

IN THE SAME CHARISM...

with responsibility



n. 1 - 2018

**COMPANY OF ST. URSULA
SECULAR INSTITUTE OF SAINT ANGELA MERICI
FEDERATION**

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TO THE READERS

The Lover, the only Treasure!

*[And there came a voice from heaven]
 “You are my Son, the beloved:
 in you I am well pleased.” (Mark 1:11)*

*“...I am continually among them
 with my Lover, or rather,
 the Lover of us all...”
 (Fifth Counsel, 38)*

The Lover is Jesus Christ, the Son of God...

When I think of Saint Angela, a biblical woman, I understand where she gained her teachings, actually her charism: from the Word of God. But **Beloved** is a word that comes directly from heaven and is heard on earth. This is how Mark expresses it in his Gospel, recounting the baptism of Jesus. In the baptism, with the gift of the Spirit, the Father lets the Son hear his voice, recognizes him as Son, and is pleased in him... **the Beloved**.

Saint Angela and us with the Lover...

Pondering this biblical phrase, this voice from heaven, I appreciate and value even more Saint Angela's presence of among us, with the Father's **Beloved**, present *continually* with us as **the Lover of us all**.

And the Lover... will be the center of unity in the next assembly...

They did well, then, the President and the Council of the Federation, in thinking of the motto for the next Assembly in harmony with this biblical and Merician teaching: **Jesus Christ, our only treasure!**

And with the Lover ... a spousal life...

In the Constitutions too we find Saint Angela's example, almost echoing the words of Scripture: “[Angela] **...united in a spousal stance to the Son of God, her ‘Lover.’**”

Let this be our program, then, for this year of the Assembly of the Federation, in this sixtieth year of our institute's recognition: to return continually, and all together, to *our first and only Love, to our only Treasure*, and we will again see *marvelous things*...

My Lover, or rather the Lover of us all...

It is a personal and shared love, without envy or jealousy...

It means a communion of love that is reciprocated, as we read in the Song of Songs: "*My lover belongs to me and I to him*" (Songs 2:16); "*I belong to my lover and my lover belongs to me*" (Songs 6:3).

To us, the virgins of the Company, Saint Angela recommends "*to live as is required of true spouses of the Most High*" (Rule, Prologue 23).

This is a matter of being, not of doing. It is a matter of the heart, not of reasoning. Love is great, love is unique, love is strong ... "*I am sick with love*" (Songs 5:8), repeats the bride in the Song of Songs. "*Deep waters cannot quench love, nor rivers wash it away*" (Songs 8:7).

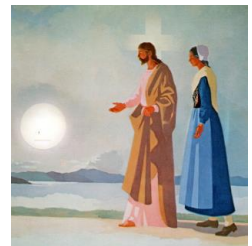
Nothing will separate us from the love of Christ... says the word of God. Angela Merici, *united in a spousal stance to the Son of God, her "Lover,"* gave birth to the Company of Jesus Christ, and *the deep waters and the rivers* of the centuries have not succeeded in crushing this marvelous charism that has endured and *will endure as long as the world shall last*.

The Song of Songs and Saint Angela seem to whisper: *The Lord is your beloved; he is the whole of your life; entrust yourself to him because he belongs to you...*

We can pray with the Song of Songs, "*Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for Love is strong as Death...*" (Songs 8:6), and with our own words we can repeat:

*Place me as a seal upon your heart, Lord,
and since your love for me is as strong as death,
may my love for you be strong until death ...
Let it be so!*

Caterina Dalmasso



A THOUGHT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION

Background ... the Assembly



And so 2018 has arrived, the year of the Federation's ordinary Assembly.

It's actually not too soon to talk about it...

Already the summons has been sent out in the circular letters to the Directresses and leaders of Groups, along with the

necessary attachments.

With this Assembly we also recall and celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the decree "Vetustum et Praeclarum Institutum," dated May 25, 1958, with which the Holy See approved our "*...Secular institute in federated form of pontifical right*" (Decree of approval of the current Constitutions).

I am convinced that prayer is the indispensable and fundamental attitude for experiencing in faith this important time of communion. Certainly the principal resource is to be "*... at the feet of Jesus Christ, and there [all together] offer most fervent prayers*" (Last Legacy 11, 3-4).

Above all, a prayer of thanksgiving and of praise to God!

The Assembly for which we are preparing ourselves is a privileged occasion to lift up praise and thanksgiving for God's great gift of calling us to be his disciples in the charism of Saint Angela, in this secular institute of ours.

We share the joy of being together, of following our shared call to holiness in the footsteps of our beloved Foundress, "proud" of such a beautiful and fascinating vocation, aware of being "called by grace" (Constitutions, Ch. 1 title).

We trust that the Holy Spirit is not an "occasional guest," but the principal protagonist whom we must invoke in persevering prayer, sure

that our Holy Mother is "*... always in our midst, helping our prayers*" (Ninth Counsel 20).

From the Holy Spirit we seek wisdom and knowledge, heart and mind, to discern.

From the Spirit we seek counsel to make correct and suitable choices, to recommend directions and orientations that will help and sustain our Companies and Groups to follow the path of fidelity in renewal.

We seek openness and foresight, so as not to look only backward, but to be open and courageous for the new developments that the Lord wants to point out to us.

From the Holy Spirit we seek strength now and always to put our choices into action, to bear witness concretely and every day that "*Jesus Christ is our only treasure*" and that the "motor" driving our life is in "*God alone, and in the kind and ineffable providence that is his alone*" (Rule, Ch. X, On Poverty, 13).

From the Holy Spirit we seek piety and fear of the Lord because everything always happens among us with "*pietoso*" [= compassionate] love, in relationships based on sisterhood and mercy.

Following the example of our holy Madre, we too pray like her: "*My Lord, my only life and my hope, deign*"

Maria Razza

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A THOUGHT FROM THE ECCLESIASTICAL ASSISTANT TO THE COUNCIL OF THE FEDERATION

THE COMPANY: DOORS OPEN FOR ENTERING AND GOING FORTH¹



Four hundred eighty-two years!
And the Company still exists!
But is it a museum, barely interactive, or
is it an experience of renewed Life?

I take inspiration from the third chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, where the evangelist groups together seven parables recounted by Jesus to announce and launch that dynamic reality that he calls “the Reign of God,” destined to live always, even beyond time. Through these parables Jesus recommends dynamic forms of action and presence (Mt 13: Sower, Weeds, Mustard seed, Leaven, Treasure, Pearl, Nets).

The conclusion deserves our attention: *“Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old”* (Mt 13:52).

The Company too was born as a living reality, dynamic in its response to the Spirit’s inspiration, to the urgent needs of women at that time. The Company’s life and charism were then codified in the Rule and other writings of Saint Angela, and with ecclesiastical recognition.

These words of Jesus pose several urgent questions to today’s Companies, which can be summarized thus: Through these 482 years, has the Company safeguarded the Merician charism, and how? Is it still safeguarding it today, drawing from the charism received from Saint Angela *“both the new and the old”*? What are these *“new and old”* things?

¹ Presentation made at Brescia on November 25, 2017, on the occasion of a meeting held to mark the “birthday” of the Company.

The “old things” means the very reality of the Company, born in Saint Angela’s time so that, departing not from the world but “from the shadows of this poor world,” they might “be united in serving the Lord” (Rule, Prologue), as in the prayer of Jesus, who entrusted his disciples to the Father: *“I do not ask that you take them out of the world but that you keep them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world”* (John 15:15-16).

Saint Angela too offered her daughters a way of life separated from the shadows of the world, but not separated from the world. The precise form of their belonging to the Lord and serving him would have to shine through their lives as “true and chaste spouses of the Son of God” (Rule, Prologue), as “spouses of the Most High” (Rule, Prologue), reflecting what Jesus also says to his disciples: *“Everything that the Father has is mine.”*

To be spouses of the Son of God means full and total consecration to Christ, which is the source of a “new and wondrous dignity” (Rule, Prologue) in a time when a woman’s dignity derived from and was recognized principally from the fact of being the spouse of a socially or economically prominent man, or from belonging to and having an important role in an institution such as a monastery.

Saint Angela points out for her daughters that the foundation of this “new and wondrous dignity” is their special relationship with the Lord Jesus, which also opens them to a special way of belonging to the Most High. This way of belonging to the Most High will open them to sharing the divine life, so much that, desiring *“to return gloriously to our homeland”* (Rule, Prologue), they will participate in divine glory, eventually becoming “queens in heaven” (Rule, Prologue).

Saint Angela borrowed these spousal images and these aspirations of so many women to become spouses of a king or a nobleman, and in this way to become “queens” or “princesses” or something else. Saint Angela invites all her daughters to a much greater, more certain and more enduring dignity: today becoming spouses of the Son of God and aspiring to the glorious homeland of

heaven, that is, to the homeland and house of the Father and of the risen Christ, to whom they have consecrated their lives.

The gift (charism) received by Saint Angela from the Lord became the life-choice of women around her and was reflected and recognized in the Rule and in her other Writings, but also in the life-style of the members of the Company themselves from its very beginning. Through the years, this charism has been fulfilled in many forms different from the features reflected in the Rule and in the other Writings, and different from the way the first members of the Company lived. In fact, they have been “offshoots sprouting from the same tree.”

The Rule, together with the other writings, was “*composed to be useful to you, indeed as the road for you to walk by*” (Rule, Prologue). That is, the Rule is the constant point of reference so that, in the course of time and amid changing situations, Angela’s daughters can continually revisit the life, the gift, and the inspiration of their origins. It preserves the memory of that “*ancient way and custom of the Church, established and confirmed by so many Saints under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. And live a new life*” (Seventh Counsel).

The ancient way and custom of the Church must be clung to faithfully, to be able to ‘**live a new life,**’ that is, to make contemporary that newness of life that continually draws inspiration from the charism, not replicating it exactly, but “*according as charity and the Holy Spirit will enlighten and inspire you, directing everything towards the good and spiritual benefit of your dear daughters, as much to urge and move those who are already in [the Company] to greater love and obligation to do good as to attract still others to it*” (Ninth Legacy).

Here Saint Angela offers a guideline for understanding and fulfilling the ancient way and custom of the Church, articulated in four purposes. The first is to let oneself be enlightened and to assume a posture of docile listening to charity and the Holy Spirit. The second criterion that should inspire choices is the good and spiritual benefit of the daughters. The third goal is to encourage and motivate the Company’s members to an ever greater love and commitment to

do good. The fourth goal is what we call vocational motivation today, that is, “*attract others*.”

These guidelines are valuable elements for discernment about choices that the Company has made in its history and is also called to make today. The Merician pair of phrases, “ancient way and new life,” in the light of the Gospel phrase “things new and old,” becomes a criterion for living faithfully the initial gift (charism), recognized and approved by the Church.

This involves living and working on the basis of **memory** (“*observe this Rule*” [Rule, Prologue]; “*esteem this holy Rule, divinely ordained*” [Seventh Counsel]; “*these recommendations will be to you like legacies which, as my greatest desire, I leave you to carry out faithfully*” [Prologue to the Testament]; “*take the greatest care that the good directives given, especially those in the Rule, be most diligently observed*” [Last Legacy]) and on the basis of **prophecy** (Jesus Christ “*will be in your midst, and as a true and good master, he will enlighten and teach you what you have to do*” [Last Legacy]; “*If you faithfully carry out these and other similar things, as the Holy Spirit suggests to you according to the times and circumstances...*” [Last Legacy]).

Pope Francis, in speaking to consecrated persons last February 2, invited them to “*take up the **dreams** of our elders, so that we can prophesy in our day and once more encounter what originally set our hearts afire.*”

Paraphrasing, we could say that the Companies too should embrace the **dream of their Madre Saint Angela**, to be able to prophesy today and to rediscover what had inflamed her heart then.

It is beautiful to feel committed to bring to light ever more fully Saint Angela’s prophetic dream, which we find summarized in the Rule and in her other Writings as well as in the witness given by the Company that Angela began. It is also beautiful to feel that we are called today to bring to greater fullness this dream which is never completely fulfilled.

This courage and openness to the Spirit preserve one “*from the temptation of survival*,” to quote Pope Francis again, that is, the temptation or fear that can make the Company sterile today and rob it

of the energy and the vitality of the charism that inflamed Saint Angela's heart. This temptation, the Pope reflects, causes us to propel ourselves backward, toward its glorious – but past – deeds, instead of stirring up the prophetic creativity born of the dream of Saint Angela and responding to the challenges that knock at the door today. This attitude deprives the foundational charism of that creative energy that gave the Company its start.

So often a preoccupation with safeguarding spaces, buildings, or structures does not foster – may even block – those new processes that represent an opportunity for life, for the renewal and mission of the Company today.

I believe that three dimensions of the Merician Company's charism give unity, a core, and dynamism to today's Company: Around **Jesus their Spouse** the members of the Company find **joyful, sisterly unity** in sharing the **mission of carrying him and bearing witness to him among the people**.

-Jesus their Spouse. Jesus risen and alive, whom the consecrated woman recognizes as Savior and Lord, has gradually conquered her heart and taken possession of her life and her most profound feelings. She is led to entrust herself to him unconditionally and forever. The life of a consecrated woman becomes bound to the person of Christ, sharing her life and her destiny. Her life becomes a free and joyous participation in Christ's free and loving obedience to the will of the Father. The lifestyle of Christ incarnate lives again in the consecrated woman: poor, chaste, and obedient. The "spouse of Christ" no longer lives for herself, but for Christ and his Reign, with an ardent and impassioned love, in love with Christ himself, who is Lover and Beloved.

-Joyful, sisterly unity among the members. Gathered together around "the Lover of us all," the members of the Company establish and cultivate among themselves personal relationships of friendship in the Lord, helping one another to live as "*true spouses of the Most High*" (Rule, Prologue), "*united together, all of one heart and one will...esteeming each other, helping each other...all together thus united in heart*" (Last Counsel). They meet one another and love one

another, *“Together... as loving sisters, and thus, talking over spiritual matters, rejoice together...encourage one another, which will be no small help to them”* (Last Legacy).

Gradually, life in the Company will not only bear fruit in mutual respect, but bring to life the Lord’s commandment to *“love one another,”* sustaining one another in joyful sisterhood and mutual assistance based on the love for *“the Lover of us all”* and on example and witness that will prompt other women to desire to be part of the Company in order to share in a deeper sisterhood. Even personal prayer, which is the heart of the spiritual life and animates one’s days, will be helped, sustained, and shared in sisterly gatherings.

-Mission. The simple life of Angela’s daughters, among the people, in their own homes, in their occupations and preoccupations, becomes their particular way of bearing witness – there among the people – to Jesus and his love. The witness of closeness, of warm friendship, and of exemplary commitment in the way they conduct themselves and serve in their own professions, will demonstrate concretely the Lord’s generous love, that love which precedes and calls forth the desire to know him.

This style of life requires deep and incarnational formation that the Company will assist the members to acquire and cultivate, living in the world as contemplatives in action. In turn, this style of life will attract and convince today’s youth especially.

The witness of personal living, occasions of authentic and joyful sisterhood, and experiences of prayer and of God vitally integrated, whether at a deep personal or a communal level, render secular consecration particularly significant in our time.

The life of the woman consecrated in secularity, shining with Gospel values that are incarnated and made one’s own, becomes a witness and a call for others who desire to follow Christ Jesus as their Teacher and Lord.

This could be the life that Angela intuited, embraced, and offered to those who participate in her “charism” and learn from her.

+ Bishop Adriano Tessarollo

Assistant to the Council of the Federation



IN THE SAME CHARISM: THE FEDERATION

Some reflections... 60 years since the recognition of our Institute



I tell you, living all together thus united in heart, you will be like a mighty fortress, or a tower impregnable against all adversities, and persecutions, and deceits of the devil. And moreover I assure you that every grace you ask from God will infallibly be granted to you. And I shall always be in your midst, helping your prayers.

(Ninth Counsel, 15-20)

This year marks the sixtieth anniversary of the recognition of our secular institute as a federation, and we are preparing to celebrate the Assembly.



The decree approving our present Constitutions briefly evokes our history, joyfully astonishing us over the recognition of the intuition of Angela Merici and her Company. Here are two such excerpts:

*“Forerunner of this vocation, officially recognized by the Church in 1947, is the **"Company of Saint Ursula"** founded by Saint Angela Merici at Brescia on November 25, 1535, approved by the diocesan Ordinary on August 8, 1536, and confirmed by Pope Paul III, with the Papal Bull "Regimini Universalis Ecclesiae", of June 9, 1544.*

*“All the daughters of Saint Angela Merici go back to this initial Company, especially the secular Ursulines, organized in many diocesan Companies who, united in a federation, were recognized as one Secular Institute in federated form of pontifical right with the Decree **"Vetustum et Praeclarum"** of May 25, 1958, which approved their Constitutions”*

In the same charism. . .

The Companies come together in sisterly communion in the Federation, responding among themselves as well to the invitation to concord and unity handed down to us by the Foundress.

We sustain one another together in the ongoing rediscovery of the original charism of St. Angela Merici and making it ever relevant.

The charism is to be discovered and lived ever anew, because, as Pope Francis reminds us: *"The charism is not a bottle of distilled water; the charism, just like water, takes on the taste and the elements of the soil through which it passes."*

Federation comes from the Latin word *foedus* and means covenant, alliance, union, company, aggregation, pooling together, faith, bonding, union. . . All these elements combine in the Federation of the Companies to become *a mighty fortress or a tower impregnable*.

OUR INSTITUTE ...

We are Companies. . .we are Company

The diocesan and interdiocesan Companies united among themselves constitute the Federation: "Company of Saint Ursula", Secular Institute of Saint Angela Merici (Constitutions 30.1).

The union among the Companies constitutes the Federation.

We are *Company* whether diocesan or interdiocesan. . .and yet we are *Company* as united together. The Federation of the Companies is unison together in the same charism. The Institute is one, the Companies are many; autonomous, yes, but we are the secular institute recognized by the Church only as united together.

The Federation in purpose and in service

The Federation has as purpose: to foster growth in sisterly communion among the Companies through meetings and mutual help; enhance the exchange of experiences; promote conventions for study and for in-depth knowledge of the history of the Company and its proper charism, of Merician spirituality, of the Constitutions and topics of general interest; care for the publication of materials for common use; maintain relations with the Holy See (Constitutions 30.2).

The purpose is sisterly communion, the *unity together* of St. Angela. . .in the same charism.

Pursuit of the purpose gives rise to the commitment, together as Federation, to seek instruments and means of sisterhood.

If the Federation is not a superstructure, it is nothing other than the Companies united together. . . each and every one of us must feel this purpose and these commitments to be our own.

It is true that there is a service body (the Federation Council). . . a full time service, but it certainly cannot serve in an isolated manner. Therefore, this service body asks for help, accepts help, involves, and says thank you.

This delicate task is all the more deeply felt as Companies' energies gradually decline, and as new sprouts grow around the world.

The Companies of the Federation

Each federated Company is called to contribute toward reaching the purposes of the Federation through prayer, mutual charity and collaboration (Constitutions 30.2).

All the Companies are active agents and jointly responsible for the life of the Federation, and are called to manifest their concrete participation.

The Federation Council is not a pastime; it is full-time commitment, perhaps entangled amid other time-consuming endeavors: *how much we must pray to God so He may enlighten us, guide us, and teach us what we must do out of love for Him in such a task.*

Since we are the Federation all together, we certainly must pray for the Federation Council, but also so each sister and each Company may feel active and responsible.

THE SERVICE BODY

Time, energy, generosity. . .

Those willing to accept serving in the Federation *must be open to dedicating time and energy, gratuitously, to the new position, if elected* (Constitutions 31.8).

Service demands **time, so much time . . .** it is not just gathering for one meeting or another, then returning to the routine of ordinary life.

It is necessary to be readily willing to write, remain up-to-date, travel, visit groups and companies, do formation, provide information, take on responsibilities for sisters and companies, carry out programs and other endeavors. . .

It requires generosity. . . not only for uncompensated service, but service without making demands, without impositions, without commands, without immediately evident results. . . .a service of true sharing, as dear sisters.

It also calls for all kinds of energy: physical, intellectual, psychological, spiritual . . . as well as economic. . .but the Lord's most abundant grace comes into the picture for all these energies.

An out-going service...

The Federation Council is a service body for the benefit of the federated Companies (Constitutions. 32.1).

It differs entirely from the Council of a Company, which is a governance body.

The beautiful and demanding service of the Federation Council is ***for the benefit of the federated Companies***.

This ***for the benefit of***is precisely what makes the Federation Council's service out-going in nature. It is not withdrawal, not focused on itself, but rather service for the benefit, the good of Companies, sisters, groups, for the benefit of the common Merician charism. As Pope Francis invites us, this out-going service will be grateful for the past, live the present with passion, and open itself to the future with hope.

Carry out the ends of the Federation

The Federation Council will be careful to carry out the ends of the Federation and in particular will be available for: supporting initiatives for a deepening of the Rule and the Constitutions, in fidelity to the spirit proper to a Merician institution; to help the Companies upon their specific request, to resolve possible difficulties... (Constitutions 32.2).

The Council's task is action-oriented. . .it must take action on, carry out. . .the purpose of the Federation; in other words, it must *heighten sisterly communion among the Companies.*

A 'doing' that is entirely formative and spiritual, a guarantor of the charism . . . even though this 'doing' will involve very concrete and material responsibilities.

As a service body, the Federation Council *will be available . . .*

The Federation Council never imposes its service. At times it may offer, but practically it always acts in response to a request, an invitation, an appeal. In fact, many times it is unable to respond to all the requests received, and will engage in discernment, giving priority above all to moments of communion, in-depth discussion and implementation of the Constitutions and of Merician spirituality.

Financial support

Spirituality is the Federation's life, and hence everything is spirituality, even administration and the management of goods.

The Service Body of the Federation. . .will be supported for activities of a financial nature by offerings sent freely by the individual Companies and by individual members (Constitutions 33).

The offerings are all free, and as such are all the more generous. Despite the decline in members, it has therefore been possible to meet the expenses necessary for what is foreseen and requested by the Constitutions regarding the service of the Federation Council.

It must be recalled that the Federation has no forms of fixed income, nothing like an 'annuity,' and can only count on free offerings. Therefore, while thanking sisters and Companies for their assistance and support, it is specified **even for formational and vocational purposes**, that requests may not be submitted to the Federation to provide subsidies to cover the **personal subsistence expenses** of sisters, because the Federation neither is nor wants to become a centralized institute, and must assure the secular vocation. Typically, the very necessary assistance given to groups and Companies is intended for meetings and for the **formation of the sisters.**

(from the book: Caterina Dalmasso, *A Journey of Holiness...*

A spiritual reading of the Constitutions of the Company)

Loving each other and living in harmony together

Saint Angela,

*I pray to be like you, watchful and most vigilant
as a caring shepherdess for the flock
that is the Company you have entrusted to me.*

*I wish to take care especially that
they are all united and one in will.*

*I also want to exert myself to be united in this way with all of them,
because I know well that, **the more** we are united, **the more**
Jesus Christ will be in our midst as a father and good shepherd.*

Saint Angela,

*you have assured us that **loving each another
and living in harmony together**
are a sure sign that we are walking the path right and pleasing to God.
And we want to walk this way, even if, sometimes,
we may find these roads thorny and rocky; but we know
that, for us, they will be strewn with flowers and paved with finest gold.*

Saint Angela,

*you were insistent in calling for unity;
you have warned us that, if we let
weeds of discord grow in the Company,
this would be a plague of bad example
for the city and even beyond, it would be ruinous...*

*Keep us united in your motherly affection
And in the heart of the Lover of us all, **Jesus Christ!**
Amen!*

Kate

Secular Institutes Meet

Rome, October 28-29, 2017

*Pope Francis's
message for us*



Be humble and passionate

*In the wake of Provida Mater, you are called today to **be humble and passionate** bearers, in Christ and in His Spirit, of the meaning of the world and of history.*

Your passion is born of the ever-new wonder for the Lord Jesus, for His unique way of living and of loving, of encountering the people, of healing life, of bringing comfort.

*Therefore, your “**staying within**” the world is not only a sociological condition but also a theological reality, which enables you to remain attentive, to see, to listen, to sympathize with, to rejoice with, to intuit needs.*

*... It is this that truly characterizes secular life: knowing how to say that world that God has to say to the world. Where “to say” **does not mean so much “to speak” as “to act”**....*

But your place is to “stay within”, as a transforming presence in an evangelical sense. It is certainly difficult, it is a road that involves the cross, but the Lord wants to journey it with you.

*Your vocation and mission is to **be attentive**, on the one hand, to the realities that surround you, always asking: what is happening? without stopping at what appears on the surface but going deeper; and at the same time, to the mystery of God, to recognize where He is manifest. **Attentive to the world, with your heart immersed in God.***

***Pray, discern, share,
give courage, and have sympathy...***

*I would like, finally, to suggest spiritual attitudes that may help you on this path and that may be summarized in five verbs: **to pray, to discern, to share, to give courage, and to have sympathy.***

Pray to be joined to God, close to His heart. Listen to His voice, before every event in life, living a luminous existence that takes the Gospel in hand and takes it seriously.

Discern, to be able to distinguish essential things from ancillary ones; this means refining that wisdom, cultivating it day by day, to enable you to see what responsibilities it is necessary to take on, and what the priority tasks are. It is a personal but also a community path, and so individual effort is not enough.

Share the fate of every man and woman: even if the world's events are tragic and dark, I do not abandon the fate of the world because I love it, as and with Jesus, unto the end.

Courage [give courage]: with the grace of Christ never lose trust, which knows how to see good in everything. It is also an invitation we receive in every Eucharistic celebration: *Lift up your hearts*".

Sympathy [have sympathy] for the world and for the people. Even when they do everything to make you lose it, be animated by the sympathy that comes to us from the Spirit of Christ, that makes us free and passionate, that makes us "stay within" like salt and leaven.

(Pope Francis, message to Italian secular institutes, October 28, 2017)

To pick up again
and to ponder



- *Perfection of the state... more than a state of perfection...*
- *Beyond, within, not somewhere else*
- *Not always something more, but something different...*
- *Hands at work...*
- *It is life that forms me...*
- *Cultivate creative imagination to experience and create life*
- *It's time to get on the road... in balance, united...*
- *It's time to dream...*
- *It's time to prophesy...*
- *Incarnate spirituality... synthesizing: children of heaven and children of earth...*
- *It requires reflection, study; it's necessary to produce thought, to make culture...*
- *Formation: integral and continuing: even more important than initial formation*
- *Living our secular consecration fully and totally...*
- *Being in the street, not in the sacristy...*
- *Not lay sisters... pay attention to where we go*
- *Not modern but contemporary...*
- *Faithful to our identity ...*
- *We must be who we really are... revolutionaries*

482nd Birthday of the Company



On November 24 and 25, we met in Brescia for another birthday celebration, celebrating together in simplicity as dear sisters. Many sisters of the federated Companies joined the Companies of Brescia and of Verona.

We were right there, gathered around Madre Angela to thank her for her inspiration and foundation. We prayed and reflected... encouraging one another to continue celebrating such a birthday, also seeking and praying to her for new and authentic vocations to the worldwide Company, all united and faithful to the Merician charism.

We began with Merician prayer during a time of adoration in the Sanctuary of St. Angela on the afternoon of the 24th, followed by solemn Vespers with Bishop Pierantonio Tremolada of Brescia, which concluded with a message from him. Some of his ideas follow.





What Does the Lord Ask of the Company Today?

**...points from the talk of
Bishop Pierantonio Tremolada**

➤ What is Saint Angela's spirituality and teaching like?

The spirituality is contained in the vocation to be *true and worthy spouses of Jesus Christ*. St. Paul invites us to *concern ourselves with the things of God, with how to please the Lord...* to rediscover our joy.

➤ What does it mean *to be spouses of Christ*?

It means to make perfect love the goal of one's life. Perfection is not a combination of moral virtues, but is grounded in the constant experience of the Lord's love. Spousal love takes you out of yourself; it liberates you from all that would close you in.... The love of the Lord is free, all-inclusive, and embraces all that exists.

➤ The primacy of prayer...

Living the evangelical counsels requires giving primacy to prayer, conquering pride and dryness. Not only prayer with words, but as a constant disposition, as a deep expression of nuptial love, as continual presence with the Spouse.

➤ The environment of the Company...

Companionship must be created reciprocally, through experiences of friendship in the name of the Spouse, united in him without jealousy... This becomes a mystical experience. The Company is something very fresh.

➤ **The larger environment...the world**

The fan is blowing...each of the spouses of the Lord is in the world. The world should understand that I belong to Christ, am a spouse of Christ.

➤ **The Merician style of secular consecration...**

- **Struggle against worldliness:** being in the world but not of the world. It is necessary to be decisive and rigorous on this point with ourselves and with the Company. Not to seek anything for ourselves, but all for the Lord. Today there is a need for this witness.
- **Serenity...** is a term of ordinary speech which for the Christian is joy. If you are a spouse of the Lord, you should be serene.

➤ **Saint Angela, citizen of the world...**

She was active, creative, and innovative. She lived the Gospel as a woman; her Rule is an expression of the Gospel.

➤ **Vocational ministry?**

It is inseparable from life. We are all being called constantly by God; we make daily choices. Only by living each day well can we make life's important choices. Let us cultivate the desire to make this vocation known.

Vocational ministry is done by witness... age is secondary ... if there is an appealing witness of espousal...

- Could the Church live without consecrated members?
- Is the consecrated life of women important for the Church?

What does the Lord ask of the Company today?

The events of November 25 found us attentive to the talks, to the testimonials, and to the reciprocal exchanges, a celebration of encounter.

DOORS OPEN FOR ENTERING AND GOING FORTH

... was the theme of the talk delivered by **Bishop Adriano Tessarollo** of Chioggia, the Ecclesiastical Assistant to the Council of the Federation. (See pages 8-13.)



LIVING IN TODAY AND GOING FORTH

...was the theme of the experiences recounted by **Mària D. of Slovakia**. Here are some passages from her witness:

Ladislav Hanus, a priest and witness to the faith, used to say: We

should be able to live today fully, because that is the only way we can be a light for others.

*It seems to me that **Going forth** signifies living in my situation as a woman, a Christian, a consecrated person, with ordinary relationships, doing all I can.... **Living a normal life**, as we sing in the song of St. Angela, is a way of inspiring people around me for the good.*

But here, today, I want to speak about how we can go forth from our life of reserve to make our charism known. I want to tell you about two different situations: one in Slovakia and one in England.

The Companies in Slovakia and in England are very different.

*In **Slovakia** the first sisters came into contact with our vocation in 1983, and the Company was established in 1990.*

Now we have five women in initial formation; all live in the same city. Some work as nurses in the hospital, others are volunteers, but all are known for their availability to help people in need.

They encountered the Company through a priest chaplain in the hospital. One of our sisters, Maria, works there as a doctor and had

spoken with Father Jurqj about her membership in the Company. When our assistant was not able to preside at the Mass where she made her consecration for life, she invited him for this occasion.

In his service at the hospital, Father Juraj was meeting women who wanted to consecrate themselves to God, and when he saw that they had a calling to our form of life, he simply and individually guided them to meet Maria...

People arrive at the Company along different roads: some through the internet, others through personal relationships with Ursuline sisters or through a priest, and others because they know one of us personally.

In England: *For the celebration of the bicentennial of the canonization of Saint Angela, an Ursuline Sister, Sister Zela, presented some lessons about the charism of Saint Angela in her parish in Lancaster. The first three sisters came after this experience.*

During the Year of Consecrated Life, Sister Zela spoke with some bishops about consecrated life in the world and asked permission to visit the parishes to inform them briefly about the Merician charism. After these brief presentations about the charism, some who are now our sisters came into contact with the Company not only in Lancaster, but also in Preston and in Newcastle.

What to say? When we are happy about our vocation, when we are sure that our life is a great gift from God, it is important to seek the ways and means to make this gift known, to spread this charism.

The first introduction is our life itself, moving forward in faithfulness and responsibility. A normal life, in simplicity.

The second is openness to personal relationships with priests, friends, and colleagues as well as in the parish, and with women religious. And when we see the opportunity, we can also do more....



A TYPICAL DAY, FOR JESUS AND FOR US

... was the theme of the experiences recounted by Maria Teresa F. (Brescia).

Here are some passages from her witness:

On this special occasion, which comes around every November 25, we can meet each other, get to know each other, comfort each other, and love one each other more so that, strengthened in this way by our warm sisterhood, we can give an even better witness in the world, in the way that our call, our consecration, demands of us.

Saint Angela reminds us of the infinite dignity to which we have been lifted through the consecration we have received...as spouses of the Most High, of a God who, through self-forgetting love, has given the total gift of his life. And so must his spouse.

The daughter of Saint Angela, chosen and consecrated, who remains and who goes forth... How does she remain? How does she go forth...?

Saint Angela wants us to appreciate this call and not restrict the field of our mission. She appears open to the entire scope. The scope of our mission is infinite... But we must be realists. We are few, with limited energies, the majority of us at an advanced age... And so?

*And so... This is about living in a certain style: our **style** of **remaining** and **going forth**, of going about. The **style** in which we do these things is fundamental. Whether they are small or great, they must be done in **Jesus' style**. And the style of Jesus is service, **service in love**.... It's no good to give our life if it is not given with love.*

*Our dear Madre Angela reminds us about Jesus' style: "**Learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart**"...*

And we? In the piazza, on the street, in our neighborhood, in public.... can we look upon people the way Jesus



did? Surely not.... But we can do so much else: know and listen to their problems, let them experience our presence in solidarity, and then get moving as if those problems were our own.

*Let us learn the style of how to go about from how Jesus sent out his disciples. Sending them out two by two, he made a series of recommendations, some introduced by “don’t” and others by a command. **He seems to be saying**, “Don’t lose time in useless talk, nor in empty or trivial conversations, do not rely on wealth or methodologies that you trust as pre-determined. But look for the homes and the people capable of welcoming the message of peace: proclaim the Reign of God, bring peace, share time and the intimacy of home life, welcome what your shared brotherhood permits you to accept, eat what is placed before you....”*

We and the disciples are sent out to bear witness to charity and community as they are offered and accepted, so as to inspire people to look for him. The purpose of all our actions is to prepare the road for the One truly sent by the Father for the salvation of all: Jesus. Jesus is the one and only Savior, and we are sent to prepare the road for him, precisely where we are, in the situations of poverty that we encounter every day, so that welcoming him may be easier.

We must always serve as he served, we must love as he loved, even if, in this way, a little at a time, we must lose a little, or all of our life.



UNITED TOGETHER
IN THE COUNCIL OF THE FEDERATION
January 1-5, 2018



Again this year the Council of the Federation was faithful to a regular appointment kept for several years in Milan, at the Casa Betania, from the evening of January 1 till the morning of January 5 in the new year, 2018.

We dedicated the first two days to nourishing the spirit, accompanied by the fatherly guidance of Bishop Adriano Tessarollo, and we held a Council meeting on the final day.

As we all know already, this Council of the Federation is

about to end its term. For almost six years we have gathered regularly four times per year, and always with good attendance and participation. It seems to me that these days together have been a witness that our sisterhood, unity and harmony have grown, and each time we say to each other how wonderful it is to see each other again and to be together.

I have asked myself what makes us grow this way? Certainly it is because we know each other better, but there are other factors that can be glimpsed, though that requires going a bit deeper.

Our principal motivation is the commitment to put ourselves at the service of the “great” Company, that is, the Companies united together, I have noted, and this is very interesting for me, and



significant: that our President always places first on the agenda of every council meeting “Companies and Groups.” This scheduling becomes the principal demonstration that what we have most at heart is the concrete life of every Company and Group: it is addressed, what is known is recounted, we face it, and afterwards the many realities are kept in our hearts and presented to the Lord.



Councilors are charged with specific tasks according to what is needed, always without pay, without ever asking or expecting anything in exchange. The need for a service is presented, and then it is the free choice of the persons, given the realities involved, to respond as they can.

I believe that the generosity involved in carrying out this service also unites us. Each one offers what she can and what is needed or requested, always with personal freedom. Thus the dignity and the characteristic of each Councilor are also safeguarded and respected.

Because of this, there is harmony among us, because although we are so many diverse people from diverse cultures, we can be a positive presence with each other and work together. It is an on-going challenge and at the same time a witness that **diversity can truly represent a resource.**

What amazes me



even more and even astonishes me is the evidence that **the charism of St. Angela has not only transcended the centuries, but is becoming ever more a “universal inheritance,”** by which I mean that this charism can be incarnated in every culture; at every Council meeting we have this experience. Gathering together like this seems to me to demonstrate that our charism is acquiring new vigor and beauty and that its global reach brings vitality to all the Companies, even those who feel tired and worn out and perhaps feel little hope.

Following the footsteps of St. Angela, accompanied and sustained by *the comfort of the Holy Spirit*, I am certain that *we will see marvelous things.*

In these days at the beginning of the year, then, the many moments of prayer had an important place both in each day and in our hearts, because together we desire to follow what our Madre recommended to us: ***“Let your principal resource always be to gather at the feet of Jesus Christ, and there, everyone, make fervent prayers,”*** certain that ***“without doubt Jesus Christ will be in the midst of you, and as a true and good Master will enlighten you and instruct you on what you should do.”***



Each meeting time is short but precious and vital. For us to be salt and leaven on the world's roadways, each one goes right back to her own reality, in her own diocese, her own Company, to continue being an instrument that serves the Company's authenticity and its global identity, ***to be everywhere a worker for peace and harmony.***

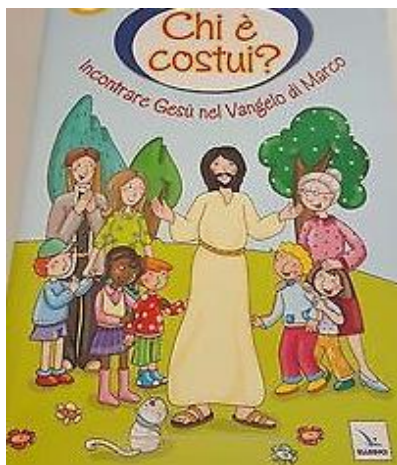
Mirella Turri

Some Reflections from the Retreat Days of the Council of the Federation...

Meditating on Mark's Gospel...

From Mark's Gospel, which presents us with the figure of the Messiah, a very human picture of Jesus also emerges. From time to time he appears tender, brotherly, both close and surprisingly mysterious. He poses questions and spontaneously addresses fundamental questions that are posed to him:

- Who is this person?
- What sort of teaching, philosophy, and worldview does he have?
- What does it mean to make a decision for him and to follow him?
- What kind of God has Jesus Christ offered us?



Meditating on Azariah's prayer...

We learn to pray as believers in the face of history, in the face of reality. Azariah's prayer is a plea to the Lord in a time of great difficulty, expressed with ardor and sincerity...

Because God is faithful and merciful, we can always turn back *with a contrite heart and a humbled spirit* and open ourselves to the future with

hope and trust, following the Lord *with our whole heart*.

As believers:

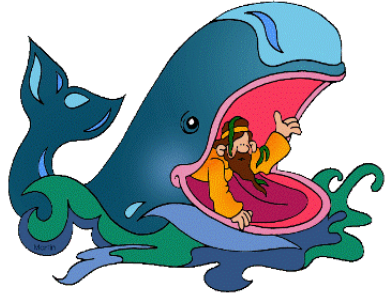
- How do we read the situation of the Church today?
- What is our role as consecrated women in the world?
- Do we have guilt and culpability to recognize and confess?

- Do we need conversion in order to follow him with our whole heart, to love him, and to seek his face?
- How can we help other believers recognize their culpability and guilt?
- Is our prayer focused on discouragement or is it open to hope?

Meditating on the Book of Jonah...

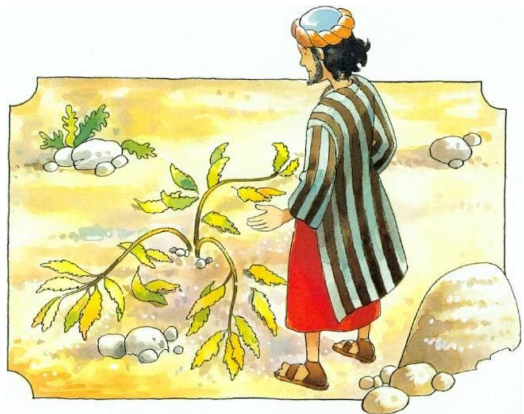
Jonah is a man on a journey who prays to get out of his situation and his personal history.

Jonah is a believer steady in his faith... but also unfaithful in his flight from the Lord's call.... But, just at the moment of bewilderment, of breaking down, on the threshold of death, Jonah discovers the strength of God's grace that floods his heart and opens him to the sureness of salvation. But the journey of his spiritual life will not end there.... He will have to get back on the road and open himself up for new spiritual experiences.



And us?

- Do we pray or recite prayers?
- Where are we now on our spiritual journey?
- How is our faith when it is put to the test?
- Are we disposed to get moving, to go out and evangelize where and as the Lord wills?
- Are we disposed to get back on the road of joy and sorrow and go still farther?



FROM THE COMPANIES AND THE GROUPS

Lina Moser, Former President of the Federation, Has Returned to the Homeland ...



We had just had a joyful and affectionate encounter of three presidents in Trento, but then, on October 14, 2017, Lina Moser left us to join the Company in Heaven.

Known, loved and remembered by one and all. . . .

In this collection we are including just a brief memory, leaving it up to each person to present her to the Spouse and continue both a dialogue and a never-ending relationship with Lina....

A thought from the President Maria Razza:

I just learned that our sister Lina Moser has returned to the House of the Father.

Suffering during this moment of separation goes hand in hand with the certainty that now, together with Saint Angela and the Company of Heaven, she lives in the fullness of joy, admitted as she is to contemplate “the brilliant face of God.”

We remember her with great affection and are grateful for her profound and concrete love for the Company and the Companies throughout the world.

She served each nascent Group with utmost care and attention and became an instrument of unity, maintaining contacts with so many sisters during her precious and conscientious service as President of

the Federation. She continued her correspondence with so many of us until the very last days, encouraging, praying and sustaining....

I experienced the joy of getting together with her in Povo last September 22, and nothing seemed to foreshadow such an imminent departure.

On that occasion we had talked about the Federation, and she was ever attentive and interested in our life and in the life of the Companies and the Groups.

Let us now join in prayer, thanking the Lover of us all for having made her his faithful Spouse abounding with faith and hope.

May our holy Madre Angela welcome Lina into the ranks of her faithful and persevering daughters...

**A thought from the Assistant to the Council of the Federation,
Bishop Adriano Tessarollo:**

Meek, humble and measured, she was a living blend of respect and resolve. When her service came to an end, she became a prayerful presence. With both discretion and fidelity she preserved the good relationships established during her service as President. May she rest in peace.

**A thought from the Directress of Trent,
Valeria Broll:**

Dearest Lina,

“Having come from the Father, I return to the Father” were the words you wrote in your farewell when leaving this world.

You consecrated your life to the Lord of life and chose him as your one treasure and your unique teacher. You sought, served and honored Him in each person you approached or in whoever approached you.

Blended with so much humility and meekness, your culture became nourishment to the minds and hearts of many.



Your simplicity and availability became a precious virtue for assuming and discharging duties of responsibility in the Company of St. Ursula to which you belonged, and in all the world's Companies united in the Federation when you took up the service of President. Your moderation, your prayer and your culture were known to one and all and did them so much good.

Nonetheless, what remains so vivid in our memories is your fidelity in attending to individual relationships with so many people. This was your "specialty": each person was thought of, loved, remembered, welcomed, sustained, encouraged, helped to live well and feel good, to feel loved by you.

Testimonials of this fact are the countless letters, e-mails, messages and telephone calls from all around Italy and the world as news of your death spread. Lina, we don't want this gift of yours to disappear with your death. On the contrary, we want to cherish it as a witness in order to continue your mission: to pray and live our sisterly life in such a way that the world may believe. Thank you, Lina.

From one of Lina's last letters to a sister in Turin (October 4, 2017):

"[...] I'm realizing more and more that we die a little bit at a time, much like a plant drying up!!! Especially recently...no particular ailments, but greater difficulty and slowness in everything. Nonetheless, I must thank the good God for the spiritual and material assistance [...]. Let us pray for one another that we may accept in peace and with love the end of our presence down here when and as the good God so pleases"



*How much they have to exult
and rejoice,
for in heaven
a new crown of glory and joy
is prepared for all of them,
one by one...*

(Fifth Counsel 25)



D.R. Congo 2017

The Company of Congo has experienced its first year as an autonomous Company in the Federation, living the charism of Saint Angela

Merici.

We have continued in our habitual responsibilities; we gathered once a month in the various provinces for formation. During these days we emphasized sisterly life in the Company. Jeanne Lagrave sent us material for formation which we used for reflection and sharing together.

We also keep busy with participation in the life of our various dioceses and in meetings organized for all consecrated women.

We have received several inquiries about new vocations in all the areas, and each local leader seeks to accompany these women to help them make a serious discernment.

The Company received the first consecration of Isabelle Bupele of Kinshasa and Astrid Mulanda of Lubumbashi; the renewal of consecration for three years of Elisabeth Kito and Odette Tshibola; and the consecration for life of Josephine Kasongo of Lubumbashi, Régine Muntumpe of Mbujimayi and Pascaline Furaha of Lubumbashi.

We have reason to thank the Lord for all these gifts to our Company.

All the members are aware of the good fortune of belonging to the Company. Secular consecration makes us more responsible in our daily lives. Prayer is called for as vitally essential and not as a mere obligation.

Our vocation is not always understood in our environments, and there are plenty of civil, economic, and social difficulties in Congo, but we trust in the saving presence of the Lord.

M. Bernadette, Directress



Brazil Northeast

Establishment of the Diocese of Cruz das Almas (Brazil) and Naming of the First Bishop

The Holy Father Pope Francis has established the Diocese of Cruz das Almas (Brazil), with territory separated from the Archdiocese of São Salvador da Bahia, making it a suffragan of that archdiocese.

The Pope has named as the first bishop of the diocese of Cruz das Almas His Excellency Bishop Antônio Tourinho Neto, until now the titular bishop of Satafi and auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Olinda and Recife.

Here is the invitation that was received by the Federation.

His Excellency Bishop Antônio Tourinho Neto is the son of our Brazilian sister Edesia and was the assistant to the Company in Brazil. He is fond of Saint Angela and of the Company.



Warm congratulations! United in prayer

THE COMPANY OF BURUNDI

New Group in BUGENYUZI

The directress, the vice directress and the counselors Floride and Pauline were the midwives of this Group's birth. It now numbers eight sisters.

The parish priest is very pleased about this. With great joy the sisters have assumed the commitment to participate in the meetings and their formation.



Participation in the Spiritual Exercises 2017

There were three well-attended sessions; 56 sisters at the first one, 55 at the second, and 88 at the third.

Now meetings are taking place by zones and parishes.

Thanks be to the Lord!

Paulina

A Memory from Asia:



**The sisters
from
Singapore,
Australia, and
Thailand
gathered with
Helene.**

VOCATIONS IN KENYA

Secular institutes are a new phenomenon in Kenya.

Living as a single woman is very counter-cultural. One third of Kenya's population is Catholic, and religious life (universally signaled by a veil) is a respected alternative to marriage.

Elizabeth, Jacinta, Leah, and Helen are among those interested in joining the Company. These seekers yearn for consecration to God, freedom for prayer, and mutual support from like-minded women experiencing the same call and commitment. Some of them appear here with our sisters Eunice and Perpetua (photo above, far left).



Many of these women have been in religious life. They are drawn to the freedom and availability to assist with the needs of people they encounter in their professions, responding in emergencies by providing resources without having to consult a community. They also value the ability to be present and spiritually helpful to their parents and families.

Perpetua and Mary-Cabrini

COMPANY OF MODENA/BOLOGNA

CLOSING CELEBRATION OF THE 400th JUBILEE

November 19, 2017



With the following words, Father Simone, the Assistant of the Company of Modena/Bologna, introduced the solemn Mass that celebrated the conclusion of this year, so special to us:

“In November 1617, exactly 400 years ago, the Lord planted a small seed in our city of Modena: the Company of St. Ursula, Secular Institute of St. Angela Merici.

“Today we are here to ‘do Eucharist,’ that is, to thank the Lord, because this small seed planted in the soil of Modena has

continued to bear fruit, uninterrupted for 400 years!

“As the spiritual assistant of the Company and in the name of the Directress, I offer heartfelt thanks to His Excellency Bishop Giuseppe Verucchi; to Canon Paolo Sambri, who welcomes us to this gorgeous church along with Deacon Riccardo; to the ministers and the choir; and to the gathered community.

“In this Mass we want to pray for the sisters of the united Company of Modena/Bologna, for the sisters who have come even from very far away: Cuneo, Torino, Padua, and Piacenza, and for all the deceased sisters of Modena who, in these 400 years, have enriched our diocese as salt and leaven.... in particular for Maria Rosa Venturelli, whom God called to himself in this very jubilee year. We ask God for the gift of new vocations to the Company so that it may continue without interruption as long as the Lord wishes.”

The Mass was beautiful and well-attended. We were deeply moved when, in the homily, Bishop Verucchi recounted that, years ago,



in his mountain parish, there was a woman who went about doing good as a catechist and by charitable deeds in the community; then he glimpsed what a “secular Ursuline” is. We understood that he was speaking of our dear Tina, who even now at 92 years of age continues to be salt and leaven in her splendid little spot in the mountains.

At the end of the celebration we had some photos taken, all together as St. Angela wishes.

Then the feast continued in the rectory, where luncheon refreshments were prepared, with every gift of God. At the end the priests and organizers offered a toast and led the applause to thank Olga, the Directress, for her commitment and daily example, and for how she had carried out this “year of grace.”

After various greetings, we daughters of St. Angela continued the celebration at the Casa S. Angela of Modena. There, meeting as dear sisters, we shared the joy and the beauty of being together.

Thanks to those who could participate and to those united with us in heart, but above all to the incomparable *Lover of us all!*

Luisa



THE COMPANY OF SLOVAKIA With England...



For the Company of Slovakia, 2017 was a year of new growth.

We are full of joy over the arrival of new sisters:

two in England



four in Slovakia.



We are praying for them, that they may be good spouses of Jesus Christ, that they may live their consecration in joy and openness to the Holy Spirit.

Mária D.

INCOMING MAIL



Encouragement from Adria...

Letter from the
“Angelines” of Adria
about *In the same
charism*, n. 3 of 2017

With admirable punctuality, *In the same charism* n. 3 of 2017 went out recently.

With this number the magazine again outdoes itself in typographical elegance and valuable contents.

Ample space was given to the letter from the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life about secular institutes, sent to the Church’s Catholic bishops: “*Consecration and Secularity.*”

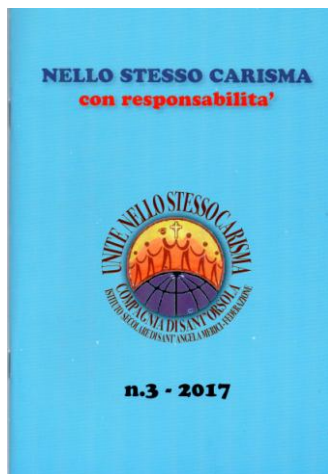
The Ecclesiastical Assistant to the Council of the Federation, His Excellence Bishop Adriano Tessarollo himself, signed the article.

He frames the document within the progression of actions by the Church on the topic and emphasizes the operative features.

The magazine then presents a full narrative of the Company’s life and a beautiful photographic documentation of the various groups, dedicating a remarkable space to the pilgrimage in Slovakia and Poland.

Finally the magazine invites us to visit the new site online...

(From “*La settimana*,” the weekly publication of the Diocese of Adria Rovigo)



Meanwhile we announce a new CD: *IO SONO [I AM] ANGELA*

Song texts and music by a Padovan priest, Father Gaetano Borgo, who knows and appreciates the Company. Consult our website for more information...



60th Anniversary of the Federation

*source of our vigor
and of our mutual support*



*.. Jesus Christ will never abandon
this Company as long as the world lasts*

*Jesus Christ, our only Treasure!
Called by grace...*



**ORDINARY ASSEMBLY
OF THE FEDERATION**
On the 60th anniversary of its approval

Casa tra noi
Rome, July 7-11, 2018



