

### EGC (Enlarged General Council) Transmission

The EGC took place in Kinshasa, Congo from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 2019. The transmission of it in the Province took place along with the three sessions of the Province Assembly. It was certainly not possible to have the sharing in the same way as the delegates of the EGC had it. They had spent a lot of time to OBSERVE, REFLECT and ACT upon each theme in depth which could not have been done due to the constraints of time. But Sr. Teresa Attupuram, the Provincial made sure that we did not miss out anything that happened there during those days.

She started the session with the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to each one of them by St. Bernard Province, Kinshasa, right up to their departure for their respective Provinces. There was a sense of oneness without the distinctions of age, place, etc. She said that there was no theme as such, in the sense of usual long input sessions. But whatever they did was based on the principle of Observe, Reflect and Act and that exactly was the theme they were concentrating on: 'Contemplative Leadership'. Moreover the whole EGC was very informal; it evolved and unfolded itself as the days went by. The Sisters of St. Bernard Province was at their disposal, available and ready with their services to meet all the needs of the participants. Liturgy was also taken care by them.



### EGC Transmission by Sr. Teresa Attupuram

She gave a clear picture of the way the fifteen days were spent during the EGC. The first three days (2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> August) was spent in knowing one another, the congregation, the local Church and the Provinces through the Province report and interactions with one another. The next six days was spent in listening to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth. During this period one day was dedicated to an emersion experience to home for the street children run by the Jesuits or home for the elderly run by the diocese or Mother Teresa's home for the abandoned. They spent the day with the inmates listening to them, sharing their joys and sorrows, their pain and struggles and also sharing food with them. They came back being enriched by the fact that they were able to share in the cry of the poor at least by their presence, smile, kindness, compassion, etc. In the words of the inmates, that one day visit from the EGC participants gave them the message that there is still hope and God has not forgotten them. The participants spent one day in recollection and one day for an outing so that they were refreshed and renewed. The rest of the days were dedicated to understanding the issues and concerns. The whole sharing was with power point.