



*Seville, 7 October 2026 –
Feast Day of Our Lady of the
Rosary*

Dear friends

I hope your journey home went well and that you've been able to rest after this intense weekend at the SOMI Gathering in Loja.

With the memories still very much alive, I did not want to miss the opportunity to express my deep gratitude for your participation and commitment to this provincial event, in which we have truly felt the spirit of solidarity and mission of Father Claret. Just as the 'Padrito' did, we too have felt the *fire* burning within us, driving us to love to the very end. We have touched the *heart* of the world and brought the *world* into our hearts. And we have experienced the multicultural and missionary diversity of that *hive* of activity where people from different places came and went... 'always happy and joyful' in proclaiming the Gospel.

The challenges are great. We are moved by the plight of our brothers and sisters who continue to flee from injustice, violence, poverty and exclusion; and it falls to us to sustain their hope and our own through hospitality, fraternity and prophetic witness.

This Provincial Meeting has stirred and shaken us to the core. It has rekindled the fire of a faith that inspires a commitment to justice. It has reminded us that we are not alone on this journey, but that we are with and for others, and that networking is not optional. This gathering has strengthened the call to be a living witness that another world is possible, through love and fraternity, through communion and synodality, through a truly shared mission. Thank you for your presence, your witness and everything you contribute!

Now it is time to carry on working. Now is the time to be present in the places where our mission unfolds, seeking to pass on all that we have experienced at this Gathering. Now it is up to us to continue building a missionary Province through dialogue, inspiring others, and engaging them... so that we may continue to grow in Solidarity and Mission. Let us put all our creativity and resources to work so that we may continue walking in communion. Let us pray for this great community that is the Province of Fátima.

Thank you very much and a big hug

Manuel Ogalla CMF,
Prefect of the Apostolate

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Provincial Government

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