



ECHO OF THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL JULY 2025 IN SAINT DOULCHARD

On Monday, July 28, 2025, in the middle of the afternoon, the sisters who are members of the congregation council arrived in Saint Doulchard (Bourges) at the Annonciades sisters' house for the congregation council, which will last until August 17. The members of the general curia and the superiors of the various entities are participating in the meeting, accompanied by Father Thierry KAMBALE KAHONGYA, a.a.

The congregation council meeting began at 4:30 p.m. with a welcome and opening remarks by the superior general, Sister Marie-Jeanne MASIKA TASIVIWE.

She reminded us of the purpose of our meeting, namely:

- To review the implementation of the guidelines of the General Chapter and the progress made since then;
- To exchange fraternal thoughts on the exercise of the responsibility entrusted to us in the congregation with a view to strengthening the unity of the communities and walking together on the path of hope;
- To propose ways of effectively implementing the guidelines of the General Chapter.

At 6:30 p.m., we celebrated the opening Mass for the Spirit, said by Father Thierry.

In his homily, Father invited the members of the congregation council to take advantage of these three weeks to examine how they exercise the responsibility entrusted to them for the good of the body.

He also urged us to identify the progress that has been made and that needs to be promoted, the elements that could slow down our momentum and that require remedies, and the new steps to be taken to bring our general chapter to life.

The following two days, Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30, the council's work consisted of a review of the life of the congregation in the entities, a brief presentation of the political and social situation in our mission countries, the life of the Church, and religious life. This was followed by a time of fraternal exchange on each member's view of her responsibility.

We were struck by the socio-security context in most of the countries where we are present (DRC, West Africa, Chad, Kenya, terrorism in Europe). This situation calls for a prophetic stance on the part of the Church and our congregation.

With the intention of walking together, we must also commit ourselves, together with Pope Francis, of blessed memory, and the whole Church, to the dynamic of synodality within our communities by developing mutual listening. The opening of the Holy Year, with its theme "Pilgrims of Hope," rekindles our Christian life in this journey of living together.

The arrival of Pope Leo inspires in us a spiritual life rooted in the Risen Christ, Master of Peace. It invites us to be attentive to the cries of the poor and in solidarity with all our brothers and sisters in humanity.

The Congregation Council bears witness to the closeness of the entire congregation and thanks you all for your prayers.

