

INTRODUCTION

As one, we enter in a new period of our journey as one missionary family, deepening in the intention of our Apostolic project **“VDMFa: One in mind and heart in forming apostles of Christ”**. It is our desire to be in communion with the gift of our charism, intention, desire, and mission: To form apostles.

We can only have this intentionality by our union and communion in God’s love. For this, we will start this month, praying and immersing ourselves in God’s desire for all. This first week, is to immerse our life in the longing of the Spirit for our brothers and sisters. The second week will be in the life of our beloved Trinity, the 3rd week, a family rooted in the Eucharist and in the last week, a family rooted in the two main pillars of understanding our mission: St. Peter and St. Paul.

The purpose is to root our life in God’s missionary heart so that we will comprehend *“with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God”* (**Ephesians 3:18-19**) in our mission.

In this missionary intention, we will enter this week in the dynamism of the Spirit, Lord and giver of life. *To root our life in His desire for all and to realize that our life in Him is for others.* This Spirit is the same Spirit that the first Christian community received (**Acts 2:1-3**). So, *who is the Spirit of God in us*

today? What does His life mean in us? What is His action and dynamism?

He comes to open the perspective of our life, the missionary heart that is in us, the potential that many times is hidden. He is the Holy Spirit who cry in order share through our life the good news of God to our brother and sisters *“we know that all creation is groaning labor pains even until now, waiting for the revelation of the children of God”*

(Cfr. Romans 3:19-23)

The desire of the Spirit is that through us in the differences of our talents and capacities, He can make known His life to them. It is a call to wake up the eternal life of God in them, the relationship that gives new perspective; hope that never perish. It is His life in our brothers and sisters who is waiting for the voice of the prophets of the world of today. **“Lord, come and renew the face of the earth”**, through our life. (**Psalm 104:24**) Allow the Holy Spirit bring you farther to those who are waiting to hear His voice.

MONDAY

The Holy Spirit in Jesus, teach us to see the crowds

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (**Matthew 5:1-12**)

Who is the Spirit? What does the Spirit see towards the world of today? Jesus in the Spirit, teach us to see as you see: “possibility”. Let us enter in his gaze and to tell them the gift of His life.

TUESDAY

In the Spirit, we are light in the world of today

Jesus said to his disciples: “You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before

others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.” (**Matthew 5:13-16**)

The Spirit in us brings us to be light in the darkness, light of hope, love, serenity, understanding, that many times is lacking in the environment. “Let me be your light for them”.

WEDNESDAY

In the Spirit, bring life to others

Jesus says to His disciples: As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, and cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give. “Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts— no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep. Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave. As you enter the home, give it your greeting. If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you. (**Matthew 10:7-13**)

“Because we do not always see these seeds growing, we need an interior certainty, a conviction that God is able to act in every situation, even amid apparent setbacks: “we have this treasure in earthen vessels” (**2Corinthians 4:7**). This certainty is often called “a sense of mystery”. No single act of love for God will be lost, no generous effort is meaningless, no painful endurance is wasted. Sometimes it seems that our work is fruitless, but the Holy Spirit works

as He wills, when He wills, and where He wills; We know only that our commitment is necessary.

(Evangelii Gaudium #279)

The certainty of our mission is God's action in imperceptible ways, even amidst apparent set back, the action of the Spirit is in their hearts. "Not to stop giving my Word. My action is true"

THURSDAY

The gift of reconciliation that the Spirit brings through us

Jesus said to his disciples:

"I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter into the Kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.* But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment, and whoever says to his brother, 'Raqa,' will be answerable to the Sanhedrin, and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court with him. Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge, and the judge will hand you over to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny."

(Matthew 5:20-26)

The life of the Spirit in us and among us is concrete. He creates bonds stronger than flesh and blood. Allow Him to bring you in a new experience of brotherhood through the reconciliation experience. Don't let the end of the day finish without experiencing pardon and forgiveness with others.

FRIDAY

Be still "I Am Here"

At the mountain of God, Horeb, Elijah came to a cave, where he took shelter. But the word of the LORD came to him, "Go outside and stand on the mountain before the LORD; the LORD will be passing by." A strong and heavy wind was rending the mountains and crushing rocks before the LORD—but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake—but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was fire—but the LORD was not in the fire. After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound. When he heard this, Elijah hid his face in his cloak and went and stood at the entrance of the cave. A voice said to him, "Elijah, why are you here?" He replied, "I have been most zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts..." **(1Kings 19:9,11-16)**

The presence of the Holy Spirit is faithful, in the moments of uncertainty or doubt. Be still and hear that tiny whispering sound, that speak within you. "Go, my friend, I am with you"

SATURDAY

Be decisive in the spirit

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all; not by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is his footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Do not swear by your head, for you cannot make a single hair white or black. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One." **(Matthew 5:33-37)**

"Many pastoral workers, although they pray, develop a sort of inferiority complex which leads them to relativize or conceal their Christian identity and convictions. This produces a vicious circle. They end up being unhappy with who they are and what they do; they do not identify with their mission of evangelization and this weakens their commitment"

(Evangelii Gaudium #79)

The ambiguity of life, many times stops us from becoming signs of the Spirit, that our "yes" be a "yes" and our "no" be a "no" without any doubt. Let us commit ourselves in words and actions to the action of the Spirit in the world of today, not relativizing our understanding of His Word. Christian life is a sign in the measure that we are faithful to His inspirations. "Commit your life in me" "I will sustain you"

SUNDAY READINGS

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

First Reading – Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9

Psalm – Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55

Second reading – 2Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel – John 3:16-18

Verbum Dei

GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER

"Lord, come and renew the face of the earth"



"A family rooted and united in God's missionary heart"

Objective of the week:

- *To be a Family united in the life of the Spirit, open to all peoples.*