



October 24, 2018

Dear Sisters,

Greetings to you on this special day. Today we celebrate and give thanks to God for the 73 years that the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes has been privileged to serve the people of Waspam. The request from the Capuchin friars to join their ministry was made in the early 1940s and, by 1945, the Sisters of St. Agnes began their work in healthcare, education and parish outreach among the Miskito Indians living along the Río Coco.

So many blessings have been ours over the years. The early sisters came to this remote area of Nicaragua not knowing how they would accomplish the ministries set out for them. Though there were “ups-and-downs,” all was graced by the assurance that this was the work of God and the Sisters of St. Agnes were there to assist in whatever ways they could. The reality soon set in, and, as expressed in words we pray each day, “it is the weak of the world who confound the strong.” Undaunted, the sisters set about the work and established a school, clinic, catechetical ministry, and wellness outreach in Waspam and along the Río Coco.

We are grateful for the Missionaries of Charity of Mary Immaculate who have accepted the call to come to this area that has been “home” to us for so many years. We ask God’s blessing on them as they continue this sacred mission in the “peripheries” of Nicaragua.

May God continue to be with each of you as you continue your ministries of service and presence. May these words from our Constitutions be with you in this time of transition: “Joined in religious community, we strive to root our lives in Jesus Christ and to live with singleness of purpose: that among us and in our world the risen Christ be discovered and revealed.”

In the peace and love of Christ,

S. Jean Steffes, CSA  
General Superior