



Daily Word of Life

April 2018

01	Sun	Easter Sunday - "He saw and believed" (John 20, 1-9) Hallelujah! The Lord is Risen! "
02	Mon Jn 6:47	In truth I say to you, He who believes shall have everlasting life. This is the discourse on the bread of life pronounced by Jesus in the synagogue of Capernaum. Turning to the crowd, Jesus replied that they should seek Him not for the food that is lost, but for the food that endures, and which only He can give. That bread is Him, His word. It is the living bread that came down from heaven to give us eternal life.
03	Tue Jn 20: 11-18	I have seen the Lord. The most beautiful encounter of Mary Magdalene with Jesus was in the moment of pain. While she was crying, she could hear clearly the voice of the master who called her by her name. We are invited to keep our ears and heart open to hear and recognize the voice of Jesus who presents himself in times of pain and difficulty. These are moments that allow us to make a personal encounter with Him, in loving Him. And then we can announce to all the joy of the resurrection we experience. Let's share the joy.
04	Wed Lk 24: 13-35 († Martin Luther King, USA, 1968)	Stay with us. God is unity. We should do all we can to always keep His presence in our midst. He makes the heart burn with joy when we are united, living sharing and communion. His presence brings answers to our doubts and is company in the "dark nights" that fall on our life. He among us gives meaning to everything when, because of his Word, we are able to love doing good to the other. It's a worthwhile effort. Let's live unity.
05	Thu Lk 24: 35-48	May peace be with you. Jesus calms our fears and pacifies the heart. More important than talking about peace, is transmitting it with our presence and our actions. God is harmony and can change all division, all hatred and indifference into harmony and peace. In every moment of fear, pain and difficulty, we can recognize and find your love and experience the strength of your presence among us. Let's live peace.
06	Fri Jn 21: 1-14	They knew it was the Lord. In life, there come moments when fatigue and lack of motivation arise. Even with our effort, it seems that little is working. Feeling this way, the apostles relived an experience: miraculous fishing. Also we can hear that voice again, which asks us to start over. No matter the intelligence or time of experience, but the wisdom that allows us to recognize the presence of Him. We make certain that if we love and are united, He is among us. <i>Let's start loving again.</i>
07	Sat Mk 16:9-15 St John B. de La Salle	Believe in mercy. "The resurrection of Christ is life for the dead, forgiveness for sinners ... The light of Christ shines forth and radiates its clarity, and no shadow of sin can obscure it ... No one excludes himself from this universal joy, despite his conscience of their sins; let no man turn from common prayers, though he may feel the weight of his faults. No matter how sinful you feel, no one should give up forgiveness. We have in our favor a valuable witness: if the thief deserved paradise, how can the disciple of Christ not deserve forgiveness?" (St. Maximus of Turin, Sermon 53)
08	Sun Day of the (GEV) Living Hope Groups	"Blessed are those who have not seen." (Jn 20, 19-31) Sunday of Divine Mercy.
09	Mon Jn 6:47 Annunciation of the Lord	In truth I say to you, He who believes shall have everlasting life. With these words, Jesus responds to man's deepest aspiration. Our mistake is to look for it in creatures and created things, limited and fleeting, that do not respond to our aspirations. Only Jesus satisfies the hunger of the human being. He alone can give us life that does not die, because He is Life.
10	Tue At 4: 32-37	Everything between them was put in common. The "common" is an evangelical requirement for those who, believing in love, are willing to live in "community", in "fraternity". The life of the Word of God allows us to work, share and live together as a family. In this lifestyle, refusing to share is "stealing" and shamefully excluding oneself from life with the brothers. How about we review in our wardrobe the things we keep or even hide? Life of sharing is family life. <i>Let's live the communion of goods.</i>
11	Wed Jn 3: 16-21	He who acts according to the truth draws near to the light. We all need to deal with our darkness. They hide our hatreds, envy, insecurities, malice, and various destructive feelings and thoughts, but they also hide the beauty we have in our souls. The wisdom of the Word, which teaches us to forgive, to love, to give ... becomes light for our existence. In the light of God's mercy, our darkness disappears with all that is not true. What remains? The love with which God loves us and that we can give to all. <i>Let's be light to all.</i>
12	Thu At 5:27-33	We must obey God rather than men. No one should manipulate this word to justify individualistic attitudes. Let us understand that whoever wants to obey God seeks to love everyone, seeks to do things in unity, serves, is humble, etc. Unity, because it is Jesus, gives us the strength to endure and overcome misunderstandings and persecutions. Love calls for faithfulness and perseverance especially in the most difficult moments. United, let's go further. <i>Let's carry on loving.</i>
13	Fri At. 5: 34-42 (St. Terese of the Andes)	Be careful that you do not fight against God. To fight against God, who is the "Good", is to waste time and energy. Sometimes we have resistance to live experiences of the Word or to say yes to the call of God. We flee from the good deeds that bind us. What will be left at the end? Let us remember that selfish and unloving decisions build a solitary and worthless life. Before the novelties, proposals, challenges and surprises of life, there is "Someone" who loves us immensely. Why fight against Him? <i>Let's stay on the good side.</i>
14	Sat At. 6: 1-7	Rejoice. "The only begotten Son of God raised many sons of God. He bought for himself brothers with his blood: he wanted to be condemned to justify us, sold to rescue us, reviled to give us glory, dead to give us life ... rejoice in the Lord and not in the world. I mean, rejoice in truth and not in iniquity; Rejoice in hope of eternity, and not in the flowers of vanity. Rejoice thus in every place and in all the time that you live in this world ". (St. Augustine, S.171)
15	Sun	3rd Sunday of Easter - "Peace be with you". (Lk 24, 35-48)
16	Mon Jn 6:47	In truth I say to you, He who believes shall have everlasting life. He who welcomes and practices the word of Jesus has eternal life. Faith is a gift from God. The great obstacles to this gift are pride, attachment, lack of openness in the light of God and lack of generosity and availability to the changes of mentality and life that Jesus asks of us. If we live His word, He enters into us.
17	Tue At 7:51-8,1a	Deliver. Sometimes the evil someone has done to us is so great that forgiveness seems far away. To give pain and the person who caused it, to God, is a courageous act of freedom. Trust to God the brother who hurt, the mother who failed, the father

		who did not care, the relative who explored; deliver the heavy word that marked, the scene that shocked, the hard hand that struck, the one that deceived And at that time the sky will open to welcome our most sacred and precious gift: the sorrow. Forgiveness makes us free people. Let's deliver sorrow to God.
18	Wed Jn 6:35-40	Whoever comes to me will not feel any more hunger. It is very common to find people consuming things that do not feed and even harm their health. But there are healthy foods that can even prevent disease. With the soul it is the same thing. To feed on Jesus is to feed on eternity, on resurrection. We can feed him in unity with his brothers, in the Eucharist, in prayer, in the acts of love, in the Word and, among so many things, in the embraced pain. Our essence, our soul, has a food: It is Him. <i>Let's feed on Good.</i>
19	Thu Jn 6: 44-51	I am the bread of life. The daily food we consume is part of a culture, personal condition and even a lifestyle. Those who believe in the culture of giving, in the good and in the way of life of the Gospel, share a true food and are willing to feed those who find positive words, experiences, attentive listening, acts of love, etc. He in us can feed many. <i>Let's nourish others with good.</i>
20	Fri At 9: 1-20	What I do to the other I do to Jesus. In the history of the Farm, we find Antonio, the first of ours who, discovering the Word of God, searched to abandon egoism with concrete experiences. One day he asked Nelson, "Everything I do to the other I do for Jesus"? Nelson replied, "Yes. What I do good and bad." Antônio's change attracted Beto, Ademir and so many others. Let us remember today the Living Hope Group, which seeks in the midst of the world to live concrete acts of love. <i>Let's live reciprocal love.</i>
21	Sat Jn 6:60-69 (St. Anselmo)	Lord, to whom shall we go? "It is not the science that redeems man. Man is redeemed by love. This is already true in this world. When someone experiences a great love in his life, you know a moment of "redemption" that gives a new meaning to your life. But he will quickly realize that the love given him does not solve the problem of his life alone. It is a love that remains fragile. It can be destroyed by death. The human being needs unconditional love ... 'alive in the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me' (Gal 2:20). (Pope Benedict XVI, Spe Salvi, 26)
22	Sun	IV Easter Sunday - "I give my life for my sheep" . (Jn 10: 11-18)
23	Mon Jn 6:47 St Jorge	In truth, I say to you, He who believes shall have everlasting life. And what is the way to believe and to have eternal life? Accept and put into practice the Word of God with generosity, without reserve and restrictions.
24	Tue Jn 10:22-30	My sheep listen to my voice. There is an unmistakable voice that speaks with docility, but firmly to our mind and heart. It's hard to hear it when other voices speak at the same time. It may be that the voices of feelings, fears, worries, memories, passions, among so many resound in our ears. When the Word of God speaks within us, in every choice or decision, small or great, our life becomes the space where His voice echoes. The other voices gradually become silent. Let's hear that voice.
25	Wed 1 Peter 5:5b-14 St Mark evangelizer	"Dress yourselves with humbleness." We are nothing by ourselves, but in God we are all and we can all be in His love. Recognizing the action of God in our lives makes us humble witnesses of His strength, His wisdom and makes us live only His infinite graces. We do not take ownership of the good, but we recognize its instruments. We are not the origin of love either, but we act under its impulse. To be humble is not to deny oneself and to subjugate oneself to others. To be humble is to know that we are equal before God and that we are all his children in right and dignity. To be humble is to know that love is everything and we are nothing. But nothingness full of love is light for the world. Let's serve others with humbleness.
26	Thu Jn 13:16-20	The servant is not above his master. He teaches love in concrete terms. His followers, touched by his relationship with him, living reciprocal love, also serve the brothers. Paul, Benedict, Francis, Clare, John Bosco, Terezinha of Jesus, Pastor Bonhoeffer, Vincent Teresa of Calcutta are just some of the many who, in fraternal life, in welcoming the needy and in embracing the cross, gave their lives for the Gospel. The Word of God only brings joy to those who put it into practice. Let's teach by the example.
27	Fri Jn 14:1-6 (St Zita)	Do not let your heart be troubled! We are disturbed by worries, by ingratitude, failures of the past, by fears and many other negative feelings we sometimes feed. There is "Someone" who is always in our midst if, loving, we live in unity. He among us is the way, the truth and the life. Instead of nourishing what is negative, we could nourish life with its presence. The smile, the favor, the act of love, the sharing are small gestures that generate the presence of Him. <i>Let's live unity.</i>
28	Sat Jn 14:7-14 (St Giana B. Molla)	Show us the Father. "The first and essential place of learning of hope is prayer. When no one listens to me anymore, God still listens to me. When I can no longer speak to anyone, or invoke anyone else, I can always speak to God. If there is no one else who can help me - because it is a need or an expectation that surpasses the human capacity to wait - He can help me. " (Pope Benedict XVI, Spe Salvi, 32)
29	Sun	V Easter Sunday - "He who remains in me and I in him, he bears much fruits" . (Jn 15: 1-8) St Catarina of Sena
30	Mon Jn 6:47	In truth I say to you, He who believes shall have everlasting life. The words of Jesus enlighten, enter into our hearts with his truth, his strength and his love. Our life will increasingly be "living with Him", "doing everything together with Him". And even physical death can no longer frighten us because, with Jesus, life that does not die has begun in us.

Comments usually prepared for the daily meditations of the youths of the Farm of Hope.

The Word of Life of the Month can be found at www.focolare.org.

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