

**XI PROVINCIAL CHAPTER -27TH TO 31ST DECEMBER 2024. PROVINCE OF MOTHER PABLA
BESCOS, SNEH SHANTI – SEVASI, VADODARA-GUJARAT.**

We commenced each day with Eucharistic adoration, seeking God's grace and blessings to guide us throughout our deliberations. This daily hour of morning adoration set the tone for a spiritually enriching experience, guiding us throughout our Chapter proceedings. The liturgy group crafted creative prayers, carefully woven around the chapter theme, to help us place ourselves in the presence of our Divine Master. The Eucharistic adoration and Holy Eucharist nurtured our spiritual growth, allowing us to begin each day with a deeper connection to the Lord.

The first day of the Chapter was graced by Rt. Rev. Bishop Sebastiano Mascarenhas, S.F.X. Bishop of Baroda Diocese. With profound insight, he illuminated the Holy Eucharist, integrating reflections around the theme, "The Transformative Power of God's Word." He emphasized that our identity stems from our inherent dignity as images of God, not our work. He stressed the importance of self-emptying, communion, and awareness of our walk with God. He encouraged us to "give a little fragrance of heaven" through true hospitality, starting within our communities. Our communal life should render us open to others, fulfilling our calling as bearers of God's love and hope.

The XI Provincial Chapter commenced with a solemn ceremony, marking the enthronement of the Bible. A procession accompanied the Bible, adorned with a garland and candle, alongside symbols of our Constitution, consecrated life, and the Jubilee Year.

The sisters participated by carrying a symbolic tree bearing their names, which was then placed within a specially designed Chapter emblem. This poignant ritual symbolized our consecrated life, rooted in faith and vibrant with life, nourished by our shared values and mission.

"In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. Growth comes by the light of Jesus in us. Jesus, who is the Word, is a lamp to our feet and a light to our faith" Psalm: 119:105

Throughout the Chapter, the Word of God and lighted candles remained at the centre, symbolizing the heart of our gathering. The lighted candles represented our communities, where the province's mission is lived out, and signified the presence of all sisters in the province, united around the Word. We invoked the

Spirit of God to illuminate our minds and hearts with wisdom, filling us with divine guidance and inspiration.

December 28, 2024, dawned with pleasant surprises. With deep love and reverence, we remembered our founders and first sisters. The day was filled with joy and thanksgiving as we gathered around the Eucharistic Adoration. United in gratitude, the sisters expressed heartfelt thanks to the Lord for 220 years of our congregation's existence, honoring a legacy of faith, love, and devoted service.

We discussed an assessment of our community life, reflecting on the conclusions and challenges of the III Continental Assembly. Building on this, we looked forward and identified concrete steps to implement the conclusions and challenges of the II Continental Assembly of Asia-Pacific.

We warmly welcomed six of our SAF members, whose presence enriched our gathering. The sharing and listening that followed brought diverse voices and perspectives, adding vibrant colors to our Chapter deliberations.

We invoke His guidance during these days of reflection and sharing. May He illuminate our path and reveal His will for our congregation.

May our unity and diversity be a witness to the Gospel. May our hope and commitment be renewed. May our identity and belonging be deeply rooted in Christ. May the document that emerges from our gathering be a powerful tool for growth, renewal, and deepening our consecrated life.





