



August 10, 2026

Dear Friends and Family,

As we write this letter, our hearts are filled with both gratitude and trust in God's loving providence.

We have recently been informed that the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life has made the decision that our community will not be considered for approval as an institute of diocesan right, now or in the future. There were unintended formational issues that surfaced as a result of our being a relatively new community. Our dear Bishop has taken care to share these concerns of the Dicastery with us. As a result of that new information and after much prayer, discernment, and consultation, Bishop Fernandes has made the difficult decision to suppress the Children of Mary as a public association of the faithful. Although this decision is a sorrowful one to accept, we receive it in a spirit of faith, humility, and filial obedience to the Church we love.

This decision means that the Children of Mary will come to an end as a community, in October 2026. While that reality brings deep sadness to all of us, we remain confident that God does not abandon the work He begins. We have witnessed His grace in countless lives through this apostolate, and we trust that the seeds He has planted will continue to bear fruit according to His perfect plan. The friendships formed, the lives touched, and the love of Christ shared through the Children of Mary will endure in ways known fully only to God. As we each continue to discern the path the Lord now sets before us, we do so with confidence that He is faithful and that His providence never fails.

This decision may seem abrupt, but much has transpired up until this point. Although the life of the Children of Mary as a community is coming to a close, our gratitude for your friendship and support will never end. Please know that we will continue to remember all of our supporters in our prayers with deep affection. We humbly ask that you also pray for each of us as we entrust our future to the Lord and continue to seek His holy will with generous and faithful hearts.

The Blessed Virgin Mary has always taught us to trust without reservation, especially when the path ahead is hidden. Like her, we desire simply to say, "*Let it be done to me according to your word.*" Confident that God brings good out of every circumstance for those who love Him, we

place ourselves into His loving hands, trusting that His plans are always greater than our own.

Thank you for believing in us, for praying for us, and for walking with us throughout these years. May the Lord reward your generosity abundantly, and may Our Lady keep you always beneath the mantle of her maternal love continually enkindling the fire of love for Jesus Eucharistic in you.

With heartfelt gratitude and the assurance of our prayers,

The Children of Mary