

HISTORY OF LASA

The LASA project was born in the Congregation, during the Nineties (1996), with the beginning of the canonization process of Carlo and Giulia of Barolo and with the deepening of our charismatic sources. At that particular time, it was strongly felt to involve the laity in the charism, spirituality and mission of the Sisters of St. Ann (SSA).

This process was guided by the Church, after the Synod on Consecrated Life (1994), with the publication of the Post Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Vita Consecrata* (25 March 1996) by the Holy Father John Paul II, which affirms: “Today, often as a result of new situations, many Institutes have come to the conclusion that their charism can be shared with the laity. The laity are therefore invited to share more intensely in the spirituality and mission of these Institutes...” (VC 54).

This dream was further strengthened, and became increasingly clear during the XXXI General Chapter in 2002. The Sisters of the Chapter, representatives of the entire Congregation, concluded: “The life of our Founders, Carlo and Giulia, is not a textbook to be read together with the laity through some interesting initiatives, but it is above all an experience of shared faith, as a response to the quest for meaning of the Christians of our time.”

The Delegation of Brazil in Latin America became the first mission to implement the Deliberation of the XXXI General Chapter. The first LASA group began on 25th April 2004, and this year it celebrates its 22nd Anniversary at Londrina. Over the years the LASA groups were initiated in all the countries

where SAP is present and thus carrying out our specific Mission
in the Church with Lay collaboration