



Founded in France 1662
Established in Singapore 1854

Infant Jesus Board of Management

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Celebration of the 400th Anniversary of the birth of our founder, Blessed Nicolas Barré

Message from Sr Maria Lau, Provincial of IJ Sisters

It is with great joy that we celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the birth of our founder, Blessed Nicolas Barré. Through his generous response to God's call, we have benefitted from his vision of the IJ education for girls in Singapore and throughout the world. Let us thank God for His faithfulness and His unconditional love throughout this journey of commitment to mission and to education in a positive, creative and enabling environment.

The heritage, handed down from Father Barré to educate and develop every child according to her individual gifts, continues to inspire and energise people today. The seeds planted and tended with loving care, by the generations of IJ sisters and lay partners, have borne much fruit. The unique spirit of loyalty, generosity and dedication that marks the IJ students will always remain with them throughout their lives. In the words of Pope Francis, *"True education enables us to love life and opens us to the fullness of life."*

The pilgrimage of life continues and we know that God accompanies us along the way. As we walk forward together in hope, may we make a difference in the lives of those people we encounter, in our families, schools and society at large.

The IJ Board of Management, my IJ Sisters and I offer our heartfelt congratulations to each of you who has been touched by the spirit of our rich heritage. We wish all teachers as they celebrate Teachers' Day and their students every blessing and continued success as we mark this significant milestone in the life of the IJ presence in Singapore.

Sr Maria Lau
Provincial, IJ Sisters
2 September 2021