



## **Easter Blessings to the Chevalier Family from the International Council**

Several years ago, I was fortunate enough to spend some time on Sabbatical in Palestine. To be with the people whose ancestor was Jesus, to walk where he walked and to see where he was killed and buried and rose to new life was life-changing for me.

This image is of an angel created in Palestine from the broken shards of glass from battles between the Israeli army and the Palestinian people. It is one of my most precious memories of my time in the land of Jesus. It is a simple and humble resurrection from destruction. It is beautiful despite its imperfection. It is a powerful sign of hope that even shattered glass can be transformed into something new to live again.

As we, in our 36 member countries, remember and re-enact the dying and rising of the Easter Triduum, may we be reminded that it is not just a story in history that we celebrate – but a daily call to bring love and self-sacrifice, forgiveness and compassion, understanding and peace to our day-to-day lives, so that our lives may be used to create life anew wherever we are.

We wish you grace and peace wherever you are this Easter.

Alison, Doris, Rita, Peter, Maria-Olimpia, Olguita, Chris, and Fr Hans

## **An Update on the Work of the International Council**

Much has happened since our last letter:

### **Philippines Assembly**

The official letter of invitation and the Registration Form for the Philippines Assembly of Laity has been released. If you did not receive a copy by email or WhatsApp, the forms are on the Website under the Philippines Assembly Tab.

<https://misacor.org.au/chevalierfamily>

Remember, payment is required on arrival in the Philippines – but please register your intention to attend as soon as possible so we can finalise planning. We are aiming to have representation from as many member countries as possible.

The Assembly is being conducted in alignment with Laudato Si principles in an ecologically sustainable manner. Rather than bringing booklets or trinkets, we ask participating countries to prepare Digital Signage that showcases your mission and ministry. Any movie format is acceptable. When you have completed your movie, send it to [alisonmckenzie@misacor.org.au](mailto:alisonmckenzie@misacor.org.au), and it will be collated and played during the Assembly.

### **Encounter of Hearts**

The writing of the 2023 edition of *Encounter of Hearts* is complete, and it is currently being translated ready for release on the Feast of the Sacred Heart in June. It is the Assembly edition and contains all the important information you will need to prepare for the Assembly.

## New Members

We welcome two new members to our Council.

### Sr Deborah Reho msc – MSC Sisters, Sutri, Italy (originally from USA)



I have been an MSC Sister for 36 years. I am an administrator/teacher by profession and have been involved in schools throughout the U.S. and Papua New Guinea. For the past 11 years, I was the Provincial Treasurer and Provincial Counsellor for the U.S. province. I am now serving on our General Council since November 2022. I am happy to be the MSC Sister liaison for the International Laity of the Chevalier Family.

### Sr Fabilene Santos Castro FDNsc



I am Sr Fabilene Santos Castro; my name means - **Fabilene**: relic, companionship; **Santos**: sacred; **Castro**: Castle, fortified.

My parents are Joana Maria Santos Castro and Benedito Castro. I have five brothers and two sisters. I am the eighth child. I grew up in a simple, quiet and poor family environment based on good Christian principles and human values. My parents always made sure that we had a good school education.

I love religious life and my congregation. I try to be attentive to the needs of the sisters and maintain a good relationship with them. I have an open heart for the mission, and I have lived with the most vulnerable and the poor. During the time I was in Maranhão, Apicum-Açu and São Paulo, Eldorado, I had the grace to live with and encounter many people who shared their lives, pains, wounds and miseries with me.

Our community developed some social projects to meet the needs of many families; we distributed many basic baskets, clothes, food, and toys. We brought joy to many hearts. This gave me immense joy.

I am very grateful to be part of this new Generalate team that is at the service of the Congregation, and I thank God who led me here. I ardently desire to learn new languages, and at this time, I am learning English.

## New Roles

We have established two new roles to help with the preparation for the Assembly.



Olguita Garcia Ocampo will be assisting Doris in the Central and Southern American region.

Olguita's role will be to:

- Help to raise awareness about the international movement
- Share information about the upcoming Assembly in the Philippines
- Assist, where necessary, countries to select an appropriate leader to attend the Assembly
- Lead the discussions about the important issues that will be decided at the Assembly



Chris McDermott will be working in the Asia Pacific region.

Chris' role will be to:

- Organise two Zoom meetings with member countries in the region
- The first meeting will be to meet and get to know each other
- The second meeting will be to raise the important issues that member countries need to discuss before the Assembly.

On behalf of the International Council, we thank you for your ongoing commitment and hard work.

Please pray for us as we pray for you.

Blessings,  
Alison