

A Month of Grace and New Beginnings



The month of May 2025 in Rome was a time of profound grace and spiritual depth; a period marked by historic moments and personal blessings that touched my heart deeply.

We witnessed the passing of Pope

Francis, a shepherd whose humility, compassion, and courage inspired the Church and the world. His life reminded us that true leadership is rooted in service and love. Shortly after, the election of Pope Leo IV brought renewed hope and the promise of continuity in guiding the Church through changing times. These events invite us to reflect on the mystery of God's providence, calling us to trust that He works through each moment, both joyful and sorrowful, to bring about His plan.

In this unfolding story, we are reminded that God's timing is perfect, even when it challenges our understanding. We are called to surrender our fears and uncertainties, embracing faith that God uses every transition to purify, renew, and strengthen His Church. This sacred rhythm of life, death and new life, endings and beginnings, echoes the Paschal mystery at the heart of our Christian journey, inviting us to walk with hope, courage, and love.

The Jubilee Year, *Pilgrims of Hope*, unfolding around us, offers a special invitation to renewal, forgiveness, and deeper faith. It is a time to open our hearts to God's mercy and to embrace the call to live with greater love and compassion. This holy year reminds us that no matter our past, God's grace is always available to heal and transform us. It invites us to reconcile with ourselves, others, and God, fostering a spirit of unity and peace. Walking as pilgrims, we are called to journey not only outwardly but also inwardly; seeking holiness in everyday life, bearing witness to hope, and becoming instruments of God's mercy in a world longing for light and healing.

On a personal level, I am deeply grateful to God for the blessing of serving as translator during the General Chapter of our Congregation. This role was not merely a task but a grace-filled opportunity to witness the vibrant life and spirit guiding our congregation's future. Through this experience, I became

more aware of the many gifts God places within each of us, gifts meant to be shared in service to the Congregation, the Church, and the world.

I encourage everyone to embrace and offer their unique talents; no matter how big or small, as a way to live out our charism: “so that through this love which it manifests, people may recognize the extraordinary grandeur of the vocation to which everyone is called.” C4. May we all respond generously, trusting that God can use our efforts to bring about transformation and hope in the lives we touch.

As I reflect on this month, I am reminded that every event, every encounter, and every moment of prayer holds the potential to deepen our relationship with God and with one another. My hope is that we, too, can find in our daily lives these moments of grace; where faith is not only celebrated but lived out with renewed commitment and love.

May we always be attentive to the spiritual lessons hidden in our experiences and courageous enough to share them, so that our stories can inspire and uplift others.

Sister Vicky Giacaman
Australia

