



Congregazione Suore Missionarie
di S. Domenico

Via di Val Cannuta 138, 00166 Roma

**Lord, you are my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.**
(Ps. 31, 3)

March 15, 2020

Dear Sisters,

In this moment that we are experiencing emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic I want you to feel our closeness and concern for all of you.

It is hard not to be able to enjoy the freedom the way we used to until a few days ago. It is hard not to be able to hug a family member nor to take a walk outdoor leisurely. Even more difficult not being able to celebrate the Eucharist in our communities. Moreover, it is a great pain seeing our brothers affected by the disease suffer.

Notwithstanding these difficulty and pain, we have to collaborate and do what is within our means to avoid the spread of the virus for the good of all.

Here in Italy, all the guidelines and sanitary measures imposed by the government are being assumed diligently by the church of Rome. The Pope is the first who has stopped being amid a crowd of people, despite feeling sorry about it. He has begun to celebrate the daily Mass, recite the Angelus and receive audiences online or through streaming.

Let us be prudent and collaborate through our example with the ecclesiastical and governmental authorities; let us cooperate in safeguarding health, always bearing in mind the common good.

At the moment all the Dicasteries of the Roman Curia are closed, so we ask you to be patient if you are waiting for an answer to a petition that has to go through one of the Roman Congregations.

Regarding the *Encuentro de Formadoras 2020* in July, we want to be optimistic and think that by then this situation will be overcome; so we advise you to proceed with the processing of your travel documents, but do not buy any plane ticket yet until we are fully certain that such encounter will be pushed through.

Sisters, may this situation serve to unite us more and make us more concerned for each other. And may our witness and our word be a source of strength for those who suffer and need us. In our prayer, let us remember in a special way not only the sick, but also all the health personnel for their tireless service in caring for the sick, and all those who in one way or another are working selflessly so that this problem will be contained as soon as possible.

Let us place ourselves under the protection of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary and our father Saint Dominic. May the Lord help us.



A fraternal embrace,

Asunción González, OP

Sor M^a Asunción González and sisters of the Curia