



**Franciscan Sisters of the Heart of Jesus**

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**Circular No. 30**

**WE ANNOUNCE THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH  
OF  
OUR FOUNDER FR. JOSEPH DIACONO**



*“Wishing, o chosen souls in the Lord, to see you all perfect among yourself, as well as with your neighbour: because I know that only humility can lead you to this therefore, I recommend to you the practice of this virtue above anything else. Yes, be humble, I ask you fervently, humble of heart, humble in thoughts, humble in behaviour, humble with everyone and everywhere; doing so, without noticing, you will be filled with divine blessings and great edification and therefore to the great advantage of others”.*

(From the Writings of Fr. Joseph Diacono)

Dear Provincial, Regional, local Superiors and Sisters,  
may the peace of the Lord Jesus be in our hearts.

***The reason for this Circular no. 30 is that on July 22 2023 we begin a year in preparation to celebrate all together the Centenary of the death of our Founder Fr. Joseph Diacono on the 24 July 2024.***

Fr. Joseph Diacono is the initiator of our Congregation. Let us remember, therefore, that if it were not for this first nucleus, today we would not have existed.

I invite the Provincial, Regional and Local Superiors to think, wherever we are, to program and organize the opening of this year to highlight this event. I leave up to you the way how to prepare for this historical, precious and significant event.

Like the Venerable Mother Margherita, so Fr. Joseph Diacono has a lot to teach us with his gifts and holiness of his life.

We glorify God for the imprint which Fr. Joseph Diacono has left within our Congregation, teaching our first Sisters the beautiful virtues with which our Lord has adorned him.

During this year, every one of us, daughters of our dear Congregation, endeavours to find time to study profoundly his Writings and from the examples of his life, marked by a great love towards God and neighbour, it is up to each one of us to withdraw teachings and attitudes to apply to our own spiritual life, our mission and apostolate where the Will of God has placed us to work for his Kingdom.

He loved our Congregation so much and was eager to look well after our first Sisters and they cooperated, loved and listened to his teaching, beginning with our Venerable Foundress Mother Margherita.

Encouraged by their example, let us be brave and endeavour to follow his teachings and his counsels as a real spiritual Father of all of us. Truly many years have passed, but let us seek to adapt his spirituality and his teachings to the present times and signs, which our Congregation is going through.

I conclude with the same words of Fr. Joseph Diacono:

*“Come on, therefore, dear Sisters in Jesus Christ, take heart and suffer everything for the One who, not only once sacrificed Himself on the cross, but every day He*

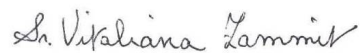
*renews his sacrifice on our altars, offering Himself at the same time as food for your soul”.*

(From the Writings of Fr. Joseph Diacono)

United with the General Council Members, I greet you all and together, with courage, we begin our preparation to celebrate worthily and with spiritual profit this event so important for us and for all our Congregation.

United in prayer,

Your Sister in Christ,



Sr. Vitaliana Zammit  
Superior General