



"A shepherd should smell like the sheep." — Pope Francis

Canonical Visit of the Congregational Leadership Team



Sr. Joan Lopez



Sr. Marie Françoise Mestry



Sr. Josita Corea

True to the spirit of our charism and mission, the Congregational Leadership Team, led by Sr. Joan Lopez, embarked on their canonical visit to India on June 1, 2024. Accompanied by Sr. Josita Corea and Sr. Marie Françoise Mestry, the visit began with the SWI Province and continued to the CEIN Province, with a special gathering in Chennai from June 12 to 14, 2024. They were joined by Sr. Lissy, SWI Province Leader, and Sr. Pushpa, CEIN Province Leader.

In keeping with our rich Indian tradition, the sisters were warmly welcomed with Aarti, Chandan, and Kumkum—symbols of reverence and joy. The visit commenced with a prayer service in the chapel, invoking God's blessings upon the days of reflection, dialogue, and discernment. Sisters from the Chennai, Salem and Nagpur were present, creating a spirit of unity and shared mission.

The formal session began at 9:00 a.m., during which the purpose of the canonical visit was clearly articulated. The Leadership Team shared valuable insights into the proposed merging of the two provinces and explained the transition process with clarity and transparency. An open forum followed, allowing the sisters to seek clarifications, share concerns, and engage in meaningful dialogue. The interaction fostered mutual understanding and strengthened the bonds of communion.

The Leadership Team also met with the teaching faculty, who expressed heartfelt gratitude for the continued guidance and support extended to the institutions in Chennai. A special Appreciation was shown for the implementation of the safeguarding policy and the active involvement of Partners in Mission in reaching out to those in need. The exchange reaffirmed a shared commitment to the mission entrusted to us.

A joyful highlight of the visit was the interaction with the children. The students welcomed the sisters with enthusiasm and presented a beautiful cultural program depicting the life of Mary Euphrasia Pelletier. Their thoughtful questions and lively participation reflected a deep interest in the congregation's mission and heritage.

The canonical visit was truly a grace-filled experience—marked by prayer, reflection, dialogue, and renewed commitment. It strengthened our sense of belonging to one congregation and inspired us to continue our mission with zeal, unity, and trust in God's providence.



“GRATITUDE IS THE MEMORY OF THE HEART”

- ST. MARY EUPHRASIA PELLETIER