



RELIGIEUSES DE L'ASSOMPTION
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HAPPY FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION – 15th August 2019

Very dear Sisters and Friends,

I wish you all a very happy Feast of the Assumption of our Lady! In Mary's Assumption, we celebrate surpassing faith, the fullness of life and love, the victory of freedom – freedom from sin and all its consequences, freedom from eternal death to life eternal.



The Lord accomplished wonders in and through the life and sacrifices of Mary, our Mother. Mary's constant YES to God's will was indeed a path of suffering which she made beautiful as an expression of her perfect faith and a manifestation of her profound love. Mary was an ordinary village girl who became great by doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way. We, too, are invited to do ordinary things in our daily life with great love and to make our life an extraordinary presence of God's infinite love in the Church and the world today.

In India, on August 15th, we also celebrate the Independence Day, the victory of freedom and peace – *shalom*. Great persons like Mahatma Gandhi dared to think differently. He could discard the old fossilized ideas and rotten action plans of the corrupt political system. He created a new path of compassionate wisdom and non-violent revolution which lead the nation to victory and freedom. The world today needs great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, people with vision and compassion. Happy Independence Day to all my Indian sisters and brothers!

As we celebrate the feast of the Assumption, this is my prayer for all of us. Let our celebrations of the feast fill our minds with positive energy and optimism, with the experiences of God's interventions in our personal, community and family histories - both in good and bad times, in moments of light and darkness, in moments of peace and confusion, and in moments of joy and disappointments. In line with the orientations of the General Chapter 2018, may the feast of the Assumption this year challenge us to have the courage and strength to embark on an adventurous path with a sense of purpose and confidence exploring our personal peripheries, the peripheries of community or family as well as the peripheries of our mission. May Mary, our Mother, in Heaven yet journeying with us on earth, be a source of inspiration and hope for our daily life and mission.

I wish you all a grace-filled celebration of the Feast of the Assumption!

United in love and mission,

Rekha Chennattu

Sister Rekha Chennattu, RA
Superior General