



Information n° 4

Days of light! This is how we can characterize the second week of the XI General Chapter. Physical light that comes from the sun, which shines imposingly above *Lake Albano*, giving us beautiful sunsets. It is spiritual light that rises from the Spirit every day invoked on the Assembly, mental light that comes from the various conferences and subsequent group works that mark the initial phase of "Choosing". These give shape to the reflection in view of elaborating the priorities and operational lines for the next six-years.

Fruit of the journey of preparation for the Chapter, the *Instrumentum laboris* acts as a GPS. The three nuclei that compose it invite us to reflect on our Pauline life in its various dimensions. Along this route, Monday 6 June was dedicated to the first nucleus: "*The Pauline and his charismatic roots*". Fr Paolo Bazaglia, a Brazilian Pauline, helped us to deepen this nucleus, starting from the apocalyptic and prophetic dimension of St. Paul. Following the example of the Apostle, we are called to be men of relationship and connection and, to "translate" or "edit" the Gospel in our time and in our culture. Like Paul, we are called to work, by hand, to weave networks and build communities guided by Christ, the true protagonist of our lives.

The Italian educator Antonia Chiara Scardicchio illuminated the day of Tuesday, June 7, giving us several "insights" on the formative dimension of the second nucleus, that is, "*The Pauline in mission: integral formation for the mission*". After contextualizing the current epistemological, pedagogical and formative scenario, she provoked us to go further, in an exposition full of evangelical references, metaphors and poetry, but always concrete and attentive to our reality.

The second nucleus was also the subject of study on Wednesday 8 June, in particular on apostolic perspectives. The facilitation of the day was entrusted to the Spanish Marianist priest Javier Cortés Soriano. He was for several years director of the PPC publishing house and then of the SM Group, as well as having carried out numerous assignments in the publishing and educational field in Spain. Father Cortés showed us that any project of re-creation, especially in the Google galaxy in which we live today, must start from a profound experience of faith, be marked by an open and unprejudiced attitude, and remain attentive to the signs of the times.

Thursday 9 June was dedicated to the third nucleus: "*A Synodal Congregation*". To introduce us to the theme and make us better understand this broad and complex concept, a true way of being Church and Congregation, the guest of the day is Sister Nathalie Becquart, Undersecretary of the General Secretariat of the Synod. Sister Nathalie recalled that the Synod is "an event that makes us reflect on the deepest



identity of the Church". For her, "synodality is the way of transmitting the faith today" and that "everything starts from listening to and welcoming diversity", which passes then to discernment and accompaniment. Synodality is basically a journey, a movement from the "I" to the "we".

On the value of synodality in ecclesial life, Msgr. José Rodríguez Carballo, Secretary of the Dicastery for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and the Societies of Apostolic Life. In his homily, Wednesday, June 8, the Archbishop highlighted that "the Chapter is the most beautiful moment that manifests synodality in the Congregation. For this reason, it is an ecclesial event where we must have very much in mind the 3 4 keywords and proposals by Pope Francis: communion, participation and mission". Bishop Carballo invited the Capitulars to "share dreams", not only to loose the capacity to dream, but to dream together, without ever forgetting the prophecy.

With the mind, spirit and body enlivened by these days of "light", the Capitulars continue their work in view of the weaving of the Final Document, always imploring the Lord, as our Founder taught us: "it enlightens our mind, strengthens our will, sanctifies our heart".

Ariccia, Casa Divin Maestro, 9 June 2022

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