

## HAPPY AND BLESSED MOTHER'S DAY!

To all of our dear Becoming Neighbours Friends,

Warmest greetings to each one of you as we celebrate May, the month of Mary, and the gifts of motherhood in all its rich and diverse expressions. Many of the newcomers have shared with us that in their home country Mother's Day is celebrated sometime during the month of May but the actual day and the beautiful activities in which they engage to honour their mothers vary according to their country. What rich and diverse customs we all bring to the fabric of our multicultural Canada!



As we well know, **MOTHER'S DAY** is a special sacred time to give thanks to God not only for the gift of our own mothers, but also for all those women who have protected, supported, nurtured, nourished, taught and loved us and continue to do so. This year, since last May, last Mother's Day, many of us carry the grief of the deaths of maternal figures in our lives. A sword, like the sword that pierced the heart of Mary, that same sword today pierces our hearts.

1921 100 years 2021

PASSIONATE ABOUT CHRIST PASSIONATE ABOUT THE WORLD!

With gratitude to God we acknowledge the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Foundation of the Xavieres. Being available to the Holy Spirit is what Claire Monestès, the foundress, "wanted for the Xavieres, living an intense and joyful religious life but in the midst of the world open to the need of the world and the church". This they have done with great gusto, flair, spunk and a willingness for their hands and hearts to be united with those most excluded. "Passionate about Christ and passionate about the world", each Xaviere and they as a community have touched us with their presence and called us to be "more".

On this Mother's Day, giving thanks to God for all the women who have called us to the "More", we are pleased to share with you "*Fridge Notes for Companions*" and a "*Prayer Service for Mother's Day*" for your individual/communal reflection.

Let us stand together in our struggle and care for each other as sisters and brothers and on May 24, the anniversary of LAUDATO SI', let us especially be attentive to Mother Earth.

God's Peace, Blessings and Solidarity,

Lois Anne Bordowitz, FCJ

Peter McKenna, SCJ