

71st ° anniversary of the Foundation of our Religious Family

Dearest sisters,

we celebrate with gratitude the 71st Foundation anniversary of our religious family, the new family which the Lord donated to us on the day of our religious profession. It is that hundredfold promised by His love to whoever has left everything in order to follow Him. To celebrate this anniversary also means to make memory of our first Yes which we said to Jesus Good Shepherd to "*revive the*



motivations and joy that have so strongly animated us, believing that with our life we are able, in the Spirit, to become mothers, living memory of the care of God the Father in the midst of his children" ¹.

On October 7, we will renew our religious profession in the silence of the heart, we will savor the formula which we find in our Rule of Life², re-tracing the journey of our life, grateful for the abundant blessing we have received. We for first, in fact, have experienced that following Jesus Good Shepherd means to have Life and Life in abundance! (Jn 10:10).

In these days, the Church celebrates the Second Special Assembly for Africa of the Synod of Bishops with the theme: "The Church in Africa, at the Service of Reconciliation, Justice and Peace". Let us be united in intense prayer with the synodal fathers, with the people of Africa and with our missionary sisters in that continent, so that the Gospel may become even more a leaven of salvation and peace for all.

Happy feast day in gratitude and joy,

sr Marta Finotelli
superior general

Rome 7 October 2009
Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

¹ Cf Lettera della superiora generale nel CTN, ottobre 2009.

² RdV 77 o 85.