

MARY, MOTHER OF SORROWS

Magdalene perceived in Mary the one in whom the love of Jesus Crucified found acceptance in its fullest form. The Daughters of Charity are called to learn from her how to be totally open to the charity of the Lord. By the gift of the Spirit and in the communion of saints, Mary is an example of maternity, a maternity that is clearly apostolic. Mary, at the foot of the cross, participates in the struggle against evil, and in the commitment to accept unconditionally anyone marked by the wounds of sin. “Mary is constituted Mother of Charity under the Cross when, at the words of her dying Divine Son, she gathered all of us, sinners though we are, to her heart. Since maternity is a way of participating in the passion of Jesus for the redemption of all of sinners, Magdalene finds a specific way of practising it in the foundation of the Institute of the Daughters of Charity, dedicated to serve the poor who are deprived of education, instruction and assistance because of sin. In Magdalene’s views, developing this maternal spirit implies the readiness to labour and suffer, so that every man or woman may arrive at the awareness of being a son or daughter of God.

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