



*Life to the full...  
Unfolding the founding grace...  
Journeying together with realism and hope....*

## **Closing of the Chapter:**

*Hail Saint Joseph, protector of the “great mystery”*

*Saint Joseph, protect us, pray for us.*

*Hail Saint Joseph True Guardian of the Light*

*Saint Joseph, protect us, pray for us.*

With the feast of St. Joseph, patron saint of workers, we began our day with a prayer prepared by the young, invited sisters. We reread our Chapter experience with the disciples of Emmaus: *“Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us as he spoke to us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?’ Immediately they got up and returned to Jerusalem.”* Then, the young sisters invited us to stand and walk around the room, choosing one person with whom to share good news based on the Chapter experience.

Following the personal sharing and the delegates accepting the unique document in the three languages which presents all the themes on which we worked, we approved the text. All the delegates expressed their desire to transmit the spirit of this document and to bear witness to what they had experienced: a single text in three languages reminds us of the experience of the three synoptic Gospels.

Then the animators gave us time for personal prayer to re-read our Chapter journey: *“And I am sure of this, that the one who began such a beautiful work in you will bring it to completion...And in my prayer I ask that your love may cause you to grow more and more in full knowledge and insight into what is important...”* (Philippians 1: 6-11)

At 2:30 p.m., each small group presented its experience in a creative way: dance, song, hymn, symbol or object... Then, Sr. Catherine Barange addressed her closing message to the assembly.

***“It is difficult to conclude this rich meeting:***

***I do so with thanksgiving and great hope for the future...***

***Here we are at the end of a new adventure in the history of our congregation...***

***Our zeal for the service of the Lord and for his people has been renewed***

***and it is now up to us to walk and encourage***

***the sisters and the laity on this path...***

***“I now declare the closure of Chapter 2023.”***

