

WAC Eucharistic ZOOM celebration November 13 2021

Helping each other

to resist the formatting of the Church imposed by its magisterium,
to bear witness to a prophetic Church, bearing witness to the Gospel,

Facilitator

Welcome

We have just spent a week in Rome reflecting on how we should live and organise ourselves as a Church to be faithful to Jesus and his Gospel, to discern how to implement our proposals.

Tonight we are gathered at the call of Jesus, in communion with all his disciples, to find the strength, the intelligence and the nourishment we need to implement what we have envisaged in Rome.

Let us be challenged by what Jesus tells us and witnesses to in the Gospels and by what we will share with each other and let us be nourished by who He is in the sharing of bread and wine as He asked us to do in memory of Him on the eve of His death.

Song : *Listen to the voice of the Lord*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pn4DrGdd9Fs&list=RDPn4DrGdd9Fs&start_radio=1&rv=Pn4DrGdd9Fs&t=0

Ecoute la voix du Seigneur,
Prête l'oreille de ton cœur.
Qui que tu sois, ton Dieu t'appelle,
Qui que tu sois, Il est ton Père.

Listen to the voice of the Lord,
Give ear to the voice of your heart.
Whoever you are, your God calls you,
Whoever you are, He is your Father.

Toi qui aimes la vie,
O toi qui veux le bonheur,
Réponds en fidèle ouvrier
De sa très douce volonté.
Réponds en fidèle ouvrier
De l'Évangile et de sa paix.

You who love life,
O you who want happiness,
Respond as a faithful worker
Of his most sweet will.
Respond as a faithful worker
Of the Gospel and its peace.

Ecoute la voix du Seigneur,
Prête l'oreille de ton cœur.
Tu entendras que Dieu fait grâce,
Tu entendras l'Esprit d'audace.

Listen to the voice of the Lord,
Give ear with your heart.
You will hear that God is gracious,
You will hear the Spirit of boldness.

Facilitator :

1) **Let us help each other to resist** the temptation of power and domination:
Let us resist for a Church of brothers serving one another in humility. :

L1 Mt, 23 ; 8- 12 *“But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. ⁹ And do not call anyone on earth ‘father,’ for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. ¹⁰ Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah. ¹¹ The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹² For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.*

Facilitator :

2) Let us help each other to resist a church that condemns without listening:
Let us resist for a church of dialogue and forgiveness:

L2 Mt 18,15-17 *“If your brother or sister^[a] sins,^[b] go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’^[c] ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector”*
Col 3,12-13 *« Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. »*

Facilitator

3) Let us help each other to resist the temptation to believe that we are the only witnesses of Jesus: Let us resist for a Church open to all those who witness to Jesus, even off the beaten track:

L3 Mc 9, 38-40 *“Teacher,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us.” “Do not stop him,” Jesus said. “For no one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, for whoever is not against us is for us”.*

Facilitator:

4) Let us help each other to resist discrimination. Let us resist for a Church that does not discriminate, in which every baptized man and woman has the same dignity and the same access to services and responsibilities, without special privileges, whatever his or her sex, skin colour or situation in society, because all are brothers and sisters, brothers and sisters of Christ and sons of God.

L4 Ga 3, 23-28 *Before the coming of this faith,^[1] we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. ²⁴ So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus”.*

Facilitator :

5) **Let us help each other to resist** being locked into a law or tradition not enlivened by the Spirit and the lack of trust in the Spirit of Jesus who sets us free.

Let us resist for a Church that listens to the Holy Spirit in each of its members and that, holding on to the spirit of its tradition or law and not to their wording, is a sign of the kingdom for the 21st century.

L5 Mat 15,1-9 *“Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don’t wash their hands before they eat!” Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? ⁴ For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’^[a] and ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’^[b] ⁵ But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is ‘devoted to God,’ ⁶ they are not to ‘honor their father or mother’ with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. ⁷ You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: “‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.”*

L6 Jn 14, 16-17 et 16, 13-14 Jesus said to his disciples:” *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be^[c] in you.... But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, ...”.*

L7 Ro 8, 14-15 et Ga 5,1, 4-6 ; *“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship.^[d] And by him we cry, “Abba,^[e] Father.” ... It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery... You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵ For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love”*

6) Let us help each other to bear witness to the presence of the Kingdom: Must we starve to death to respect a dogma¹?

L8 *Mark 2, 23-28 :*” *One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?” He answered “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.” Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”*

¹ Title of an article by theologian Herbert Haag published in the Basler Zeitung (04.01.2000) and reprinted by Chrétiens d'aujourd'hui : http://chretiens.daujourdhui.pagesperso-orange.fr/mourir_de_faim_419.htm

Facilitator : Let us not be intimidated, and share what we perceive of Jesus' calls.

L9 Mat 5 1-2 and 13-16 : Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them..... "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven"

Facilitator : You are invited to comment and react to these Challenges from Jesus

Eucharistic prayer

Song **Veni sancte spiritus** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SN-HuNflcl4>

Come Holy Spirit, from Heaven shine forth
with your glorious light,
Come from the four winds, Holy Spirit,
Come breath of God; disperse the shadows
over us,
Renew and strengthen your people.
Veni Sancte Spiritus

Viens Esprit Saint, du Ciel, brille de ta
glorieuse lumière,
Viens des quatre vents, Esprit Saint,
viens souffle de Dieu ; disperse les ombres
sur nous,
Renouvelle et fortifie ton peuple.
Veni Sancte Spiritus

Facilitator : As Jesus asked of us, and as He did on the eve of His death, we will share the bread and wine. Nourished, then, by what He is and by His Spirit, we will be able to help each other to "resist" and to be witnesses to the presence of the Kingdom among us, despite our faults and shortcomings and despite the faults and shortcomings of His Church.

L10 Our Father and Mother, we ask you to forgive us our shortcomings and lack of resistance which make us co-responsible for the defects and shortcomings of your Church which, like every human institution, has all the defects of the men of this time. Make us receptive to your Spirit so that each one of us, like your Church, may be more inspired in his or her words and actions by the Gospel and the message of humanity that your Son revealed, and remember that "the law is made for man" and that the message of your Son is one.

We also ask you to enlighten us with your Spirit to help us resist and to raise resistance as we have discussed.

Facilitator *Everyone is invited to propose a prayer intention*

L11 Father, Son and Spirit, we believe in you. Present in our midst, you give us life. Father, you are the foundation of our communities, raised up by Jesus your son, our brother, and led by the Spirit of truth.

Invoking your Spirit, we remember your son, who, at the height of his three years of preaching, put all the meaning of his life and translated the significance of his death into a gesture in which he is entirely present:

ALL On the eve of his death, taking bread and sharing it, Jesus said:

This shared bread is me. Take it, eat it all, and in turn do the same.

Then, passing a cup around, he blessed it and said:

Drink of this wine, as the blood of my life which I give that you may all live with the life of God.

Remembering me, do the same so that the world may live.

Facilitator : Jesus was and is always like bread and wine for us and the whole world.

Let us also be like bread and wine for one another so that our lives may be full of flavour in a society of solidarity in which we contribute to the realisation of the Kingdom of God

Praise be to our God ! Laudate dominum : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rAgT4bPJ5W4>

Facilitator : Let us pray together

Our Father and Mother who are in our hearts, you whom Jesus revealed to us,
Help us to love one another as You and Jesus love us.
Help us to produce and share the bread you give us,
Help us to forgive as You forgive, and to overcome temptation
To build together a peaceful, united and fraternal world

L 12 Final prayer (Grégoire de Naziance)

"Lord,

Continue to give to us, so that we may share.

Continue to ask us, so that we do not hoard.

Continue to forgive us, so that we may learn to forgive.

Continue to call us, so that we do not turn in on ourselves.

Continue to shake us up, so that we don't get stuck in our ways.

And be patient with us, that we may not grow weary of serving you,

Final Blessing

L13 I invoke God's blessings on this gathering, may we be blessed as we leave to go back to our work of doing God's will - In the name of God our Creator, Jesus our Redeemer and the Holy Spirit our Sanctifier, Amen.

Final song : Alleluia https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNi_zGO_Flk