



**Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother**  
U.S./Caribbean Province  
Provincial Office

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**For Immediate Release**

## **NEW LEADERSHIP FOR FRANCISCAN CONGREGATION**

ROME - The Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, Third Order of St. Francis, elected a new leadership team for general administration at their 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly held in Rome, October 15-30, 2007. Sister Teresina Marra from Rome, Italy, is the new General Superior. The Assistant General Superior is Sister Catherine Marie Hanegan from Tulsa, Oklahoma, U.S.A. Two councilors complete the team: Sister Klarita Holzheimer from Eichstätt, Germany, and Sister Judith Marie Beck from Tomahawk, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

The new leadership team will take office in February 2008. Sister Marra, who served as the Assistant General Superior for the last five years, will help lead the congregation in the vision and direction set forth at the 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

Sister Hanegan serves in the Diocese of Tulsa. She is the President of St. John Villas and Vice-President of St. John Health System, Tulsa, Oklahoma, one of three regional health care systems sponsored by the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother in the United States.

Sister Holzheimer works with adults and youth in Pastoral Ministry. She is also a substitute teacher in the Diocese of Eichstätt, Germany.

Sister Beck serves in the Diocese of Superior and is working in Ministry Health Care, one of the three regional health care systems sponsored by the sisters under Marian Health System, based in Wisconsin and Minnesota. She is the project coordinator for a University of Wisconsin School of Medicine grant to increase mental health services to children and adolescents in northern Wisconsin.

The Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother were founded in Rome in 1883 by Mother Frances Streitl. Her growing community expanded to America in 1888 where they founded hospitals and worked in parish schools. Today the sisters serve in Italy, Germany, Austria, Tanzania, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Lucia, Grenada and the United States (New Jersey, Maryland, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico).

As the new leadership team prepares to lead the sisters in their mission and ministry throughout the world, they are compelled by the focus of the 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly: from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians 5:14, "For the Love of Christ Urges Us On!"

Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, Third Order Regular, elected new general leadership in Rome during their 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, October 15 - 30, 2007. These sisters will oversee the life and ministry of the sisters in Europe, Africa, North America and South America.

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Please call the provincial office to receive location/information of the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother in your area.



**Sister Klarita Holzheimer, Councilor, Sister Catherine Marie Hanegan, Assistant General Superior, Sister Theresina Marra, General Superior, Sister Judith Marie Beck, Councilor**