

« Providence of my God, I abandon myself to you without reserve »

On November 7, 2018, Sister Alphonse Marie, my Provincial superior, phoned me to ask me to go to Congo, Africa. I was speechless, I didn't know what to say. Fear took hold of me to my bones because I had never thought of going on mission anywhere but in Madagascar. She gave me a few weeks to reflect. I explained to her that I wasn't capable to carry out this mission. In fact, I knew nothing about the culture, language or the work to be done there. In addition, I have an elderly mother and she isn't in good health. What a trial for me!

In all of this, God Providence was challenging me. That very day I was astounded at community prayer when one of my community members intoned a canticle: "Leave your country, your homeland, your parents, all those you love...and come follow me". At that point no one knew anything about my discernment.

I began to meditate on this song as I discerned. I prayed and placed everything in God's hands. I felt in my heart that if God was calling me to be providence, it wasn't just to stay in the same place; I also needed to go to the peripheries. That is to say, to be providence in the whole world.

Providence helped me very much in my decision and encouraged me to live abandonment wherever I am sent, even if it means going out of my country to Congo to participate in the mission of the Church, to be a witness of Providence and educator in the faith. I am at peace.

Sister Yvette ANJOVA Bakolinirina