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THE CROSS AS A SIGN OF HOPE IN TODAY'S WORLD

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God loved us with such great love that he went to the Cross. In Jesus, this love became close, human, alive. At the height of his humanity, Jesus felt everything: our pains, our sorrows, our anguish. He took everything upon himself, out of love. And even in the heart of that pain, hanging on the Cross, Jesus knew he was safe. He rested in his Father's arms.

At her feet, a silent but powerful presence: Mary. The first disciple. She did not run away. She did not let herself be overwhelmed by the pain. She remained standing. Because she believed. Because she had hope. She knew deep down that light would overcome darkness, that her Son would rise again.

We too, as young people of the Vincentian Marian Youth, are called to live this same hope. Like Mary, we must remain standing, even when all seems lost. We must be witnesses of the Love that saves, of the Hope that lifts us up, of the Light that drives away darkness.

The world needs this flame. Many around us live in suffering, isolation, fear. It is up to us to extend a hand to them, to bring them a word of life, a look of tenderness, a gesture of love. Because yes, God's love is stronger than all darkness. And it is up to us to proclaim it, through our lives, our commitment, our faith.