

I Teresian Province Our Lady of Peace Assembly

“Women who weave together experiences and pathways” was the motto of the first assembly of the newly formed Teresian Province Our Lady of Peace. It took place on October 15 to 17 in Managua, Nicaragua. The meeting was held in a hybrid manner; most of the sisters who carry out their mission in Nicaragua and Costa Rica, six sisters from the United States and one from Cuba were present. Our other Sisters from the United States, Cuba and Costa Rica participated through Zoom. In the same way, a good number of lay women who work with us participated in person and virtually.

The assembly marks a beginning in our journey, and it was a time to think together how we want to live our mission. Previously, the sisters of the provincial council sent us a document based on community reflections; it expresses how we envision ourselves: “we dream of being an outgoing and itinerant religious life, walking with others in synodality, connected with reality, attentive to the cries of the most vulnerable and fragile.” We also want a style of mission marked by “synodality, interculturality, solidarity, ecological conversion, discernment and communication.”

These days we acknowledged our strengths and possibilities so we can reach out where the interests of Jesus are most at risk. The assembly took place in an atmosphere of joy, with prayer moments and work sessions that helped each and every one of us feel involved in the different areas of mission (school, spirituality, youth vocational ministry, Teresian family, solidary economy, pastoral and ecclesial services, and communication). It was of great importance that in the documents, sharing moments, and songs we used both languages, English and Spanish, thus, highlighting the bilingual character of our province.

We are grateful for starting this journey together on the feast of Saint Teresa of Jesus, and we want to make her words ours: “try to become such stones in it as may be serviceable in repairing the building, and our Lord will keep them therein.” (F 4.7).