



April 2, 2025

Feast of the Inspiration of the Society

Dear Sisters:

Today we are united, in the different places where we are present, to celebrate with gratitude and wonder the anniversary of the inspiration that gave life to the Society. That early morning of April 2, 1876, Father Henry de Ossó, moved by the Spirit, received an intuition that would change his history and ours: *"Unable to sleep, which is rare for me... I woke up at three in the morning, as I recall. And as I was thinking it occurred to me: a Congregation or Association, with the title of Society of St. Teresa of Jesus, which would be dedicated to teaching for the purpose of regenerating the world, educating women according to the spirit of St. Teresa of Jesus".*^[1]

The inspiration was not just a dream, but a mission that continues to challenge us today. From the very beginning, our Founder was deeply aware that the Society is a truly active apostolic body, born with an evangelizing mission in the Church and in the world: to educate new generations according to the spirit of St. Teresa of Jesus. It is a mission driven by the deep concern to "regenerate" society and by the conviction that education is a powerful tool for transforming hearts and societies.

This year, moreover, we celebrate the Inspiration within the context of the Year of Hope. We know that hope is not simple naivete or a form of escapism; it is the certainty that God continues to act in history, that good is possible, that our daily commitment bears fruit, even if sometimes we do not see it. Henry de Ossó expressed it powerfully: "Hope... is like a store of bread in times of famine.... God's mercy is the source of all remedies, and hope is the vessel that catches them..." And accordingly, the one who, moved by God, waits with hope shall obtain all things from him..." And he goes on to say, *"Hope is the anchor, because just as the anchor holds fast to the firm ground and keeps the ship that is in the water safe, making it disregard the waves and the storms, so the virtue of living hope holds fast the anchor of the just in the midst of the waves and the storms."*^[2]

In the midst of this world, which is going through moments of profound uncertainty and change, in societies marked by growing inequalities, conflicts that affect millions of people, social fragmentation that generates distrust and despair, and environmental crises that cry out for an urgent response, we, as a Society, are called to be a living sign of hope. We are called to unite and walk together with others who, with their often invisible action, their gestures of solidarity, their unceasing search for justice and their commitment to build bridges instead of walls, inspire and encourage hope, showing possible paths in the face of today's challenges.

[1] EEO II pág. 429

[2] E. de O., tomo I, pg. 1045-1047



This is not a time for discouragement or nostalgia. It is a time to continue dreaming boldly, as Henry de Ossó did. To educate with passion, *forming real and courageous souls who stand up for Jesus*. To sow hope in every classroom, in every community, in every family we meet, providing a close and supportive presence in the midst of realities where life is most under threat.

Today is an ideal day to ask ourselves: How can I be an inspiration today, in the reality of my life and mission? How can we, as a community, encourage and support each other to faithfully embody the dream of Henry de Ossó? How do we continue to respond, as a universal body, to the challenges of our time, as a sign of hope and Gospel boldness?

On this anniversary, let us renew our YES together; let us look to the future with the confidence that characterized our teachers Henry and Teresa of Jesus; and let us remember that our mission only makes sense if it is lived out of a passion for Jesus and his interests, rooted in reality and a heart open to the newness of the Spirit.

Let us continue walking together, along with many others, with gratitude and hope, knowing that the Lord continues to sustain the Society and that the Inspiration of that night is still alive in each one of us.

A warm hug,

Angela Cuadra