



Prot. SG 63/2025

MESSAGE OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL Claretian Celebration of the Jubilee 2025

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Lk 4:18-19).*

Dear brothers,

Wishing you all a blessed and fruitful Jubilee Year 2025!

Following the grace-filled experience of our Congregational Jubilee last year, the Church's Jubilee in 2025 offers us a renewed opportunity to keep the fire of the Spirit alive within us and to spread its flames wherever we go (Cf. CC 9). As a pilgrim Congregation, we are called to walk with hope, trusting that the Lord who has guided us through history continues to journey with us. This hope is especially vital in a world where despair, division, and uncertainty threaten to extinguish the missionary fire within us. The Holy Fathers, from St. John Paul II to Pope Francis, have consistently highlighted the crisis of hope affecting new generations and even evangelizers (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 84). In this Jubilee, we are invited to renew the foundations of our hope—rooted in God's unwavering fidelity and boundless mercy.

The Jubilee Year is marked by the ritual of passing through the Holy Doors of basilicas worldwide. Yet, this act is far more than a ritual—it is a profound invitation to cross two sacred thresholds that shape our journey of faith. The first is the interior door of the heart, where we encounter the indwelling Lord (cf. Jn 15:4; Rom 8:9) and allow His heartbeat to resonate within us, opening ourselves to love, reconciliation, and deeper communion with others. The second is the mystic door of the Gospel, which leads us into the transcendent horizon of God's Kingdom, where our eyes are opened to see everyone as a child of God (*fratelli tutti*). Imbued with the Christ-consciousness, we recognize the dignity of every person and celebrate fraternal communion through concrete acts of love and service. This Jubilee is also a privileged moment to rediscover the gift of Reconciliation, both personally and communally—a time of grace to foster forgiveness, healing, and renewal within ourselves, our communities, and our ministries.

The biblical concept of Jubilee (cf. Leviticus 25)—a time of release, restoration, and renewal—resonates deeply with our Claretian charism of being servants of the Word and missionaries of hope and transformation. As a Congregation called to a prophetic mission, we are invited to embody the spirit of the Jubilee in tangible ways by promoting justice, peace, reconciliation, and care for creation. I encourage each community to prayerfully reflect on how you can incarnate this spirit in your specific context. Through communal discernment, consider the concrete steps you can take to implement some of the following suggestions.

1. Internal Renewal: Living Jubilee in Claretian Life

The spirit of Jubilee calls for renewal within the Congregation, particularly in how we relate to one another, live our vows, and embody missionary discipleship. This renewal must be grounded in rekindling our missionary passion because without it, we cannot be bearers of hope.

a) *Fraternal Reconciliation and Community Life*

- Encourage processes of forgiveness, healing and reconciliation within communities where relationships have been strained by misunderstandings, conflicts, or past wounds.
- Foster authentic fraternity, ensuring that every member feels a sense of belonging and support, and that no one is left feeling abandoned or marginalized.
- Promote a culture of listening and synodality, where all voices are valued in decision-making.

b) *Economic Justice and the Use of Resources*

- Apply the principle of Jubilee economics by managing community resources in a spirit of solidarity and simplicity.
- Strengthen responsible financial management and sharing of goods, ensuring that our goods serve the mission and the needs of the poor.
- Commit to economic transparency and accountability, making financial resources a means of communion rather than division.
- Engage actively in initiatives that combat poverty and marginalization.

c) *Care for the Integral Health of Missionaries*

- Foster regular renewal programs to nourish the spiritual, emotional, and physical health of our members.
- Support those who have served in demanding missions by providing opportunities for rest, ongoing formation, and spiritual rejuvenation.
- Encourage each missionary to care for his integral well-being and moral uprightness offering support for healing from wounds and overcoming unhealthy patterns.

2. Missionary Commitment: Bringing Jubilee to the World

As Claretians, our missionary calling compels us to be prophets of justice, reconciliation, and care for creation. The spirit of Jubilee can shape our ministries in powerful ways.

a) *Commitment to Justice and the Poor*

- Strengthen ministries that promote the dignity of the poor, particularly in marginalized communities giving special attention to the sick, the elderly and prisoners.
- Advocate for the rights of migrants, refugees, and displaced persons, living out the biblical Jubilee principle of welcoming the stranger.
- Support initiatives that provide access to education, healthcare, and empowerment for vulnerable populations.
- Stand firmly for truth, justice, and mercy, even when it comes at a personal cost, and support those who courageously pursue these values.
- Engage in advocacy for debt relief and economic justice, amplifying the voices of the poor.

b) *Peacebuilding and Reconciliation*

- Actively engage in peacebuilding efforts, fostering reconciliation in regions torn by division and violence.
- Promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, strengthening mutual understanding in a world often marked by fragmentation.
- Facilitate healing processes for individuals and communities affected by war, discrimination, and historical injustices.

c) *Integrity of Creation and Ecological Responsibility*

- Implement sustainable environmental practices in Claretian houses and institutions, integrating *Laudato Si'* into our way of life.
- Promote eco-friendly projects, such as reforestation, organic farming, and renewable energy, particularly in mission territories.
- Educate and raise awareness on climate justice, involving young people and local communities.
- Develop eco-spirituality retreats and formation programs, linking care for creation with Claretian spirituality.

3. A Jubilee Approach to Leadership and Governance

a) *Servant Leadership and Synodality*

- Encourage servant leadership and synodal participation, ensuring that governance is inclusive and consultative.
- Strengthen discernment-based decision-making processes in all our structures fostering responsibility, accountability and transparency at all levels.
- Deepen the sense of shared mission at every level, recognizing that we all participate in the Missio Dei through the diversity of vocations, charisms, and ministries

b) *Formation for Missionary Jubilee Spirituality*

- Integrate Jubilee themes into the formation of Claretians, ensuring that our missionaries develop a vision of justice, reconciliation, and care for creation.
- Provide specialized training in social justice, peacebuilding, and ecological stewardship for those involved in social ministries.
- Encourage ongoing formation programs that nurture personal renewal, intercultural dialogue, and a deepened Claretian identity.

Dear brothers, as sons of the Heart of Mary, we keep our hearts aflame with God's love, sharing in her compassion and steadfast hope for a suffering world, and collaborating with the Spirit in bringing God's Dream for humanity to life. On our pilgrimage, Mary walks with us, guiding us with hope and grace.



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Superior General



Feast of the Chair of Peter
Rome, February 22, 2025