

“This is an opportune time! It is Kairos.”

When do we say these statements? Is it when there are no more problems? Is it when situations are better? Will there ever be an opportune time or Kairos?

Time after time, we welcome different events in our lives, and the invitation is to always make these moments opportune time to grow, to learn from the past and from our mistakes, to discover new things, to welcome new experiences, and to allow the transforming grace of the Spirit to have a gaze of the world with renewed hope for a better future.

From the 1st to the 10th of December 2021, we gathered as formators through an online session. The session was planned to originally take place at the Mother House last 10-20 October 2020. Because of the pandemic, this did not materialize, and so the planning for the ripe time for the session went on. The synodal work with the Provinces on the revision of the Ratio (Formation Program) was undertaken for almost two years. Our openness to see what is possible allowed us to welcome the blessings of the new way of having an international session. More sisters were able to participate, less financial expenses, less carbon footprint on the air, and yet the objectives of the program were attained. We had meaningful conversations and we were enriched by the exchanges. We were graced by the presentations and sharing of the resource speakers on different topics:

- Opening Message by Sr Rekha Chennattu
- Essential aspects of the way of life of the Assumption today by Sr Clare Teresa Gretchen Tjader
- Who are you, RA, today? How to understand the vows today: Identity and mission by Sr Véronique Thiébaud
- The Challenges of Religious Life Today sexual and psychological abuse, abuse of power and support for vulnerable people by Sr Mary Lembo
- Formation in the Communication Era by Sr Mercedes Méndez Siliuto
- Accompaniment and Supervision by Sr Anne-Marie Aitken
- Economic Dimension of Our Life by Sr Cecile Franquin
- Uncomfortable conversations – addictions in formation by Bro Tom Kearney

We were especially grateful to the Ad Hoc Team: Sr Clare Teresa Gretchen; Sr Carmen Escribano; Sr. Leela Kottoor; Sr Concepción Hernández; Sr Céline Naboud; Sr Vicenta Javier; Sr Marthe Marie Nzabakurana GC; and Sr Irene Cecile Torres GC. Thank you for the work well done with great generosity and dedication.

The year 2021 was marked by opening ourselves to new ways of experiencing communion, animation and formation. “New wine, new wineskins”, finding new ways of being and doing for greater life and service. We welcomed the year 2022 full of Hope in God’s Words that “He makes all things New” (Revelation 21:5).

We were very happy to have been able to travel and visit our sisters from West Africa at the beginning of 2022. We met a Province full of vitality. We were touched by the warm welcome and all the cultural gestures, such as that of the "crossing of the water of peace". Our actual presence in the five countries of the Province has allowed us to meet our sisters who are fully committed to the mission as well as our friends and lay partners involved in the various insertions. We have also witnessed the shadows and lights in the reality of each country: the richness of culture, the ability to bounce back, hospitality, but also the reality of poverty, violence in a socio-political context of instability and confusion throughout the Sahel region. We are deeply grateful for the presence of the Sisters of the Assumption in this part of the African continent. The faith of the people in a tense context, the ability to endure trial, the joy of living and vitality have edified us.

Last February 9-10, 2022, we welcomed the General Councils of the five congregations of our Assumption Family to our Mother House. It was a well-prepared gathering where we shared news and our experiences especially during the pandemic. We had common formation together, we deepened the theme of the "Covenant-Friendship Leadership Paradigm" presented by Sr Rekha. We had time to pray, to recreate, to strengthen our fraternal bonds and to continue to weave the richness of our diversity in the Assumption family.

From February 18-20, we had the canonical visit to the Auteuil Community. These were days of welcoming the grace of God to the community that has expanded as they welcomed the young sisters of the international juniorate. We appreciated so much the openness and the profound sharing in community. Thanks again to this beautiful community in Paris and Welcome to the International Juniorate at the Mother House!

The CGP 2022 held in Olivos, Madrid from the 1st-30th of March was indeed an experience of God's favorable time – Kairos! From the first day up to the last day, we felt that we were led by the Holy Spirit as one CGP Community. It was a synodal journeying as Assumption Sisters, desiring and seeking to live the Assumption way for today according to Mother Marie Eugenie and our charism. We have allowed ourselves to flow with the grace of renewal, interiorly and exteriorly as we continue to build and reconstruct our Provinces/Region and Congregation. We grew in friendships and collaboration as animators and leaders aiming at greater life and service for all. The life and death of Sr. Carmen Escribano, who was totally given to God and to the Congregation up to the end, accompanied our grace-filled paschal journey. You will be hearing soon from your Provincial/Regional Superiors. We trust that God's grace abounds, the spirit that moved the CGP 2022 will accompany the different encounters. Let us recognize and affirm God's opportune time for each one of us and for the whole Congregation.

Through Sr Rekha, the Congregation was able to bring its small contribution to **the life and mission of the Universal Church**. Being a member of the Federation of Asian Bishops Conference (FABC), she contributed to the document *The Body of Christ in the Pandemic: Theological*

Reflections from Asian Perspectives. Among other things, she animated the online symposium of the BITA-7 [Bishops' Institute of Theological Animation] for the representatives of the Bishops and Theologians from South, East, and South-East Asian countries.

She will be in Rome from 28th April to 6th May. She will attend the UISG Plenary 2022 with the theme: Embracing Vulnerability on the Synodal Journey. She is one of the resource persons for the General Chapter of the La Salle Brothers in Rome, and she will present a Paper on "Towards a Synodal Model of Leadership: Insights from John's Gospel." She is also invited by the Trustees of the Institute of Saint Anselm (Rome) to participate in a consultation meeting regarding its FUTURE as providing a vital service to the Universal Church.

We have welcomed the sisters who will be participating in the Young Sisters' Session from 9 April to 15 June 2022. We count on your prayers.

Happy Easter! Happy Celebration of New Life!

The General Community

Rekha, Sandra, Marthe, Isabelle, and Irene