International Confederation of the

Apostolate of the Suffering (CVS)

Office of the President Rome, September 14, 2021

 Exaltation of the Holy Cross

 *When meditating, looking at the*

 *Holy Cross where Jesus was*

 *nailed, we see God’s infinite*

 *love for each of us and the*

 *roots of our salvation.*

To:

The Interim General Moderator

The Female Head of the Silent Workers of the Cross

The Italian National Co-ordinator

The Italian Regional Co-ordinators

The Heads of the CVS in Poland, Portugal, Columbia

and the United States of America

The Italian Delegates chosen by the Regional Groups

**Object: International General Assembly of the International Confederation of**

 **The Apostolate of the Suffering (CVS) -2021**

Dearest Brothers and Sisters of the Apostolate,

 In about a month, our International General Assembly will take place falling at the midterm of our term of office. This will be an opportunity to evaluate, to reflect and to program how to better live our mission in these difficult times.

“The world is in darkness. But in many instances, Christ’s Cross is a beacon indicating the right port of entry for the ships that are afar in a hurricane. It is a sign of hope that never falters, and it is said that not one tear or cry for help are wasted in God’s plan for our salvation. Since Jesus took upon Himself the sins of humanity and accepted His death on the Cross, God’s love has filled our deserts with water and illuminated our darkness.” (Pope Francis, General Audience, March 31, 2021)

 Through our commitment, spirituality, and apostolic force built upon the Cross and the words of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we can bring the Easter light, the joy of living, the sowing of hope into the world. God’s faith and grace, much stronger than what we can do, can aid us in our role to “Heal the World.” We will achieve these using the medicine of hope, of service, and of love. These are the paths to follow as we proclaim our message in the next three years.

 The **International General Assembly** will take place on October 15-16, 2021, in video conference.

 The meeting will first be called to order and be valid if on October 15, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. (Rome time) there will be at least one half of the delegates participating.

 The second meeting will take place and be valid on October 16, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. (Rome time) irrespective of the number of the delegates participating.

 The following Apostolate members have the right to participate: the President of the Confederation, the International Board of Directors, the Interim General Moderator, the Head of the Female Branch of the Silent Workers of the Cross, the Italian National Co-ordinator, the Italian Regional Co-ordinators, the Delegates of the Italian Diocesan Associations designed by the Regional Boards of Directors, the Heads of the Confederated Associations of: Poland, Portugal, the United States of America, and Columbia with their respective translators.

Meeting Agenda:

Introduction by the President of the Confederation;

Presentation, discussion, and approval of the Three-Year Pastoral Guidelines

“Healing the World” 2021-2024;

Discussion of the Decree from the Pontifical Council for the Lay, Family and Life

regarding the length of terms of office;

Meditation and discussion of the synodal role of the Church.

**Calendar of the International General Assembly:**

**Friday, October 15, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.**

Opening of the International General Assembly

Greetings in various languages

Opening prayer – (prepared by CVS – USA)

Remarks by Fr. Marco Castellazzi, Interim General Moderator

Remarks by the Head of the Female Branch of the Silent Workers of the Cross

**“Preparing a Future Together with Jesus Who Saves and Heals”** by President Angela Petitti

Closing prayer – (prepared by CVS – Poland)

Conclusion: 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, October 16, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.**

Opening prayer – (prepared by CVS – Portugal)

**“Convert Peter Pan for a Subjunctive Culture”** – Meditation by Msgr. Armando Matteo, Under Secretary, of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

Discussion of the Decree of the Pontifical Council for the Lay, Family and Life regarding the term of office: five years

Discussion and approval of the Three-Year Pastoral Guidelines

Meditation and discussion of the synodal role of the Church

Remarks from the President

Concluding prayer – (prepared by CVS Columbia)

A link will be sent to all participants using the Zoom platform.

“We ask ourselves how can we heal the world today? As disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, doctor of our bodies and souls, we are asked to continue His role of healing and salvation in the physical, social and spiritual realms.” (Pope Francis, Catechism, August 5, 2020)

Let the Pope’s question and response be in the hearts of us all following the teachings of Blessed Novarese. So we can offer our help to the world. Thanks to everyone for their commitment.

 Angela Petitti

 President

 International Confederation of

 the Apostolate of the Suffering (CVS)