

# LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN ECCLESIAL ASSEMBLY

ITINERARY OF SPIRITUALITY # 3

JUNE- JULY



“WE ARE ALL MISSIONARY  
DISCIPLES GOING FORTH” 

# TOPIC: CONTINENTAL MISSION

MOTTO: ON THE WAY TO A NEW  
CONTINENTAL PENTECOST

## SETTING

- WORD OF GOD
- EARTH (ON WHICH WE WILL SUPPORT THE WORD)
- CANDLES
- IMAGES OR SYMBOLS REPRESENTATIVE OF PLACE
- THREADS/ROPES (TO WEAVE A NET)

## WELCOME AND GREETING

Feeling called to pray together is a gift. Even more so when we are invited to make the most of this hour of grace, to implore and live a new Pentecost in our Latin America and the Caribbean, awakening the missionary vocation and encouraging the experience of an outgoing Church that cares for, promotes and enlivens the dream of an integral ecology. We will share this moment with a grateful and open heart to the action of the Spirit.

## MOTIVATION

The Church in Latin America and the Caribbean wants to put itself in a “permanent state of mission” (DA 213 and 551). It is about strengthening the missionary dimension of the Church on the Continent and from the Continent, with the full awareness of being part of the globalization process of hope in our common home. This entails the decision to walk together on an integral conversion journey that leads us to be missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, making the dream of an outgoing Church that takes care of life in all its forms come true.

The Church that vibrates with enthusiasm for the project that the Pope has expressed in various documents: *“Fratelli Tutti”* we walk singing *“Laudato si’”* with *“Evangelii Gaudium”* and the spirit of *“Episcopalis Communio”* in our “Dear” “Common House”.

Thus, we want to go out to meet many sisters and brothers, families, communities and people to communicate and share the gift of the person of Jesus Christ, who has filled our lives with “meaning”, with truth and love, with joy and hope. The Holy Spirit precedes us on this missionary journey. For this reason, we trust that this testimony of Good News constitutes, at the same time, an impulse for ecclesial renewal and a transformation of society, making the dream of an integral ecology a reality.





The Continental Mission, as a “permanent state of mission” implies from each one of us, a great willingness to rethink and reform many pastoral structures, having as its constitutive principle the spirituality of communion and prophetic audacity coming from a creative imagination oriented to overcoming the various pandemics that threaten life. This desire must naturally lead to the forging of open and flexible structures capable of animating a permanent and synodal mission in each particular Church.

And we set ourselves the objective of *“reviving in the Christian communities a greater openness to the impulse of the Holy Spirit in the encounter with the living Jesus Christ, which generates a process of personal and pastoral conversion, to be missionary disciples capable of reaching all sectors.”*

**We prepare ourselves by listening to the song: [ES LA HORA DE LA MISIÓN](#)**



# **FIRST MOMENT**

A watercolor illustration of two hands, one larger and one smaller, reaching towards each other and touching. The background is a soft, multi-colored wash of watercolor in shades of blue, purple, yellow, and pink, with numerous small, colorful splatters and dots scattered throughout. The overall mood is gentle and intimate.

**TOUCHING LIFE**

# FIRST MOMENT: TOUCHING LIFE

## ASPACE TO "ENCOUNTER" ...

"The world, created according to the divine model, is a web of relationships" (LS 240), and we are part of it, weaving nets with everything that surrounds us.

**Activity: We invite you to lay the threads between all those present as a fabric (form of a net).**

The universe unfolds in God, who fills everything. So there is mystique on a leaf, on a road, in the dew, on a poor man's face. A spiritual master, Ali Al-Kawwas, from his own experience, stressed the need not to separate the creatures of the world too much from the experience of God within. He said: "There is no need to criticize those who seek ecstasy in music or poetry. There is a subtle secret in each of the movements and sounds of this world. The initiates come to understand what the wind that blows, the trees that bend, the water that runs, the flies that buzz, the doors that creak, the song of the birds, the sound of the strings or the flutes, the sound of the strings or the flutes, the sigh of the sick, the groan of the afflicted say...»

**Activity: keeping the net that we put together, for a moment we will close our eyes and connect with everything that surrounds us (we can put on instrumental music).**

Our missionary vocation carries implicitly the desire to recover the ability to feel like sisters and brothers living in the same territory, sharing good news and caring for each other as God loves and cares for us, and above all to weave relationships to transform this Home, in a Common Home, where everyone has a place.



# SECOND MOMENT



**LIGHTING LIFE**

# SECOND MOMENT:

## LIGHTING LIFE

We are invited to share our life experiences, aroused in the daily encounter with the person of Jesus, that accompanies our journey and the history of our peoples.

### WORD OF LIFE: 1ST. LETTER OF JOHN, 1,1-3

*What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we looked upon and touched with our hands concerns the Word of life for the life was made visible; we have seen it and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was made visible to us what we have seen and heard we proclaim now to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; for our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.*

### WORD FROM APARECIDA (#551-552)

The Continental Mission, *"It will seek to place the Church permanently in a state of mission. Let us head out to sea in our boats, under with the powerful gust of the Holy Spirit, with no fear of storms, assured that God's Providence has great surprises in store for us.*

*Let us thus recover our fervor of spirit. Let us preserve the delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing, even when it is in tears that we must sow. May it mean for us—as it did for John the Baptist, for Peter and Paul, for the other apostles and for a multitude of splendid evangelizers all through the Church's history—an interior enthusiasm that nobody and nothing can quench. May it be the great joy of our consecrated lives. And may the world of our time, which is searching, sometimes with anguish, sometimes with hope, be enabled to receive the Good News not from evangelizers who are dejected, discouraged, impatient or anxious, but from ministers of the Gospel whose lives glow with fervor, who have first received the joy of Christ, and who are willing to risk their lives so that the kingdom may be proclaimed and the Church established in the midst of the world" (EN 80).*

**For reflection: What does the reading of both "Words" leave in our hearts?**



# **THIRD MOMENT**



**ADVOCATE ON LIFE**

# THIRD MOMENT: ADVOCATE ON LIFE

The Holy Spirit is the first promoter of the Continental Mission. We ask Him that He:

- Free us from fatigue and stagnation.
- Rescues us from accommodation and inertia.
- Helps us to configure our life from the criteria of the Gospel.

We are challenged by the command of Jesus: "Go to all the peoples." We must care for those who are far away. We must question ourselves about it: "how to reach everyone". But everything: "starting from Christ".

- What commitment can we assume with our neighbors, relatives, friends, when thinking of ourselves as missionary disciples in permanent Continental Mission?
- What symbolic action can we take at this time? ... planting in an agro ecological garden, contemplating and caring for a plant, a pet, visiting a sick person, caring for a migrant ... You can add other actions according to your interest.





# **FOURTH MOMENT**



**CELEBRATE LIFE**



# FOURTH MOMENT:

## CELEBRATE LIFE

The Continental Mission is a call and a commissioning that Jesus makes to each and everyone in the Church to share the Gospel with each person, with each family, with each community.

For a few minutes we will say the names of people or situations that need to be embraced by the merciful tenderness of the God of Life.

We pray together with the prayer made by Fr. Luis Clever Cardozo (Brazil):

In Continental Mission The seeds of the Word were spread in our Latin America and the Caribbean. God-Father, the Sower has been generous.

Before the arrival of the colonizers, faith, hope and love crossed the landscapes of our beloved Continent.

Evangelizing in these lands is more about finding God than taking Him to the towns, because they already know and celebrate Him.

By the strength of the testimony and the love made service, of so much life given and blood shed, in the care of the human being and of the Common Home, we narrate your presence.

Christianity expands by the attraction of its own life, made gesture, made word.

Missionaries everywhere, reaching peripheries both geographical and existential where there is only thirst for God, and for the presence that accompanies and cures all ailments.

Evangelism with ardor, children, youth and adults, in a face-to-face and virtual way, reaching minds and hearts; presenting a personal God who calls to live in community, and to change unjust structures that prevent our poor from embracing happiness and dignity.

Always speaking of the Virgin Mary, under each invocation of our countries, In her we take refuge, the Mother of the missionary disciples who, since the arrival of the Gospel, announce full life for our peoples.

# FINALLY WE INVOKE MARY, MOTHER OF OUR PEOPLES:

**Our Lady of the Rosary**, patroness of Guatemala: Pray for your people.

**Our Lady of Peace**, patroness of El Salvador: Pray for your people.

**Virgin of the Angels**, patroness of Costa Rica: Pray for your people.

**Virgen de la Caridad del Cobre**, patroness of Cuba: Pray for your people.

**She accompanies us on our walk.**

We listen: [Señora de la visita](#) (Sr. Marcela Bonafede)

