

## Mission

Each individual community has its own particular character depending upon whether its mission is more contemplative or more actively apostolic.



Our aid for priests entails the spiritual support of priests through prayer and sacrifices and our lived union with God. For this reason each Sister



should be filled with love for adoration and hidden service in prayer and in deed, regardless of what she does exteriorly.



We engage also in the pastoral care of youth



and children, in parish work and other areas of charitable service.



SOCIETAS SORORUM A SANCTA CRUCE

Sisters of the Holy Cross OA are an international Community with its Mother House in Austria. We are also located in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Portugal, Brazil, India, Philippines and the USA.



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# SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS OA

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He who speaks of the love of God, cannot deny the Cross!

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## History

The Sisters of the Holy Cross originated from the spiritual movement of the Work of the Holy Angels which began in 1949 in Innsbruck, Austria.

In various countries small communities were formed which desired to live the evangelical counsels in the spirit of the Work of the Holy Angels. Their Rule was written by Mother Gabriele Bitterlich and was approved by the Church. On November 9, 2002 the Community of the Sisters



was erected by His Excellency, Archbishop Dr. Alois Kothgasser as an Institute of Consecrated Life in the Diocese of Innsbruck. On April 25, 2018 the Sisters of the Holy Cross were distinguished as an Institute of Pontifical Right. We are aggregated to the Order of Canons Regular of the Holy Cross and with them we form one religious family of the same spirituality.

## Spirituality

To the religious family of the Sisters also belong the Mission Helpers. They live according to the same spirituality as we Sisters, but in the world, either individually or in community, while working in a profession.



Our community is founded for the adoration of GOD and as an aid for priests, especially those of our same religious family. We try to realize this by living according to “Four Funda-

mental Directions”: *Adoration, contemplation* and the realization of the Word of God in deed, the following of the Cross in a spirit of *expiation* and the *mission* to serve.

In this Mary, as a Bride and Handmaid of the Lord, is our model as well as the Holy Angels. The highlight of everyday is the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, adoration and the Liturgy of the Hours prayed in common and the rosary.



As Sisters of the Holy Cross we acknowledge the mystery of the Cross as the way of our Redemption. Every week we remember the suffering and death of our Lord JESUS CHRIST (PASSIO DOMINI) in adoration and intercession for all men.



Out of love and gratitude, we wish to be near the Lord precisely in His hours of suffering. It is our special intention that in our lives the “beauty” of the Cross and the joy of being redeemed radiate anew.



We wish to live out this way of life with the Holy Angels, with whom we have united ourselves through the Consecration. They are examples to us in their undivided service of God and in their dedication for the salvation of all men. We implore their protection and powerful aid for the many intentions and needs of mankind and of our times.

