

2 March: Day of the ACI Family



"Our hearts cannot be limited to a few, but give themselves to the whole world".

"All united in everything like the fingers of our hands"

"We should be universal like the Church"

(Santa Rafaela María)

25 March: Feast of the Annunciation

A yes changes everything, it is a turning point.

It is a personal decision that changes your life forever, nothing will ever be the same again.

It is an exercise in freedom, being in control of your yes and no, of your own steps.

In waiting... the illusion, the dream. The illusion of the brave who allow life to inhabit them and who in their generous surrender know that they will never be alone again.

In waiting, life surrounds you, incarnates and turns you into hope. The hope that gives us peace in moments of uncertainty, the hope that gives life.

Only life generates life and is unstoppable, life opens you up, it becomes consecration.

[The Followers (del rey de los mundanis)]

Dear friends of the ACI Family, dear Sisters:

In the words of Pope Francis: Mary is God's "influencer". With a few words she was thrilled to say 'yes' and to trust in love, to trust in the promises of God, who is the only force capable of renewing, of making all things new. Today we all have something new to do, today we must let God renew something in our hearts. Let us think for a moment: what do I want God to renew in my heart?

The salvation that the Lord offers us is an invitation to be part of a love story, that is woven into our stories; that lives and wants to be born among us so that we can bear fruit where we are. It is there that the Lord comes to plant and to plant himself; he is the first to say "yes" to our life, to our history, and he wants us also to say "yes" with him. This is how he surprised Mary and invited her to be part of this love story.

On March 25th we celebrate the Day of the Handmaids as we recall the Annunciation of the Angel to Mary. Let us ask that, with her and with Saint Raphaela Mary, we, as lay people committed to the building of the Kingdom, may be living witnesses of God's love.

Warm regards,

Claudia Iwanica, Isabel Branco, Juan Jairo Lavarde, Silvestra Bardeskar, Vanessa Amarelle, Sr. Brigit Viji, Sr. Pilar Guzmán, Sr. Maria Vaz Pinto

International Commission of the ACI Family