

discernment – attitudes that certainly demanded humility and love – was a true inspiration for Christians on their synodal journey.”



Life

Invocations to Jesus the Master

Jesus Master, sanctify my mind and increase my faith.

Jesus, teaching in the Church, attract all to your school.

Jesus Master, deliver me from error, from vain thoughts
and from eternal darkness.

O Jesus, the way that leads to the Father, I offer myself entirely to you
and I expect everything from you.

O Jesus, the way of sanctity, make me your faithful follower.

O Jesus the away, make me perfect
as your heavenly Father desires me to be.

O Jesus the life, live in me so that I may live in you.

O Jesus the life, do not permit me to be separated you from you.

O Jesus the life, make me live forever the joys of your love.

O Jesus the truth, grant that I may be the light of the world.

O Jesus, grant that I may be an example to souls.

O Jesus life, grant that wherever I go
my presence may bring grace and consolation.

Psalm 33 (1-4.20-22)

Rejoice in the Lord, you who are just;
praise is fitting for the upright.

Give thanks to the Lord with the harp,
Making melody to him with ten-stringed lyre.

Sing to him a new song,
play the strings skilfully, with shouts of joy.

For truthful is the Lord's word,
and worthy of trust is all his work.

In hope we wait for the Lord:
for he is our help and our shield.

Our hearts rejoice in him,
for we trust in his holy name.

O Lord, your love be upon us,
even as our hope rests on you.

“RENEWING YOUR WAY OF THINKING”

Renewal starts from the mentality, from our way of thinking, of reasoning. It is necessary to be personally renewed in order to live a new apostolate which is an expression of the community, to push us forcefully towards new, especially existential, peripheries. Where does this new way of thinking come from? What is necessary, St. Paul reminds us, is "to know the love of Christ", so engaging that we are able to shape our whole life in a new and meaningful way. Love changes, moves, makes creative ... and everything comes back to life.

Truth

■ *Listening to the Word of the Apostle Paul*

Saint Paul's way of praying is apostolic, outgoing, that is, alive to the community. The inner man, the man of God is he who is strengthened thanks to the action of the Spirit. The breadth of which the Apostle speaks, as well as the length, height and depth belongs to those who are rooted in charity, to those who "know the love of Christ who surpasses all knowledge".

From the Letter to the Ephesians (3:14-21)

“For this reason I kneel in the presence of the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth has received its name. May he strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, according to the riches of his glory; may Christ dwell in your hearts through faith; may you be rooted and founded in love. May you have the power to understand with all the holy ones what is the breadth, the length, the height and the depth, and may you know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Glory to God whose power is at work in us can do much more than we can ask or imagine; glory to him in the Church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, forever and ever! Amen”.

■ ■ *Listening to the Word of the Magisterium*

Having an experience of being loved allows us to overcome private interests, helps us to live by opening gestures. The fruit of the encounter with the joy of the Gospel is the “enthusiasm to do good” as Paulines.

From the Apostolic Exhortation “Evangelii gaudium” (# 2-3)

2. The great danger in today’s world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God’s voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades. This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it, and end up resentful, angry and listless. That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God’s will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ.

3. I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since “no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord. (...) No one can strip us of the dignity bestowed upon us by this boundless and unfailing love. With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, he makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew. Let us not flee from the resurrection of Jesus, let us never give up, come what will. May nothing inspire more than his life, which impels us onwards!

■ ■ ■ Listening to the Founder's Word

The Apostle knew Christ and his love and how he was transformed thanks to this experience, so he becomes 'father' of new apostles ... These words of the Primo Maestro, engaging and strong, lead us to the meaning of our mission, renewing the mentality with which to live the apostolate.

From Body and soul for the Gospel (pp. 61-63)

Pauline mentality. “O God, who enlightened all peoples with the word of the apostle Paul ...”. [This] corresponds to the second goal of the Pauline Family: preaching the dogmatic, moral, liturgical doctrine of Jesus Christ and the Church with the most rapid and effective modern means. It aims to represent and live St. Paul today; thinking, being zealous, praying and sanctifying himself as Saint Paul would do if he lived today. He lived the two precepts of love for God and neighbor in a way so perfect as to show Christ himself: “Christ lives in me” [Gal 2:20].

He became the Society of Saint Paul of which he is the founder. Not the Society of Saint Paul elected him, but he elected us; rather, he begot us: “It is I who generated you in Christ Jesus, through the Gospel” [1 Cor 4:15].

If Saint Paul were alive, he would continue to burn with that double flame, with the same fire, the zeal for God and his Christ, and for the men of every country. And to make himself heard he would go up to the highest pulpits and multiply his word with the means of current progress: press, cinema, radio, television. It would not be his cold and abstract doctrine.

When he arrived, he did not appear for an occasional conference: but he stopped and trained: to obtain the consent of the intellect, to persuade, to convert, to unite with Christ, to start a fully Christian life. He would leave only when there was the moral certainty of perseverance in his people. He left priests to continue his work; he often returned there in word and writing; he wanted news, he was with them in spirit, he prayed for them ... Jesus Christ is the perfect original; Paul was made, and he made himself, form for us; whence we are forged in him, to reproduce Jesus Christ. St Paul-form is not for a physical reproduction of bodily features, but to communicate his personality to the maximum: mentality, virtue, zeal, piety ... everything. The Pauline family, made up of many members, is Paul living in a social body. Know and meditate Saint Paul in life, works, letters; in order to think, reason, speak, operate according to him; and invoke his paternal assistance.

Way

The life of Christ imbued with love, his mentality ... everything educates us so as not to be superficial in our lifestyle, to internalize the apostolic life of Saint Paul, he who was a craftsman of communion.

From the «Annual Letter of the Superior General. A “Synodal Congregation” at the service of the Gospel in the culture of communication»

“Once he had assumed love as the supreme law, the Apostle Paul became a true “artisan of communion”, that is, he began the difficult but rewarding work of uniting people around the Gospel, forming communities, a work that required patience, creativity and perseverance. Paul knew well what an artisan was, as he worked as an artisan making tents and curtains and other items in leather. Paul was aware of the demands of this way of doing things. Despite the difficulties and some conflicts, he always tried to overcome them and motivate communities to look ahead, united around the same goal of living and witnessing to the Gospel. His way of being, through listening, dialogue,