



# XVI Synodus Generalis

Gratia | Prophetia | Spes  
Ad Missionem Renovandam

September 15, 2022

# XVI GENERAL SYNOD



“without the laity who live the same charism with us, we are incomplete. Without the Passionist family, the Congregation of the Passion will be incomplete”



# DAY 5 15 SEPTEMBER CHRONICAL

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The Eucharist was celebrated in language groups on the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, Principal Patroness of the Congregation. In all of them, in the different languages, the Sequence, Stabat Mater Dolorosa juxta crucem lacrimosa, resounded, inviting us to live with her and, together with her, the saving Mystery of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Aloysius Nguma, General Consultor and Moderator of the Conference, greeted everyone and led the opening prayer. The first part of the morning was dedicated to the presentation of the Report of the PASPAC Configuration and of the SCOR Configuration-Province. After a brief pause Fr. Gwen presented the third part of the Instrumentum Laboris i.e. the “Strategies for revitalizing the mission in the

Configurations”. Group work and sharing followed. Most of the groups emphasized the need to evaluate the process undertaken by the Configurations and the importance of the role of the President of the Configuration.

In the afternoon, a De La Salle Brother, Bro. Antonio Botana, offered his reflection on “The Role of the Laity in the Charismatic Families”. Fr. Rafael Blasco introduced him underlining his commitment to youth ministry and now working in the process of “shared mission” in his congregation and offering his work and reflection to other congregations and lay movements.

His conference was above all to offer fundamental criteria rather than concrete strategies,

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pointing out that this reality springs from this Church-Communion supported by Vatican II. From his rich conference we note his invitation to undertake paths of innovation and creativity with confidence in the action of the Spirit in the Church and in humanity. Antonio Botana insisted: “The “role” of the laity in the charismatic family must be prepared and people must be informed so that they can “fulfill their role””.

This implies a formation that has to be developed through three processes in which religious and lay people have to be involved. Three processes that support each other, since they are not successive but simultaneous: the process of communion, the process of identification with the charism and the process of commitment to the mission. In each of

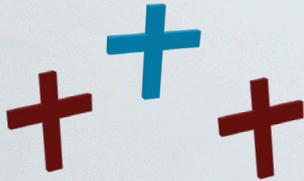
them it is necessary to invest in order to obtain the desired fruit... We invest in relationship (in “creating bonds”) and we obtain belonging: bonds that create relationship, that facilitate the rapprochement of people, mutual knowledge, communication of experience and celebration of faith..... We invest in guidance and formation and obtain identity... We invest in shared animation of the mission and obtain commitment and co-responsibility.... What efforts does the Congregation make to develop the Passionist family? Possibly a good index of evaluation can be found in these three processes that I have just mentioned: in the investment or resources that are used in creating bonds, in guidance and formation, in shared animation of the mission. In this Church-Communion that welcomes us, we can say it with



conviction: without the laity who live the same charism with us, we are incomplete. Without the Passionist family, the Congregation of the Passion will be incomplete”.

A rich dialogue followed, asking him to share the experience of his congregation and others he knows. Then we discussed how to implement this rich reality of the journey of the Passionist Charismatic Family and what steps to take next.

The MAPRAESS Configuration prepared the concluding evening prayer.





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