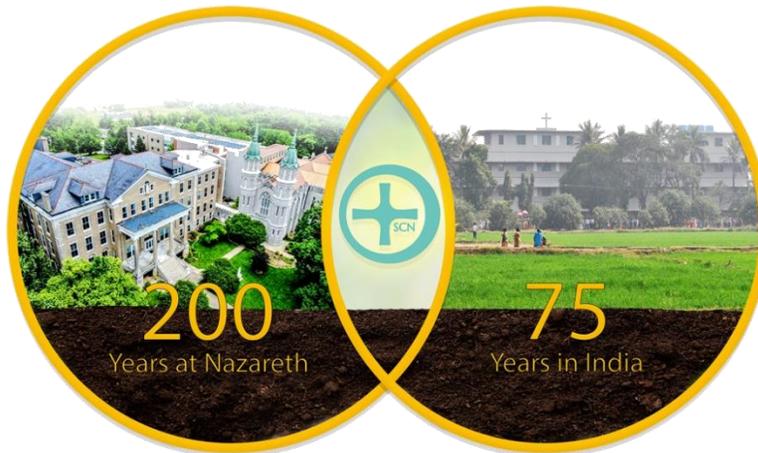


# *On Holy Ground*



## **200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Being at Nazareth and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SCN Presence in India Joint Celebration**

**December 1, 2022  
(Via Zoom)**

**WELCOME** – *Sangeeta Ayithamattam, SCN*

Welcome and a Good Day to you, my Sisters, Associates, and friends joining in today's celebration from across the globe! I join the 'India 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 200 years at Nazareth Committee' in welcoming you to this prayer service. We are truly blessed to celebrate 200 years of SCN presence on the holy grounds of Nazareth and 75 years on Indian soil. Today we gather as one Family to give thanks to God for the blessings and gifts of these holy grounds. Let us celebrate the SCN legacy of our past, present and future by acknowledging the soil on which we stand here at Nazareth and in India.

**OVERVIEW OF TIME TOGETHER** – *Carlette Gentle, SCN*

**OPENING PRAYER** – *Florina Joseph, SCN*

Oh, loving God, we gather today to thank you for the blessing of these Holy Grounds that we stand on. These grounds where dreams were made and promises come through. These grounds where people come to seek you in nature and conversations. These grounds that offer life, hope and a calmness that clears mind, body and soul. These grounds where one can escape to the solitude, silence and the encounter to hear your luring in our hearts. We stop

today to give you thanks, Oh God, for these 200 and 75 years on these soils. We pray that you would make our ways purposeful and every one of our footsteps firm. In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN

## **VIDEO – Transfer of Soil**

## **SONG – This is Holy Ground**

**READING** – *Sincy Sebastian, SCN*

### **THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever have ears, let them hear.” Word of Our God.



**QUIET REFLECTION** – *Mary Kadaparambil, SCN*

Take time to think about what has been shared so far.

- What memories come up as you think of being on the holy grounds on which you stand? We will take 2 minutes of silence to reflect on this question.

## PETITIONS

### **Global Church/Synodality** – *Marian Stenken, SCN*

We pray that this soil that has been transplanted in our being may spread throughout the whole church as we journey through this synod. May it help us and the global church to journey collaboratively together as we take an active role in the mission of the church which is to bring all people together. We pray ...

### **Mission** – *Richa Tripti Sah, SCN*

Just as Mother Catherine had a vision and Mission that she passed down to us in the soil from Old St. Thomas so must we continue to carry that vision and mission in our lives. We pray that wherever we are in the world that we may transplant this soil to all whom we meet just by our actions through humility, simplicity and charity. We pray ...

### **Earth** – *Bibiana Kindo, SCN*

The soil is what connects us to this beautiful earth. We pray that all peoples may see the importance of our earth and strive to protect this special and important resource. Just as Catherine transferred this precious soil to us so may we cherish and protect our earth so that future generations may also enjoy this earth gifted by God. We pray ...

### **Community** – *Hilda Lobo, SCN*

This soil that has grounded us as a community has moved through our veins from the time of Mother Catherine. We pray for our Sisters and Associates that as this soil lives, and moves and grows in us, that we too may continue to pass it on to all whom we encounter as we move with the signs of the time. We pray...

### **VIDEO – Past, Present, Future**



**CLOSING: BLESSINGS FOR THE JOURNEY** – *Jackulin Jesu, SCN*

Blessed are You, God, for you have created a wide and wonderful world in which we can journey. We ask your blessing upon us as we leave on a new adventure, taking soil in hand. May You, Holy Guide of Travelers, be our ever-near companion, spreading the road before us with beauty and adventure. Free that road from harm and evil, and escort us throughout our days. On this journey, may we take with us, as part of our traveling, soil to plant wherever we land, and a heart wrapped in wonder with which to rejoice in all we shall meet. Along with that clothing of wonder, may we have room in our luggage for a mystic map. With the aid of this map, may we read the invisible meanings of the events of this journey --- of possible disappointments and delays, of possible breakdowns and rainy-day troubles. Always awaken us to Your Sacred Presence and to Your divine compassionate love, that we shall see in all that happens, in the beautiful and the bad, the mystery of Your holy plan. May the blessing of our Creator, Redeemer and Holy Sanctifier be upon us throughout this journey of life; may it shield us from all harm and bring us home again in safety and in peace. Amen.

