



1948-1957

## Missionary Zeal and Travels

**2 SEPTEMBER 1948** Opens a health-care community (clinic) for the Daughters of St. Paul at Albano, Italy.

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**DECEMBER 1948** Writes an important circular letter on poverty, the foundation of the Pauline religious life.

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**3 APRIL 1949** Leaves with the Founder for a round-the-world visit to the Pauline communities of India, Philippines, Japan, Mexico and the United States. Returns to Rome on 24 July 1949.

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**30 SEPTEMBER 1949** Visits the communities of France and Spain. Returns to Rome on 11 October.

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**1950** Filming of *Mater Dei*. M. Thecla portrays the prophetess Anna. Other Daughters of St. Paul have walk-on roles, while some serve as costume designers, etc.

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**MARCH 1950** Writes a circular letter inviting the sisters to grow in the spirit of the Institute, citing simplicity and quickness as elements of this spirit.

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**31 DECEMBER 1951** Petitions the Holy See for pontifical approval of the Institute of the Daughters of St. Paul and definitive approval of its Constitutions.

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**1952** Supports a project to produce short catechetical films and helps concretize it by paying two-thirds of the expenses involved.

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**21 MARCH 1952** Leaves with the Founder for a visit to the communities of North and South America: United States, Canada, Mexico, Chile, Argentina and Brazil. In Latin America, promotes the film apostolate in particular. Returns to Rome on 14 June 1952.

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**12 JULY 1952** Visits the communities of France. Returns to Rome on 26 July.

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**19 JANUARY 1953** Papal Secretary of State Bishop Giovanni Battista Montini writes to Fr. Alberione thanking him for the scripts of the short catechetical films.

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**15 MARCH 1953** The Holy See promulgates the Decree of Pontifical Approval of the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Paul and also approves its Constitutions.

Writing to tell the sisters about this, M. Thecla expresses her heartfelt gratitude to the Lord.

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**13 APRIL 1953** Leaves with the Founder for a visit to the communities of Japan, Philippines and India. Primo Maestro falls ill in Bombay, India. M. Thecla welcomes him into the FSP community there in order to see that he receives proper care and then arranges for him to return quickly to Rome. She herself returns to Rome on 22 May 1953.

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**13 JULY 1953** Leaves with the Founder for a visit to the communities of North and South America: Canada, United States, Colombia, Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Returns to Rome on 3 Sept. 1953.

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**5-10 SEPTEMBER 1953** Second National Council of Mothers General held in Rome. M. Thecla is elected president of FIRAS (Federazione Italiana Religiose Assistenza Sociale).

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**1 NOVEMBER 1953** Visits the communities of France, Spain and Portugal. Returns to Rome on 18 November 1953.

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**14 APRIL 1954** Returns to France for a brief visit.

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**29-30 NOVEMBER 1954** Consecration of the Sanctuary of Mary, Queen of Apostles (now a minor basilica) in Rome.

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**FEBRUARY 1955** Invites the sisters to live the year dedicated to the Divine Master by assuming a concrete commitment: diffusion of the catechetical magazine "*Way, Truth and Life.*"

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**16 APRIL 1955** With the Founder, visits the communities of the Philippines, Japan, Australia and India. Returns to Rome on 2 June 1955.

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**13 MAY 1955** Travels to Sydney, Australia, with the sisters assigned to open a community there.

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**27 JULY 1955** Visits the communities of Great Britain, France, Spain and Portugal. Returns to Rome on 22 August 1955.

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**12 SEPTEMBER 1955** With the Founder, visits the communities of North and South America: United States, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Returns to Rome on 12 December 1955.

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**SEPTEMBER 1955** Writes from the United States urging everyone to pray for *Così*, a magazine for young women whose first issue was programmed for December 1955.

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**25 JULY 1956** Visits the communities of Great Britain and Spain. Returns to Rome on 31 July 1956.

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**7 JANUARY 1957** Convoques the first General Chapter of the Daughters of St. Paul, to be celebrated from 4-7 May 1957, following a course of spiritual exercises.

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**23 FEBRUARY 1957** Undergoes major surgery (a mastectomy) at *Regina Apostolorum* Clinic, Albano. Surgeon: Dr. Francesco Ojetti.

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**4 MAY 1957** Re-elected Superior General for another 12-year term by the Institute's first General Chapter.

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