



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS



Bulletin

Association

Jesus-Mary Family

Nº3

December 2018

Lyon, October 2018



SYMPOSIUM JESUS MARY 2018

We are in the world.

On October 4th, 5th and 6th, the JM Symposium was held to close "200 Years of Faith and Hope" in Lyon and continue with encouragement all the way ahead. The summary of the words of greeting of Sr. Monica Joseph (Superior General) when opening the act interrogates us and questions:

Where is our house? What is the meaning of the trip in my life? Do we continue to get excited? The people are the life. The good trip is the one that is surrounded by good atmosphere. We are passengers who meet all kinds of people. Who is my neighbor? What people have impacted me? There is Claudina. In which person would you like to leave your impact? What is your desire while you are on your way through life?

We live the Symposium as the path of Claudina's difficult moments in terms of feelings and experiences. The Spirit of Jesus tells me:

What is your mandala?



All the flags that paraded at the beginning and at the end of the Symposium told us that peace is possible, the coexistence of all peoples in harmony.

various presentations, round tables and workshops served to take steps and know what JM can offer the world today: let yourself be moved by the miseries in our world (2nd Priority). We met "Claudina, a woman of faith, of forgiveness and of communion" (María Campillo RJM, Province of Spain); we approach the good Samaritan under the question "Who is my neighbor?" (Sean Goan, Professor of Sacred Scripture, Ireland); We travel to the heart of human experiences in the Panel "200 years later, here we are" (Melba Rodrigues RJM, Delhi Province, Val Homes, Thornton College, England, Arantxa Gavilán RJM, Province of Spain and Josée Therrien RJM, Province of Canada, as a moderator); to receive the message: "Go and do the same! (F. Xavier Dumortier S), Rector Emeritus of the Pontifical Gregorian University (Rome)).

Meanwhile, several workshops delved into the depths of our being:

"Is forgiveness possible?" Nicole Kohler, France / Annie Demerjian RJM, Syria.

"Connected but isolated", Marie Flannery, Ireland.

"United in diversity", Josela Gil RJM, Port-au-Prince Haiti.

"The common house, the house of all?", Rosa Ros RJM, Martil, Morocco.

They have been days of joy, of encounter, of complicit glances, of friendship, of affection, of sympathy, but, above all, of a lot of inner reflection, especially during a visit to the places of Claudina as "an invitation to the application of senses" to understand our calls as ways of transformation, of improvement, of help, of listening, of peace.

And moments of prayer have been shared, as in the Eucharist Closing the Bicentennial in the Basilica of Fourvière, presided over by the Archbishop of Lyon, Cardinal Barbarin.

Definitely, we must move to action. The future is in the present and the present is in the future.

How good is God!

Consuelo Mengual (responsible international layman AFJM)







General Assembly AFJM Lyon, 7 and 8 October 2018



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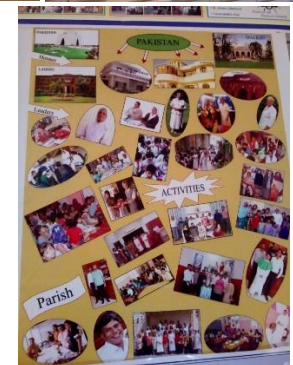
“Looking at life
from our mission to
make sense of the
lives of others”.



AFJM GENERAL ASSEMBLY held on 7 and 8 October in Lyon

The AFJM members participating in the AFJM General Assembly, which is celebrated every six years, before the General Chapter, met at the Don Bosco House in Lyon and, after praying in gratitude for the days lived in the Symposium, and with the special memory of Sr. Elisabeth Idés, worked the strengths and weaknesses of the AFJM to know the current situation of the same and realize the objectives and proposals that will be taken to the General Chapter in September 2019; as they did with the new proposal of Statutes presented by the AFJM commission, which will also be submitted to the Chapter for approval. The Commission will work throughout this coming year on all the points discussed in that Assembly under the charism of St. Claudina with the hope that it is possible to improve the world. A world in which the laity, each day more, enjoy an active presence shared with the mission of the religious. The Assembly ended with the celebration of a Eucharist in the Chapel of Sta. Claudina de La Angélica full of emotion and in which each Province was given a candle with the joyful light of the days lived to share it upon their arrival. (AFJM Commission)





Some emotional words of the participants are witnesses of this close family feeling:

The AFJM assembly made me aware that we are not alone we have indeed a great big family and if each one of us just does our best what a big difference it would make in this otherwise broken world.

Even if each one of us make difference to one we have touched hundreds and thousands of people and surely Claudines dream of organizing us in reaching out to the poor and marginalized will be achieved.

This assembly at Lyon holds a very special place in my mind and in my heart. It has given air to the flame that was otherwise burning dimly and has set me on fire.

My aim now is to rekindle the flame in each member of my AFJM family in Pune and tell them what a privilege it is to be part of Claudines vision and this great big family having one apostolic mission , "To make Jesus and Mary Known and loved".

Juliana Dsouza
Pune India.

I have returned back with an ardent zeal to be more committed and continue St Claudine's journey of service and it has reawakened me to her forgiving heart, which was a difficult task for me. We need to energize a little more as we are the ones who are "Called, Chosen and Sent".

Placi Rodrigues
Delhi

The amazing experience, meeting so many wonderful people has renewed my spiritual strength and I have taken with me deep love, care and desire to give of myself.

It has shown me the even in Diversity We Are One.

Daphne Alfrey
Karachi. Pakistan

The great experience of our Assembly in Lyon was rotted in our memory and hearts with every one of wonderful people we had met.

That was amazing feeling of belonging to a big family in all over the world having the Spirit and mission of St. Claudine in Love, service and forgiveness.

We have great desire with the graces of God in our personal witness to pass it to the lives of others.

Insaf Chahin
Syria

Indeed we have had a lovely time at the Assembly.

The assembly has revitalized and helped me to reach out in love to all especially the poorest of the poor.

So I would like to express my gratitude in short the following sentence:-

"Thanks do I give to the LORD for AFJM's the good He or She does in the world - which is His/Her true wealth."

Sylvia Mascarenhas RJM
Mumbai

To say YES to the AFJM is prolonged the YES to the will of God in Claudine to the 2 small ones which God provides ... we are the heirs of first plan!

Louise Gagnon

The assembly was a wonderful experience and we have come back with fresh enthusiasm. I would love the whole group to have the experience we had in Lyons.

Pauline Caffrey
Dublin.

The time we spent together at Lyon was for me a Family time. Meeting old friends, being able to come together in a prayerful environment and working to bring a positive change.

This special time will continue to move us through this Advent Season.

Sunila Javaid
Lahore AFIM.

Your welcome and your dedication especially during the assembly in Lyon were really exceptional.

This is what I particularly liked about the meeting in Lyon:

Nice meetings with people of faith;

Warm exchanges especially during meals where we could meet people from several different countries;

Discussion of strengths and areas for improvement.

What I want for the future of the AFJM:

That the nuns are involved in the association and accompany us in our meetings and our spiritual journey;

May the nuns continue to transmit to us the charism of Saint Claudine.

That we preserve our family spirit;

For my part, the presence of the nuns is essential.

Hélène Raymond
Québec, Canada

The AFJM assembly was a wonderful experience in which we reconfirmed the desire of God's Union for the world, there are no barriers of languages or distances, love is unique and goes beyond times and cultures. The feelings arose spontaneously: Love, Gratitude, Peace, Joy, Union, Brotherhood, and many more. To the AFJM, I wish you many more two hundred years of service and dedication for humanity, I hope that God illuminates our way to advance and face the challenges of the present and future, convinced that God will be with us until the end of the world as himself he said it.

With love,

Germán Estíven Londoño B.
Member AFJM Colombia.

First of all, I had many expectations to participate, I am happy to "be part of this story that is written in the AFJM", after the yes of a woman 200 years ago!

I was amazed and excited to experience being a JM family in the world! Twinned in giving themselves to others and experiencing together the good God in that gift. I remained with the full heart and with the missionary ardor of seeing my neighbor in my way and thinking all the time that Claudina would have done in front of this

For the future of the AFJM I hope that this family will grow and be open to all ways and means of making Jesus and Mary known to lay people of all ages and that JM mothers will always accompany us and encourage us to follow this path in the hand of Claudina. It is also very enriching to share experiences and work together in the discernment of how and how to follow this path together!

Maria Ines Pereira
Córdoba, Argentina

Christmas: Prepare the way

Who are we waiting for?

It's time to wait, it's time for Advent. Jesus comes once again to reorient our lives. Only from the experience of God's love can we live Christmas as a time of hope. The one who comes wants to bring us to our crib of the heart, the love of the Father. At Christmas we hope that God will become incarnate in our lives, get soaked in our humanity, share our frailty and thus we will live his coming as a time of Grace.

Advent

At that time, John, who had heard the works of the Messiah in prison, sent him to ask through his disciples:

-- Are you the one to come or do we have to wait for another?

Jesus answered them:

-- Go and announce to John what you are seeing and hearing: the blind see, and the disabled walk; the lepers are clean, and the deaf hear; the dead are resurrected, and the Gospel is proclaimed to the poor. And blessed is he who does not feel disappointed by me! (Mt 11, 2-5)

- ☀ Jesus responds to the people, with his life as a healing prophet: "Tell John what you are seeing and hearing: the blind see and the disabled walk; the dead are resurrected and the poor are announced the Good News "This is the true Messiah, who comes to alleviate suffering, heal life and open a horizon of hope to the poor.
- ☀ Jesus feels sent by a Merciful Father who wants a more dignified and happy world for all. Therefore, he gives himself to heal wounds, heal ailments and free life. And that is why he asks everyone: "Be compassionate as the Father is compassionate"
- ☀ Jesus does not feel like a rigorous judge to judge sinners and condemn the world. For that reason, it does not frighten anyone with justice gestures, but it offers to the sinners its friendship and its pardon.
- ☀ Jesus does not heal arbitrarily or out of pure sensationalism. Cura moved by compassion, seeking to restore the lives of those sick, dejected and broken people. They are the first to experience that God is a friend of a healthy and dignified life.
- ☀ Jesus never insisted on the prodigious nature of his cures or thought of them as an easy recipe for suppressing the suffering of the world. He presented his healing activity as a sign, to show his followers in what direction we must act to open paths to that humanizing project of the Father that He calls "Kingdom of God".

José Antonio Pagola



Pope Francis says that "healing wounds is an urgent task. I see clearly that what the Church needs today is the ability to heal wounds and give warmth, closeness and proximity to hearts ... This is the first thing: healing wounds, healing wounds." He speaks after taking charge of the people, "accompanying them like the good Samaritan who washes, cleans and consoles." He also talks about "walking with people at night, knowing how to dialogue and even descending into their night and darkness without getting lost".

God called Claudina to respond with several companions, to social urgencies: to evangelize through education, childhood and youth, especially the poorest. It offers alternatives to violence and nonsense, puts skills at stake, alleviates shortcomings, accompanies processes, heals wounds, teaches to forgive and to work, preparing each person to carry out their life project.

- ☀ Today, we are your companions-companions invited to make us aware that ... "God approaches our wounds and heals them with his hands, and to have hands he became a man" Pope Francis tells us and calls us at the same time "to heal wounds"...
- ☀ How I feel that God has come to heal my wounds this year ... in what situations and through what people?
- ☀ Also, each one of us has gone out to "heal wounds" in what situations and with whom have I lived this way (relatives, friends, students)?

Put in the hands of God and with grateful heart what has arisen in this time of personal prayer.



"She gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger", (Lc2,7)

He wrapped him in diapers.

Lord, you are born helpless, small, fragile, as if you were going to break. So delicate I see you, with fingers like little sticks. You are a strange God, to be clothed and warmed up. And looking at you I understand the deep and beautiful truth of the first humanity: **human beings need each other. We depend on each other.** Alone we are nothing.

The first thing I see about you is dependence, the need for a cozy lap, helping hands and a voice that cradles. **When you become human, you put your dream, your life, your project in our human hands.** I will cradle you with my hands, with my voice, with my life ... **Also today.**

Wrapped in diapers and lying in a manger ?.

Sign "of the loving care of Mary and Joseph, if Jesus, when he was born, is wrapped in swaddling clothes, it means that he was surrounded by solicitous attention from his parents from the moment he saw the light. , but on him are inclined people full of love, first of all his mother.

Christmas things (Pastoral AFJ, ARGENTINA)



SHARE LIFE

PROVINCE OF MEXICO-CUBA

NATIONAL AFJM MEETING

The AFJM Meeting took place in Mérida, Yucatán from May 18-20. 61 members of the different groups of the Province participated.

Throughout the meeting there was an atmosphere of celebration, reflection, prayer, communion, sharing the faith and the charism from the reality of each place.

The day 18 began with the presentation of the coordinators of each group, the words of Sr. Concepción García RJM Provincial Superior, and the reading of the letter that our dear Sister. Elisabeth Ides RJM in charge of the AFJM wrote together with Consuelo Mengual, International Coordinator of the AFJM, a few days before leaving for the Casa del Padre. They told us:

"This beautiful year of Bicentennial is a wonderful opportunity for those of us who love the AFJM to make contagious our desire to be united in the mission and to open the benefits that this association offers to a world in need of help and collaboration."

There was the theological reflection "In the heart of the charism" presented by Victoria Echevarría, former student and theologian. It allowed us to deepen in the essential features of the charism: kindness, forgiveness, the trust of God in the person and the community, the hopeful look on reality and the praise of Jesus and Mary.

Sr. Maria Luisa Cervantes RJM spoke of the Association of the Sacred Heart, as well as the beginning of the AFJM in our Province and in the world.

On the 19th the Pbro. Raúl Lugo and his team, presented an analysis of the reality of the country and the challenges of the current world, to discover the way in which we can respond today from the charism.

On Sunday we had a morning retreat on the beach led by Sr. Concepción García RJM to land our commitment as AFJM. We close with an emotional Eucharist or a joyful coexistence.

Pitina Barredo RJM,

Coordinator AFJM Mexico-CubaEl



Meeting of Coordinators AFJM Province Spain

On November 10, 2018, the meeting of coordinators of the province of Spain was held in Madrid. The Supervisor Marta Guitar and the Councilor Carmen Martínez Guevara, began the session with a cordial greeting. We were presented with the next Provincial and General Chapter as well as the logo and its meaning through the Biblical text "The Visitation" It was very interesting. They invited us to participate in the consultations on the living of the Priorities and the Bicentennial.

In this meeting, the feeling and taste of Claudina's charism was lived through a panel of experiences on the experience of the Lyon Symposium. Two professors from the J-M schools in Madrid (Loli Mandojana and Elena Fernández), two representatives of the AFJM (Ignacio Salvador and Ana Pedrero) and the religious Marta de Santiago participated. She acted as moderator Consuelo Mengual. They reflected on what most surprised them, about what had helped them the most ...

They expressed gratitude and a lot of affection towards the sisters for so much good received; They commented on the inner prayer that favored the journey through the streets that Claudina went through. It was one of the most rewarding moments (One of the most moving moments occurred in the Chapel of the Retreat in San Bruno, where Claudina received God's call to live in community, given to God and his Mission).

In summary, the novelties and the learning about Claudina, a mature woman of wealthy social class who responded to the call of the "Lord" and together with her companions, attended to the needs of her time with an evangelical vision, were transmitted. The final feeling of both the attendees and the panelists was gratitude and affection. The emotions were aroused and there was a general desire to visit Lyon and continue with the work that Claudina started.

Next, the International Assembly that took place after the Symposium in the residence of the Salesians in Fourvier was reported, highlighting the company, at all times, of the Superior General, Monica Joseph and the Councilors M^a Carmen Muñoz and Irene Rodríguez. The work in Lyon was carried out in a climate of prayer and family in the diversity of cultures and languages. We had beautiful moments of prayer and the Eucharist in the Chapel of the Mother House very emotional. The moments of meals and breaks were very pleasant and helped us to share and live together.

The meeting ended with the information of the next Assembly of Burgos (April 26 to 28).

(Ana Pedrero and Gloria Cascales, RJM)



HAPPY CHRISTMAS 2018



He Qi, Chinese painter who transcends human borders and brings to all peoples the Good News of salvation.

“I WILL HONOR CHRISTMAS IN MY HEART AND I WILL TRY TO KEEP IT ALL YEAR ROUND” (Charles Dickens)



“We ask you, Lord, that as a family we are, you enlighten us this Christmas with your light and guide us with your love, so that we can be lit candles and that through our actions, attitudes and services, we enlighten all the people around us and at the same time that we fill ourselves with the light that they radiate”.

¡MERRY CHRISTMAS AFJM!