

Sao Paulo, May 16, 2018



Dear Sisters,

First of all, I thank God for the call to consecrated life in Sion. Trusting in his faithfulness and mercy accepted his call and now I have given my definitive yes.



I am very grateful to Sr. Mary Babic, Superior General, who gave me the great joy of receiving my final vows.

I am deeply grateful to Sisters Valdete and Claudina who, accompanied me during these years, walked with me, patient and generous, encouraging me with their examples of humility and simplicity and, above all, accepting myself as I am with whole hearts. I will never forget what I have been able



to learn from you, to better walk the road of life in Sion. In a special way, I thank the sisters who, in one way or another, helped me to get here and all those who were present at the celebration day also as associates and friends.

I also had full of joy to welcoming my brothers, sisters, nephews and most of all my father my hero, of my life, who came from the northeast part of Brazil to be with



me I know it's hard for him because he is 85 years old but he wanted to witness and to be part of my celebration. My father and my two sisters stayed for five days. It was very good to spent few days with them.



My gratitude for whole Congregation who has given me opportunities to live and walk in Sion, to all the sisters, to whom I have lived and shared different experiences in Brazil, Australia and Jerusalem. The sisters who were with me during the ConnecSion, we were in the "same boat" sharing our experiences and have enrich our journey together in Sion. This was the first time in São Paulo that a celebration of vows was opened to the ecclesial community, which participates in the Sunday Eucharist, and our chapel was full of participants. The celebration was presided by Fr. Cláudio, a Claretian from our parish, and concelebrated by Ulysses, a chaplain, and was gleamed by Friar Marcos, Carmelita barefoot, who with his beautiful voice inspired us to the letter together with the sound of his guitar.

After the celebration, we had a reception in the sisters' cafeteria. And, to my surprised, it was Sr. Mary Babic's birthday. It was celebration of the gift of her life. With all of these, we had a beautiful celebration and the whole day was a blessing of joy.

May Mary, daughter of Sion for excellence, with her Son Jesus Christ continue to inspire and enlighten me in Sion.



**IN SION FIRMATA SUM!**

**I chose May 6**

**To perpetuate my yes**

**In memory of Father Afonso**

**Our beloved Père Marie**

**And to illustrate this day**

**Sr. Mary Babic celebrated her birthday.**

**And celebrated with us here!**

Josefa Josélia Oliveira de Maria

