



Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ
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First Sources of Inspiration

The Passionists were founded to proclaim the Gospel of the Passion of Christ.

“I was called not to baptise but to proclaim the gospel of the Passion of Jesus Christ”
1Cor 1:1

“Here we are proclaiming a crucified Christ, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Greeks.”
1Cor 1:17ff

St Paul of the Cross established the Congregation in 1720 in Italy.

He said that:

“The name of Jesus is written on the forehead of the poor,” and that the Passion of Jesus is “the greatest and the most overwhelming work of God’s love.”

Our special vow is to proclaim the Word of the Cross in season and out of season and to contemplate and recall devoutly the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through this vow which is at once personal, communitarian and apostolic we keep alive the Memory of the Passion of Christ.

“We are aware that the Passion of Christ continues in this world until he comes in glory;

therefore we share in the joys and sorrows of our contemporaries

as we journey through life to our Father.

We wish to share in the distress of all, especially those who are poor and neglected; we seek to offer them comfort and relieve the burden of their sorrow.”

(CP Constitutions No 3.)

“The Community of the Passion is a group of women and men seriously passionate about the poor and powerless. We recognize that the Cross of Jesus is to be found wherever we meet suffering humanity and the suffering Earth. Together we live our lives in solidarity with the Crucified Ones: their hopes and struggles are our priority. The empowerment of the powerless is our objective. Until that is achieved, we suffer with them as we search for union with the Crucified God.”

(Big Issue Advert 1990's)

Individually and as communities our response takes a variety of forms as we reach out to, and welcome, the “crucified ones” in our society.

We seek those locations that are “sites of suffering” so as to reach out to a crucified Christ, a crucified humanity, and a crucified earth.