍA, In it, we have tried to convey to the reader the fundamental values and attitudes with which we develop our DOING: Warm welcome, responsibility, patience, listening skills, empathy ... all with a great deal of professionalism, in order to ensure recovery and growth, as well as the social insertion of women and their children. We cannot fill the void in their hearts, but we can accompany mothers and their children on the path to a better future. Perhaps thus, perhaps, also, to the achievement of Happiness. This is the Adorer Pedagogy .

THE REASON FOR THE ISSUES RAISED.

The question arose because 111 charities for mothers and children were at the limit of their temporary capacity. On the other hand, some charitable establishments have closed temporarily due to lack of recipients and funding, therefore, they could not continue. There are 224 charities for mothers and children in total in Japan. 45% of these can maintain the degree of occupancy, 90% or more. Casa de Santa María has made an effort to maintain the number of places available each year. If fewer than 90% of users decrease, the Government subsidizes less the following year .



Our Projects



But, you cannot lay off the workers or leave the maintenance of the building, this means that you have to maintain the same expense with less income. This system gives a lot of suffering to all the charities for mothers and children. The laity of Santa María House are aware that the decrease in social assistance placement costs due to the number of users and management difficulties, does not represent the main problem, but rather, the women who are the object of our attention do not accept the reception centre system currently supported by the government. They are aware of the social and human crisis in Japan. There is, therefore, a gap between the way in which maternal and child life support centers are managed and the reality of today's Japanese society.

DISCONNECTION WITH REALITY.

For example, the government prohibits women, victims of domestic violence and who are in the process of divorce mediation, from having mobile phones due to the dangers of persecution. This may be natural, but even in other situations, the ban continues regarding the use of mobile phones. Lay people who know about the current situation believe that they should act more flexibly. Not being able to use your own mobile phone can cause difficulties in finding social resources for employment and contact with children's work and school. However, the government is inflexible. "The Internet is dangerous" they say. Some women who have been victims of domestic violence refuse to enter a charity for mothers and children, saying that they do not want to live a life without freedom. This is one of the reasons for the decline in the number of users.

THE TWO LAGS WITH REALITY.

As for the gap with reality, in the 25th anniversary book, the teachers wrote the articles leaving two significant words. First, "mothering" This requires women to be "mothers." A charitable establishment for mothers and children, of course, is included in the law on the Social Welfare of Minors. However, the difference with other charity establishments for children, they have the advantage that they can live together. The downside is that the person raising the child must be the true and righteous mother, but in reality some people do not have the capacity to be mothers. Many women who are mothers have not experienced the love and care of their mother when they were small. So we adorners accompany women accepting this reality. But the workers have another vision and sometimes they demand their responsibility from the mothers. The second phase is "Social work from a feminist perspective" It is not just about doing social work, but about supporting women with a feminist perspective. The principles are described in the writings of Lena Dominelli. Some of which are: "recognizing the diversity of women", "respecting the power of women" and "seeing women as active agents with the power to make their own decisions in all aspects of their lives".



Our Projects



OUR GOAL, TOGETHER ON THE WAY.

These principles coincide with the Adorer Charism and the way of supporting and accompanying women. Even if a charitable establishment to support mothers and children falls under the category of the Protection of Minors Act, we want to find a woman as a person. And we want them to receive Love while freeing themselves. That dynamism is at the heart of our Charism. It is the great challenge for Adorers: transmit this treasure to the laity and share with them mutually in the context of interculturality and intergenerationality.



News in brief

"FORTNIGHTLY PRESS DOSSIERS".

We present fortnightly press packs with news about our congregation, our projects, human trafficking and sexual exploitation. We hope that this fortnightly instrument will be useful to the Adorer Family to keep them informed.



[2nd half of November 2021](#)

[1st fortnight of December 2021](#)

[2nd Fortnight of December 2021-1st Fortnight of January 2022](#)





"THE GARDENIAS".

This feature film, produced in the southwest of Barranquilla, is about the testimonies of six displaced women who are now recognised as leaders of their communities. It has won nine awards at various festivals around the world.

Trailer of the documentary feature film: <https://youtu.be/CejA1AXKPCE>

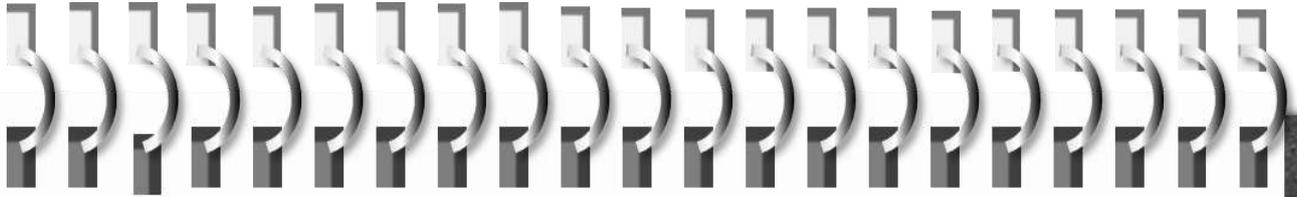
"AMELIA. THE STORY OF A STRUGGLE".

Behind the red neon lights and the fun of some, or many, men, hides a reality of the enslavement of women under the whip of a pimps' business. In tune with the proposals for the abolition of prostitution, this comic, based on a true story, is presented from the point of view of Amelia Tiganus, one of the faces committed to the abolition of prostitution. The comic is inspired by the life experience of Amelia Tiganus herself.

Information about the comic: <https://cutt.ly/IIYvhu4>



General Government Agenda



GENERAL GOVERNMENT AGENDA. FEBRUARY — MARCH 2022

S. Teresa Valenzuela.

-  The first half of February is planned to visit the two communities in Italy that are pending: Adelfia and Torre Boldone. In the second half of February and early March she will travel to India for an informal visit to the provinces of Kolkata and Mumbai. All trips and visits are subjected to the evolution of the pandemic. On 14 March she will participate in the first meeting of the Plenary Assembly of Superiors General - UISG, online. The Plenary Assembly is held every three years and this time it will take place on different dates and in different ways until July.

S. Margarita Navío.

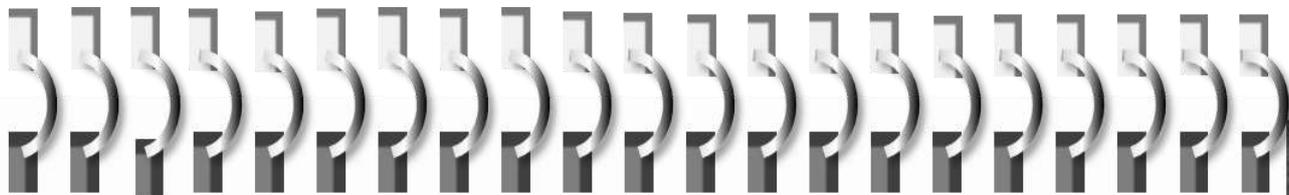
-  From the 1st to the 9th of February, she will stay at the International Novitiate. Among other activities she will give the novices a course on the Pedagogy of Adoration. On February 10th she will return to Rome and on February 18th she will have an online meeting with the Congregational Formation Commission. On 10 March she will have an online meeting with the International Formation Team. In the month of March, an online meeting with the formators of the first stages of formation is scheduled.

S. Rosaura Patiño

-  She will have a meeting on the 4th of February with the coordination of the projects in Bolivia to start a formation process. On the 7th of February she will have another meeting with the commission that is working on the renewal of the database.



General Government Agenda



S. Micaela Tanigaichi.

-  On March 19th she will coordinate the third online formation meeting for the Pastoral agents and will accompany the work planned for the follow-up of the participants after the meeting together with the international team of the Area.

S. Fara Galati.

-  An online meeting with the Shared Mission team of the Europe-Africa Province will take place on February 10th, while the Americas team will meet on February 26th. On 21 February online meeting with the Communication team. On March 20, she will meet with the Commission of the Formation Plan for the laity that is being carried out. It is the seventh meeting and in online mode. On 26 March a meeting will be held with the "Seed Group" for a formation meeting. These are periodical meetings with the aim of deepening their formation, according to the programme.

S. María José Palomino.

-  She is in Rome carrying out the tasks of the Secretary General. She will also continue to participate in the online training courses for Secretaries General every three months:
 - Course on Practical Synodality in the Congregations.
 - Training course for those in charge of archives.

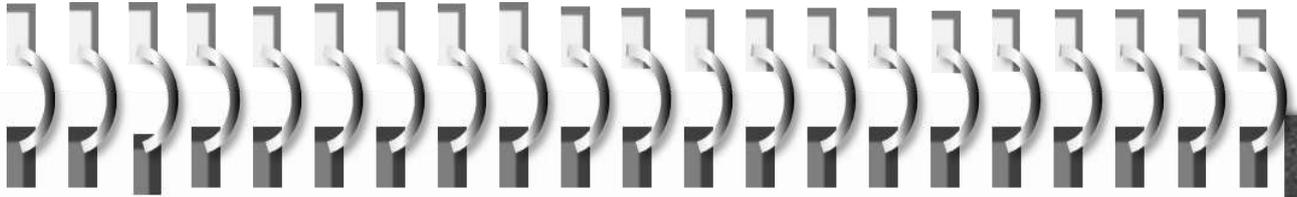
S. Carmen Bosch.

-  She remains in Madrid carrying out the work of the General Administration and the coordination of the Sustainability Study that is being carried out in the Congregation.

General Government Agenda



General Government Agenda



The General Team.

- Accompanies the online course on leadership for sisters and laity on 31 January and 1-2 February given by Faith and Praxis.
- On 3, 4 and 5 March, together with the provincial government teams, will participate in the Leadership Course, which corresponds to the third module. Delivered by Faith and Praxis.
- The General Government's three-year programme includes meetings for reflection on apostolic action. Therefore, on 21, 22 and 23 March, together with the provincial teams, they will participate in a first online meeting for this purpose. Coordinated by Sister Rosaura Patiño.

Sister Teresa, with Sisters Rosaura P. and Fara G.

- will participate in the online course "For the whole earth. Integration of Charism, Mission and Care for Creation" programmed by the UISG on 18 January and 1 February.

The rest of the time all continue the work of animation of the Areas and of government.

General Government Agenda



February

2022



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Adorers

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Charity

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