



Instructions to Sisters for the foundation of the Ouadhias (2nd December 1877)

Mother Salomé will be Bursar as well as Superior. She will do the shopping and keep the accounts of the Community. For the treatment provided by the Sisters, she will supply the medicines and find the various articles for the School Mistress to give to the children as a reward. She herself will often write to His Grace so that our Most Reverend Father is updated on everything that happens in the community. His Grace must be informed of the least matter arising contrary to these recommendations and safeguards set out today.

Mother Salomé will take charge of the chapel and the sacristy. She is in charge of domestic matters. Mother Marie de Jésus will take exclusive charge of the school. No one else will take classes; she will provide as many hours of class as the Fathers: four hours in the morning and four hours in the evening. She must never go into the poor quarter under any circumstances. She will apply herself diligently to the study of Kabyle so as to teach it at the Novitiate next year. If she takes lessons in Kabyle, she must never take them from a man.

With the aim of attracting children to the school, use will be made of the procedures of the Fathers in the Kabylia Missions, namely, the distribution of rewards in kind that the children can gain for points: one for correctness, one for cleanliness, one just for attendance at the school, one for common sense and one for application.

Mother Marie de Jésus will take charge of correspondence for the House; Mother Marie Salomé will tell her what to write and the letters will be sealed, stamped, and sent by the Superior. Mother Pélagie will take exclusive charge of the sick; she will look after any who come, but particularly women. When she is asked into the houses of the local inhabitants, Mother Salomé will always accompany her.

His Grace, our Most Reverend Father, counsels the Sisters to have the greatest prudence with regard to the Fathers and to the local inhabitants. No Sister may enter the Father's house; she will be excommunicated by the sole fact of crossing the threshold of the Fathers' house and Mother Salomé must inform His Grace of it immediately.

The Sisters may never enter into the Chapel for any reason while a Father is there. They will hear

Mass in the inner chapel, separated from the main one by a grill. They will confess and receive Holy Communion through this grill. The external door of the Chapel must remain open while the Father is in the Chapel. The Sisters may only speak to the Fathers in the confessional or out in the open.

The Sisters may never allow any man to enter their home on the pretext of treating him. Only women may enter the building that will serve them as a dispensary; the men will be given treatment at the door or rather will be referred to the Fathers. They will give treatment to the sick at any hour of the day, except during spiritual exercises, when they will be told to wait.

The spiritual exercises of the community will be those indicated by the Rule. The daily timetable will be composed and signed by Reverend Mother General before their departure. If it is later, the Sisters will assess its need because of their occupations, and recommend a change in the time of an exercise. Mother Salomé will write to our Mother General and they will submit to her opinion.

His Grace counsels Mother Salomé to exercise a great deal of charity for the Sisters of her Community. Mother Marie de Jésus is to give example in obedience and religious modesty. An application will be made to obtain authorisation from the Academy of Algiers for a free school at the Mission station of the Ouadhias. All these recommendations will be written down and presented to His Grace so that the Sisters may take them away with the signature of the Archbishop.

