

News of the Director General

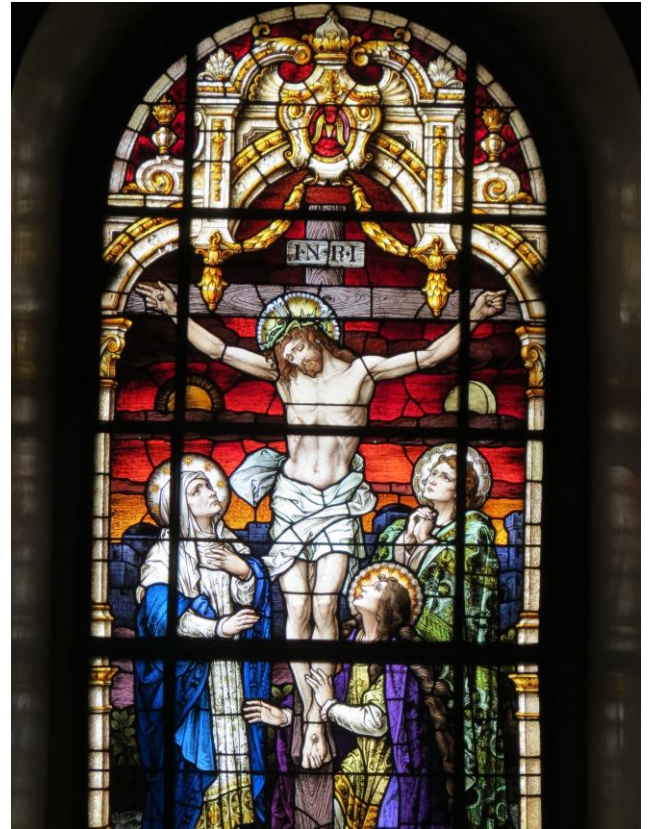
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Easter this year

After three months of recess, I am glad to write to you during this core moment of our faith: the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ. This is the crucial moment to reflect our own discipleship. Jesus called his disciples to follow him to proclaim the kingdom of God. Among them, he chose twelve as his apostles to be with him. Out of the twelve, three were there with him so closely, but only John was there at the foot of the Cross boldly. What happened to the others? Were the others not called? Were the others not seen all what Jesus taught, did and what God revealed through every sign in Jesus?

In reality, it is easy to say 'yes' but not easy to live the 'yes'. First person who agreed the will of God was Blessed Mary who fulfilled her mission. John, with his own limitations, achieved the goal of his call. Mary Magdalene, along with few other women who realized the mercy of God, saw it happened with confidence and courage. This is the true love and the witness. Jesus said to those whom he called: *"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."* (John, 15:12-13) Why the others were not able to do the same as the above? Why did they say yes then?



Vocation to be a witness is not only to the resurrection of Jesus but to the whole paschal mystery. It is the truthfulness to oneself to His passion, death, and resurrection. Church reminds this call to all the baptized during the time of Triduum. My personal question to you and me is: where do I stand as the disciple of Jesus - among the seventy-two or in the midst of those at the foot of the cross? How do I participate in the suffering and death of Jesus? *"Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."* (Mt, 16:24) Besides, he invites us to be like him by saying: *"the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many"* (Mk, 10:45). The discipleship requires actions-oriented testimony based on the experience in Jesus Christ who suffered, died, and was risen as a king, prophet, and priest.

World has completed one year of Pandemic and the Universal Church has been present during this time of COVID-19 with online-based masses, community prayers, spiritual recollections and retreats, Eucharistic adoration, formative counseling, pastoral guidance, etc., expressing the threefold mission of Jesus Christ as king, prophet, and priest. The public places are being used to provide word ministries and sacraments with safety protocols. What am I doing? Where am I standing? How am I going to take part in celebrating my Easter this year? Let us all discern as we are and where we are and live our 'yes' according to our own vocations with the conviction: *"I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me"* (Gal, 2:20) and lead our lives knowing that: *"It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ [Jesus] who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?"* (Rom, 8:33-35)

Thought of Father Parent

“Like for Mary, God asks us to say “yes” to His will...” (*Louis-Marie Parent o.m.i.*)

News from the DG

We thank the Lord for the ordination of three new priests: Justin GINU and Moncy CARLOSE from Kerala-India who will be ordained priests on April 22, 2021 and Efraín HIDALGO ABREU from the Dominican Republic who will be ordained priest on April 24, 2021. May God grant them all the necessary graces to be good ministers working for the expansion of God's kingdom on earth.

I invite you to pray for them that God will give them the strength of His Spirit to sustain them in their priestly ministry and to pursue their mission to the fullest. Congratulations to our three new priests!

Birthdays

5 April, His Eminence, Cardinal Louis-Marie LING, of Laos.

10 April, Joseph SENGOL, Director of the Region of Tamil Nadu.

14 April, Cécile DAVIDSON-CORNEAU of Canada, in charge of the archives at the Central House.

26 April, André CÔTÉ, , in charge of the FLES

29 April, Eduardo FONSECA PONCE Director of the Region of Cuba.

celebrate the birthdays.

I invite you to pray for these persons as well as for all other members who celebrate their Birthdays in April. May God continue to bless them and accompany them on their life journey.

S. James Dunstan I.V.Dei
Director General