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"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." Mother Teresa

My dear Sisters,

I have just completed visiting all the communities in the province. I am happy to learn that so much is being done and all of you are giving your best to live your commitment and doing all you can to fulfill the mission entrusted to you with much care. There are struggles and difficulties in carrying out the mission but it is encouraging to see your willingness to cope up with those. I see many challenges and at the same time so many opportunities for our growth as a province. Certainly we can overcome any hurdles when we stand together and work for the greater glory of God. May the good Lord be at our side and may we do all we can with all the gifts he has showered upon us so generously.

Community life is fundamental to our vocation as missionary sisters (Const.Art.45). Much more deeply, it is a participation in and qualified witness of the Church-Mystery, since it is a living expression and privileged fulfillment of its own particular "communion", of the great Trinity, in which the Father has willed that each of us has part in the Son and in the Holy Spirit.

Fraternal communion is another aspect of our community living. We need to make our apostolate meaningful, bring people back to the union with God through our service. It is from this that the fraternal communion of religious community derives its vigour as sign and instrument. In fact, fraternal communion is at both the beginning and the end of apostolate. Our community life is a gift of the Spirit. It is the love of God, poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, from which religious community takes its origin and is built as a true family gathered together in the Lord's name. Our presence in the community should help one to grow in love for God and for one's brothers and sisters. It is also a place for personal growth. The path is a demanding one, since it requires the renunciation of comforts, modern gadgets and luxuries that are certainly highly valued; but it is not impossible. We have the examples of many great persons before us to prove that religious life promotes growth. Our communities have to be a home where all feel the belongingness and become co-responsible for the growth of one another. It is also the place where, day by day, we help one another to respond as consecrated persons, bearing a common charism, reaching out to the needs of the least and encountering the challenges of the current society.

We face lot of challenges in our lives as we carry out our mission and the challenges vary from place to place or mission to mission. Whatever may be the tests and trials, we are to be responsible persons, trusting in God and doing all we can. Our reward will be great when we take the trouble of facing the ordeals to carry out our apostolate for the benefit of the people. Responses to existing problems can differ and this entails obvious consequences for community life. Dear sisters, let us make an inward journey to check our priority of being an MSMHC and the way we carry out our responsibilities.

My experiences of recent visit to the communities prompt me to say that we need to be awake and act according to the needs of our community and mission. We cannot slumber on our way of living; we are to find solution to our problems. Each of us are gifted in different ways and are capable of taking ahead the mission entrusted to us. All what we require is to become generous and sensitive, making use of the possibilities that are available before us. After the example of the early Christians let us strive to live in ‘one heart and soul’ through a life of prayer and apostolate. We shall also spend sufficient time in living the directives of the G.C 8 and the 4th Provincial Chapter in preparation for the platinum Jubilee of our dear Congregation.

As we welcome month of May which reminds us of our Blessed Mother, let us ponder on her life of virtues and imitate her in all that we can. During this month let us honour her in a special way, and entrust each of us and the Province to her care. May she continue to be our guiding star in all our undertakings. Let us look up to our Venerable Founder, Bishop Stephen Ferrando and draw inspiration from him for our mission and our community living.

Wish each of you dear Sisters, **Happy Feast of Mary Help of Christians** and a meaningful celebration of the same. Assuring you of my prayers and recommend myself to your prayer and support.

Yours affectionately,



Sr. Molly James
Provincial