



Message

"For in this hope, we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience." (Rom 8:24-25)

EASTER 2025

Dear Sisters,

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!

This Easter, as we celebrate the triumph of life over death, light over darkness, and hope over despair, we are invited to embrace a hope that goes beyond what is visible—a hope rooted in the mystery of God’s providence, even amid uncertainty. Easter renews in us **not** a hope based on what we can see or measure, but a deeper trust in the unfolding of God’s Kingdom. As St. Paul reminds us, we are called to hope in what we do not see, to trust in God’s promises even when they remain hidden. It is this unseen yet steadfast hope that gives meaning to our journey.

Let us reflect on the dimensions of HOPE that Easter renews in us:


Hope is born of love—love that flows from the pierced heart of Jesus on the cross.

As *Spes Non Confundit* (2) beautifully expresses, “Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus.” Authentic Christian hope is not rooted in wishful thinking or blind optimism, but in the profound experience of being loved—by God and by others. Love reassures us that we are not alone, that we are valued, and that the future holds meaning, no matter how uncertain it may appear.

Norman Wirzba, an American theologian, wrote: “Perhaps the right question is not, ‘Do you feel hope?’ but ‘What and who do you love?’” Love is what impels people to face challenges and work toward a better future. In consecrated life, we surrender ourselves entirely to God, trusting that He is at work in and through us—even when we cannot yet see the fruits of our labor.

The path of fidelity is not always straight. At times, we wrestle with doubts, difficulties, or the silence of unanswered prayers. Yet when we hold fast to who and what we love—Christ, our vocation, the people entrusted to us—we remain strong and faithful.

Many young people today face a future clouded by the conflict, climate crisis, and economic instability. They may not feel hopeful. But if they experience our love and learn to love deeply in return, then they will be moved to act, to care, and to believe that healing and restoration are still possible. This is hope in action—hope that is rooted in love.



Secondly, Easter also renews in us a hope that invites us to wait in patience and to believe in the silent workings of grace.

If the first aspect of hope is rooted in love—the love that assures us we are not alone—then the second aspect flows from that love: a patient and trusting hope that does not demand immediate results, but rests securely in God’s timing. This is a hope that is not hurried or anxious, but quiet, steady, and faithful.

Patience, in this sense, is not passive resignation. It is an active stance of trust—a daily “yes” to God’s mysterious and often hidden ways. In our consecrated life, waiting is a constant reality. We wait in prayer, in discernment, in mission, and in the unfolding of God’s grace in the lives of those we serve. This waiting, though sometimes stretching, teaches us humility, deepens our reliance on divine providence, and grounds us in a peace the world cannot give.

In community life, this patient hope takes on a very human face. Journeying together with others—each with her own personality, history, and limitations—calls forth a hope that believes in the goodness and growth of each Sister. It is a hope that forgives, that waits for the other, that sees beyond current struggles toward the possibility of communion.

As our Book of Life so wisely reminds us:

“The gradual building-up of the community presupposes realism and patience to accept one another; hope to believe in the potentialities of each and all, courage to pardon and to love ever better in truth.” (BL, 38)

This is the kind of hope that believes in the power of grace to heal, renew, and unite us—making our communities true witnesses to the love of the Risen Christ.

Thirdly, Easter renews in us a hope that strengthens our perseverance in mission.

If love gives birth to hope, and patience sustains it, then mission is where hope becomes visible and active—a hope that labors, that endures, and that dares to believe in the fruitfulness of every act of service, even when results are unseen.

The witness of our missionaries *ad gentes*, especially those serving in difficult and often challenging situations, is profoundly moving. Their lives proclaim a hope that is not passive but bold, dynamic, and deeply prophetic. They remind us that hope is not about withdrawing from the world, but engaging it with courage, faith, and compassion.

In our own apostolates—whether in education, healthcare, pastoral ministry, or community service—we are often like sowers, not knowing when or how the seeds we scatter will grow. We may never see the harvest, yet we continue to sow, trusting that God is working beyond what our eyes can see. This is the hope that encourages perseverance: the confidence that grace is at work, silently and powerfully.

Like Mary Magdalene at the empty tomb, we may not always recognize the Risen Christ immediately. Yet He is there—calling us by name, rekindling our hearts, and sending us forth to proclaim the Good News. He sends us to Galilee—not just the physical place, but

the “real Galilee” of our daily lives: the classrooms, hospital wards, parish halls, rural communities, city streets, and the peripheries.

There, in the ordinariness of life, the Lord goes ahead of us—among the people we serve, in our communities, in those who share our joys and struggles, our hopes and difficulties. To persevere in mission with hope is to trust that we are never alone—Christ walks with us, and often ahead of us.

As we celebrate the Resurrection, let us renew our hope—not just in what is visible but in the unseen workings of God’s grace in our lives, our communities, and our mission. May we walk forward with faith and endurance, confident that the Risen Lord goes before us, leading us toward the fulfillment of His Kingdom.

Dear Sisters, this is my final message to you as your Superior General, and so I want to express my deep gratitude to all of you. I am truly touched that many of you found inspiration in the messages I shared throughout these years. Most of all, I thank you for your constant prayers, your love, and your unfailing support. Because of your presence and encouragement, I was able to carry out my mission—imperfect though it may have been. I know I still have many shortcomings, but God knows that I gave my best, always accompanied by the dedicated support of my Assistants.

My heartfelt gratitude goes especially to my four Assistants: Sr. Emily, Sr. H el ene, Sr. Marie Khen, and Sr. Gerard. I also extend my sincere thanks to our ever-reliable secretary, Sr. Remedios, and to Sr. Josiane, our faithful and tireless General Econome. You have been a great blessing to me and to the whole Congregation.

Let this Easter be a time of renewal for each of us, strengthening our hearts with the joy of the Resurrection. May we continue to journey together, sustained by the hope that never fades, the love that never fails, and the promise that one day, we shall see fully what we now embrace in faith.

May Mary, Mother of Hope, accompany us in this journey, and may the Risen Christ strengthen us to be bearers of His light, hope, and love in our world today.

A blessed and joyful Easter to you all!

Affectionately in the Risen Christ,

S. Maria Goretti Lee
Superior General

