



DAILY REPORT  
17 May 2022

# Day of retreat

The first exercise of the day was morning prayer in the Sanctuary at 7am. Oscar Romero's homily **"God saves all human beings as a people"** of 22 January 1978 was the driving and the appropriate way to embark on new directions starting from Education. An education that evangelises and transforms. As it is a day of retreat, I personally emphasise that it has been a moment of grace of the phases we have lived so far, with many dreams and hopes, prophetic audacity, with desires that the future Government, the Brother Superior General and his Council, will guide us in the next seven years. With the challenge, dreams, values, paths of transformation, advances in the voting of proposals, some more advanced and others less so, the methodology implemented by Sister Leslie del Socorro Sándigo Ortega challenge us to look beyond. In itself, no methodology could generate miracles unless we all commit ourselves to the mission we are developing. The day of retreat has been a time of renewing our commitment by listening to what God is calling us to. Julio Herrera as moderator introduced us to the priest José Cristo Rey García Paredes. Born in 1944, he is a Claretian missionary, originally from Castellar de Santisteban, province of Jaén (Spain). He affirmed having felt very early the missionary and priestly vocation, which gives meaning to his whole life.

The motivation of the morning was special, centred on a General Chapter **"with soul"**. A title that at first I thought would be business as usual. But listening to it, one could see how it all connected.



The priest highlighted the opening address and the Report of Brother Superior General, Robert Schieler. The report recalls the intention: “to bring the Gospel from the world of education”. In his conference, the priest referred to two themes: Leadership and Governance.

He invites us to go a step further, moved by the Holy Spirit who manifests himself in us.

The morning part was motivating with some reading and reflection keys that gave the appropriate rhythm in order to facilitate and facilitating that the heart and mind had space for the Spirit. The house was perceived as being on “**Retreat**” mode.

The priest has a special ability to relate all the themes. He has read all the previous documents and mentioned them at different times, connecting their words with what we are experiencing. I will not dwell on all that he has motivated us throughout the day. For this, we have the possibility to review in the google Drive folder the document and the presentation.

The afternoon session began at 3 p.m., with music given to the Capitulants by the novices from Burkina Faso. We put ourselves in the presence of God. This afternoon’s conference focused on discernment: “**May his will be done**”. The stage of discernment, shares Father José, is the culminating part of the Institute. How to access the “hidden” will of God? What a question! It is the key. To look with the eyes of God. Here is a quote from St. Alberto Hurtado, a Chilean Jesuit who had a question along the same lines: **What would Christ do in my place?**





The last point, sagacity and creativity, is the conclusion of the Day. The moment of sagacity, the creative ability: trust in the “creative minorities”. We have no clear ideas. The day is near. Let us clothe ourselves with the weapons of light. The light, the soul.

At the end of the presentation, there was a moment to share the word cloud and a space for questions. The Brothers took the opportunity to continue the reflection. The challenge of Charismatic Families, if we speak in the plural, shows a richness, a new Jerusalem. Families within the same charism. This is a moment of grace of the Spirit.

The frontiersman never sees what is normal. This is what the Founders are like. In liminality. We are in the visible and the invisible. This rare way of living brings something that fascinates, a painting, a musical composition. We have to be the artists of spirituality.

The charism becomes routine, said Max Weber. We are on an adventure. We can't set the details. When we want to define so much what we are going to do, there is no room for surprises. How different it is to open the group to surprises, trusting the one who trusts us. Those who let you be surprised. **“What does it matter?”** To play, to expose ourselves, to expect miracles. When a life is so programmed, like a computer, it leaves no room for the Spirit. There is not only the complicated, but the complex. Routine will be a path of degradation. A challenge for the whole Church is to rethink all its rituality. We have been too much historical Jesus, and we have not left space for the spirit. Chapters are models of synodality. Consecrated life is losing rituality, and fragmentation is coming.



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It was a day of prayer, reflection, the sharing of Brothers and Sisters who want a better world, with the desire for all to know the wonders that the Lord works in our lives. As the day comes to an end, we give thanks for the gift of Life and our vocation, for the daily gift, for Creation, for the people who enlighten us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Let us be light, salt, with our souls filled with the Spirit. May Saint John Baptist de La Salle and Our Lady of the Star continue to intercede for us.

To all of you, thank you very much for the possibility to share these words.

*Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!*

**By Br. Junior Schnorrenberger,**  
*Chronicler day 17.*



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