

## Congregational pilgrimage 2023



We began our pilgrim journey on September 4th, starting in Coesfeld, Germany. During those 12 days, we were privileged to visit important historical sites of our congregation. As we visited the various places where our foundresses lived and ministered, what we had learned became alive and part of us. In Rome, we visited four major basilicas, especially the place where St Paul was beheaded. We saw the three fountains where his head bounced three times. Our eyes were filled with tears when we visited the Coliseum where many of the early Christians laid down their lives for Christ. The last judgment scene at the Sistine Chapel inspired us to live a life of perfection. Our visit to Assisi and the life of St Francis and St Clare exhibited the power of radically following the evangelical counsels, we learned how their congregations continue to support the pillars of the Church. We got a chance to celebrate Holy Mass in the room where St Ignatius breathed his last. God enriched our hearts with much inspiration as we visited all the holy places. We had a lot of time to offer prayers for our congregation, our provinces, and the sick members of our province. We also prayed for the church, especially for the synod, and for the leaders of the nations.

Our faces glowing with gratefulness we returned to our homeland on September 28<sup>th</sup>. A big thank you to Sister Mary Ann, the General Council, our Provincial Superiors, and all the sisters who supported us with their prayers, messages, and best wishes.