



# Daily Word of Life

September of 2017

01	Fri 1 Ts 4, 1-8 St. Beatriz da Silva	<b>God did not call us to impurity.</b> The most beautiful "instinct" we carry in our nature is the tendency we have to love. How are we treating people? Are we able to share and give away? What we talk or do, brings joy and peace to the environment where we are. The lie, the manipulation, the heavy and malicious conversations, violent gestures, etc., belong to the nature of the old man. The new man is Jesus. He in us is joy, firmness, sobriety, and gratuity. Which of these proposals are we living? Let's renew ourselves.
02	Sat Mt 25, 14-30	<b>Grow in love.</b> "Every person who grows in love and wisdom grows in the community. But he who refuses to grow personally, who is afraid to advance, prevents the community from doing so. Each member of the community is responsible for their growth and the entire community. To grow humanly is to unify the capability for action and the heart." (Jean Vanier, Community, Place of Forgiveness and the Party, page 157)
03	Dom	XXII D. T. C. - "What good is it for a man to gain the whole world but to lose his life?" (Mt 16: 21-27)
04	Mon	<i>Word of the Month - "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Mt 16:24)</i>  <i>If we want to follow Jesus, He asks us to make a complete turnaround in our values, not putting ourselves at the center of the world and rejecting the logic of the search for personal interest. He proposes that we pay more attention to the demands of others than to ours; That we know how to commit our energies so that others are happy, doing as He did, who did not miss an opportunity to comfort and give hope to those with whom he met. In this way, freeing us from selfishness, we can begin for us a growth in humanity, the conquest of a freedom that fully fulfills our personality.</i>
05	Tue /1 Ts 5,1-6.9-11 St. Teresa of Calcutá	<b>Let us be vigilant and sober.</b> Sobriety is seeing things without distortion and having balance. We can now watch ourselves before judgment, anger, resentment and everything that does not allow us to see things as they are. Sobriety and vigilance are walking companions. Let us be vigilant in acts of love and prayer and balanced in our inner and outer life. Let's act with balance.
06	Wed Lc 4, 38-44	<b>She got up and began to serve them. It is the attitude of those touched by Jesus.</b> Today the fever of indifference, selfishness and individualism kills a lot of people. Those who encounter Love recover from their addictions, the diseases of the soul and their consequences. Become capable of loving, serving. One of the signs of recovery between us is the ability to serve. Let's serve.
07	Thu Lc 5,1-11  Oração pelo Brasil	<b>Redo the networks again.</b> Almost everyone has already experienced fatigue and discouragement in facing efforts that failed. Attention. One thing is "doing" and another is "doing for the sake of the Word of God". Simon and his companions returned to the same lake, with the same boat, same net, but with something different: The Word of God. It is probable that today we live with the same people or in the same environment as always. But everything can be different. With the net of the Word of God we can advance in deeper waters and experience the miracle of good that multiplies when we do for love. Let's start again.
08	Fri Mt 1, 18-23 The birth of Mary	<b>Generate Jesus.</b> The name identifies. The Gospel always has many names. Today we remember the birth of Mary. Her name became great because of the One she generated. We also participate in this greatness when we generate Jesus in our midst. To generate Jesus in the middle it is necessary: "To have an inner life of relationship with 'that voice' of Love; Have concrete experiences of the Word; Have the willingness to give our lives for those who live with us." <i>Let's live in unity.</i>
09	Sat Col 1, 21-23	<b>Firm ourselves in hope.</b> "Facing the discouragements that might appear in life, in those who work in evangelization, or in those who strive to live faith as father and mother and family, I mean forcefully: Always have this certainty in the heart! God walks by our side, never leaves us helpless! Let's never lose hope! Let's never let it go out of our hearts! (Pope Francis, The Church of Mercy, page 54)
10	Sun	XXIII D.T.C. " <b>Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am ...</b> ". (Mt 18: 15-20)
11	Mon	<i>Word of the Month - "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Mt 16:24)</i>  <i>If we want to follow Jesus, He asks us to make a complete turnaround in our values, not putting ourselves at the center of the world and rejecting the logic of the search for personal interest. He proposes that we pay more attention to the demands of others than to ours; That we know how to commit our energies so that others are happy, doing as He did, who did not miss an opportunity to comfort and give hope to those with whom he met. In this way, freeing us from selfishness, we can begin for us a growth in humanity, the conquest of a freedom that fully realizes our personality.</i>
12	Tue Lc 6, 12-19 The Holy Name of Mary	<b>Touch Jesus.</b> How can we touch Jesus? Besides the Eucharist, we touch Him in a certain way in prayer and in the sacraments. We touch him as well, when we put the Word into practice, loving our brother. He is in every person. Whoever touches Jesus experiences healing in many ways. But God, being Love, can only be touched in Love. Whoever loves, living the Word of God, experiences God and is touched by Him. Let's experience the good.
13	Wed Lc 6, 20-26	<b>Rejoice.</b> Your reward in heaven will be great. God does not promise us eternal joy here. In this life we strive to renew our joy each day by finding the Love that exists in every pain. It is the scandal of the Gospel: Joy, resurrection, is born of the encounter with the cross. The pain embraced and offered becomes a source of true joy. "Sadness is only sad for those who do not know how to love." <i>Live the joy.</i>

14	Thu Jo 3, 13-17 Elevation of the Holy Cross	<b>To have eternal life.</b> For many, to speak of eternity, of salvation, seems something out of the present, and speak of embracing the cross something outside of logic. It was no different in Jesus' time. His announcement sounded crazy. Can a mother do crazy things to save her son's life? The cross is madness of the Love of God. Let us today exalt the Love of the Cross, offering the sorrows of this day. Let's embrace the cross.
15	Fri Jo 19,25-27 Our Lady of Sorrows	<b>Stand next to Jesus.</b> The pain that is not donated, that does not open, can become despair, anger, sadness, revenge and death. When it is given it has the strength to generate forgiveness, unity and life, as it was for Jesus in his cross, death and resurrection. He has no attachments. Gave everything. His gesture, with Mary and John, gives birth to a new family with humanity. The pain can bend us or put us on our feet. Isolate ourselves or unite with others. Giving pain is an immense act of love, and love makes us Family. Let's donate the pain.
16	Sat Lc 6, 43-49 S. Cornélio e S. Cipriano	<b>Build on the rock.</b> "God has an objective in our lives, which is not measured with the duration of our life (...). We will have times when we will be really upset with God; Or as a whole, downcast or totally discouraged because it seems that God is doing nothing .... But taking advantage of these moments of loss ('the dark night of the soul' ...) our relationship with God can become deeper. If we praise God only when the sun shines, our faith is superficial." (David Watson; Come, Father, there is my love ..., page 83)
17	Sun	XXIV Gift of Common Time - "How Often Should we Forgive?" (Mt 18: 21-35)
18	Mon	<i>Word of the Month - "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Mt 16:24)</i>  <i>If we want to follow Jesus, He asks us to make a complete turnaround in our values, not putting ourselves at the center of the world and rejecting the logic of the search for personal interest. He proposes that we pay more attention to the demands of others than to ours; That we know how to commit our energies so that others are happy, doing as He did, who did not miss an opportunity to comfort and give hope to those with whom he met. In this way, freeing us from selfishness, we can begin for us a growth in humanity, the conquest of a freedom that fully realizes our personality.</i>
19	Tue Lc 7,11-17 S. Januário	<b>Young man, I command you, get up.</b> Perhaps you have also seen some mother who cried because she carried a child who seemed to be condemned to death. Many today are involved by death in addictions to drugs, alcohol and many other things. But many heard the Word and stood up. Do not remain in death. The scripture says that "we know that we have passed from death unto life because we love our brother" (1 John 3:14). Whoever lives the Word, loving, rises to life, happy, because they live the Word. Let's get up.
20	Wed Lc 7,31-35	<b>Seek wisdom.</b> Dissatisfaction does not bring wisdom. There are people who are never satisfied and always complain. Those who are willing to live the Word of God need to overcome criticism and see beyond negative situations. Those who love acquire a wisdom that books or courses will never give. Critical sense is good and true when exercised in love. The greater the love, the greater the wisdom. Let's grow in the capacity to love.
21	Thu Mt 9, 9-13 S. Matthew	<b>Follow me.</b> Jesus called a sinner. He also makes a personal invitation to us. We are invited to follow Him by assuming our past and the limits we experience today. Our limits and mistakes lose strength over our lives when we decide to start over and love. It's a worthwhile adventure. He who calls us to a new life expects from us an answer. What answer will you give? /Let's follow the Love.
22	Fri 1 Tm 6,2c- 12 S. Maurice	<b>Flee from perverse things.</b> When temptations come, hate, negative conversations, proposals to do wrong things ... run away! Mary and Joseph also fled with Jesus to save him. Save Jesus in you, in your way and in the middle of where you live. How about reading this reading again? Do not be ashamed to run from sin. Look for what is worth more: to Have Jesus.
23	Sat Lc 8, 4-15 S. Pio de Pietrelcina	<b>Sow hope.</b> "He who experiences in his own life the faithful Love of God and his consolation can, or better, has the duty of being close to the weaker brothers and to bear their fragilities. And you can do it without self-satisfaction, but simply feeling like a "channel" that conveys the Lord's gifts; And thus becomes, concretely a "sower" of hope." (Pope Francis, March 22, 2017)
24	Sun	XXV D. Common - "The last shall be the first, and the first shall be last." (Mt 20: 1-16a)
25	Mon	<i>Word of the Month - "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Mt 16:24)</i>  <i>If we want to follow Jesus, He asks us to make a complete turnaround in our values, not putting ourselves at the center of the world and rejecting the logic of the search for personal interest. He proposes that we pay more attention to the demands of others than to ours; That we know how to commit our energies so that others are happy, doing as He did, who did not miss an opportunity to comfort and give hope to those with whom he met. In this way, freeing us from selfishness, we can begin for us a growth in humanity, the conquest of a freedom that fully realizes our personality.</i>
26	Tue Lc 8, 19-21 S. Cosmas e Damian	<b>Listen to the Word of God and practice it.</b> There is no mystery. We do not need big studies or complicated explanations to understand this. We generate Jesus if we do the will of God, and his will is always love. The way is to be faithful to the Word, loving. Whether it is work, prayer, coexistence, sport, etc., we have opportunities to love, putting the Word into practice. Now it's to practice. Let's do good.
27	Wed Lc 9, 1-6 S. Vicente de Paula	<b>Shake the dust off your feet.</b> Many times when we seek to do and advertise the good we experience rejection or even the persecution. The important thing is not to keep in the soul the negative dust of these situations. When we accumulate the "dust" of hurt, resentment, judgment, among others, we hinder the steps we can take toward love and joy. The protest we can make against evil is to get rid of it. The dust that

		accumulates in the heart fouls the soul and life. So it is to forgive, to start over and to go forward. Let's start over.
28	Thu Ag 1, 1-8	<b>Build the house of God.</b> We can do this in three aspects: In us, who are God's temple; With the brother who is on our side; As a community, a Church, living in unity the experience of God. Many of our young people and families after a year with us, with their soul and life rebuilt, donate their time, money and work to do something for others. The house of God is Paradise, it is Love. One proposal for today is to build an environment where love is the highest rule. When we love, we build a little eternity, from God's house, in the place where we live. God calls you to build good. Let's build unity.
29	Fri Jo 1, 47-51 S. Michael, Gabriel e Raphael	<b>You will see the angels of God.</b> It is sometimes difficult to recognize the presence of God, especially when we are "under the fig tree" of pain or sin. He, "lifted up upon the tree of the cross," has given us the fruit of the new life, and has united us to Heaven. His eyes come to us, and he wants to attract our gaze. There is always an angelic presence that accompanies us. It is the love of God. When we perceive his presence in every gesture of love, or embrace him in pain, the sky opens to us as well. Let's recognize Love.
30	Sat Lc 9, 43b-45 S. Jerome	<b>Embrace the cross.</b> "God came down to earth only once and this time he became a man and allowed himself to be crucified! To me this thought gives me great strength to accept with joy that little cross that always accompanies us .... From the top of the cross tells me: '... I made everything that was mine disappear! I'm not beautiful anymore, I'm not stronger; Here I have no peace; Here above justice has died; ... Only my Love remains, who wanted to pour out to you my riches from God. " (Chiara Lubich, Ideal and Light page 62)

*Comments prepared, usually, for the daily meditations of the young people of Fazenda da Esperança.*

*The Word of Life of the Month can be found at [www.focolare.org](http://www.focolare.org) (portuguese).*

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