

Daily Word of Life

September of 2018

01	Sat Mt 25, 14-30	Give fruits with the gifts. "Those who build the community are those who love, forgive, listen, are gentle, serve, nurture others and pray for them. Each one, by the grace given to him, exercises his gifts according to the unique modalities of his love and affection. A community is only true when each person discovers that he needs the other person immensely and seeks to become transparent, lucid and more faithful in the exercise of his own gift. " (Jean Vanier, Community, Place of Forgiveness and of Celebration, page 308)
02	Sun	XXII D. T. Common - "It is from the heart ... that the most intense things come out" . (Mt 7: 1-8: 14-15: 21-23)
03	Mon Tg 1,21	Receive with meekness the Word that is implanted in you, and that is able to save us. In the Bible, the word of God also supposes the grace of the Holy Spirit. The two elements form a single whole. The grace of the Holy Spirit that we receive at baptism is the vital principle of the Word, which interiorizes and makes it germinate like a seed in our hearts.
04	Tue 1 Cor 2, 10b-16	We do not receive the spirit of the world, but the Spirit of God. The wisdom that comes from the Spirit is not a natural ability, an aptitude, but a gift, the fruit of the relationship with the one who is infinite. Often we cultivate competition, gossip, judgment, hurt, violence, etc., having as means what we see, hear, speak, think and do. We cultivate the relationship with God with the same means, but, united to the Word, living the positive, doing, thinking and communicating the good. <i>Let's have discernment.</i>
05	Wed Lc4, 38-44 (St.Teresa de Calcutá)	She got up and began to serve them. It is the attitude of those touched by Jesus. Today the fever of indifference, selfishness and individualism kills many people. Those who encounter Love recovers from their vices, from the diseases of the soul and from their consequences, because love heals. When we are able to serve, united to love, we become a little "Jesus" for the brothers. <i>Let's serve.</i>
06	Thu Lc 5,1-11	In consideration of your word I will launch the nets. We have already experienced fatigue and discouragement in facing of efforts that failed. One thing is "to do" and another is "to do because 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. Attentive to that voice, we can advance in the deep waters of our life with God and with the brothers. We can see the miracle of the good that multiplies. <i>Let's listen to the inner voice.</i>
07	Fri 1 Cor 4, 1-5	Do not judge. We are used to seeing and judging in a negative way the events and attitudes of people. Showing someone's mistakes does not make us better people. The wisdom we find in the Word of God teaches us to see the positive in the other and to love in the most diverse situations. And when it is necessary to make a mistake, or to correct, we should ask ourselves, "Am I doing for good? "; "Is the time right? ". We are brothers, not judges of one another. <i>Let's discern with wisdom.</i>
08	Sat Mq5, 1-4a (Natividade de Maria)	He will be peace. "It is only when we discover that failure, depression and even our sins can become an offering, a matter of sacrifice and thus can be brought to the eternal, is that there is a certain peace. It is only when one accepts the human condition with all its limits, its contradictions, its continuous search for happiness and it is discovered that the eternal nuptials will come as a gift, after our death, that confidence is regained. " (Jean Vanier, Community, Place of Forgiveness and Feast, page 383)
09	Sun	XXIII Sunday of Ordinary Time - "He has done all things well" . (Mc 7.31-37)
10	Mon Tg 1,21	Receive with meekness the Word of God that has been implanted in you and that is capable of saving us. Of course, to germinate and to bear fruit, the seed of the Word of God has to find in us a welcoming soil: a well-disposed heart. This means that we must first of all cleanse the soil of our soul from the gravel, the weeds and the thorns, that is, purify it of all the disordered passions that could stop its growth.
11	Tue 1 Cor 6,1-11	You have been washed, sanctified, and justified. Somehow all of us have already suffered some injustice. However, the sufferings we experience and the marks of our history cannot be an excuse for revenge, hatred or unforgiveness. Evil deforms, but good transforms. The tensions and discussions that take place in our lives should serve to find solutions and not to proclaim winners and losers. The life of the Word of God purifies us and teaches us to combat injustice by doing good. <i>Let's overcome evil with good.</i>
12	Wed Lc6, 20-26	Rejoice. Your reward in heaven will be great. God does not promise us eternal joy here, even though we may experience, already on earth, joys that spring from eternity. 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 and resurrection are 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>Let's live the joy.</i>
13	Thu Lc6, 27-38 (S. João Crisóstomo)	What you want others to do to you, do to them as well. It is a proposal that always returns. Our balance is based on the positive family relationship with those with whom we live or meet. We build healthy, supportive environments with our positive and balanced reactions. Reactions that hurt, offend, drive away, among so many, reveal a wounded heart, full of fear, hatred and pain. A heart that has been healed radiates good in relationships. <i>Let's live reciprocal love.</i>
14	Fri Jo3, 13-17 (Exaltação da Sta. Cruz)	Have eternal life. For many, speaking of eternity, of salvation, seems something out of the present, and talking about embracing the cross, something outside of logic. It was no different in Jesus' time. His announcement sounded crazy. Could a mother do crazy things to save her son's life? Yes. The cross is madness of the Love of God. Let us today exalt the Love of the Cross, offering the sorrows of this day for our brothers and sisters. <i>Let's embrace the suffering.</i>
15	Sat Jo 19, 25-27 (N. Sra. das Dores)	Faithful to the Cross. "But he died, abandoned by his friends, crucified on a cross, rejected by human society, by religious leaders and by his own people. Only one person understood and lived the reality: Mary, his mother, who stood at the foot of the cross. It was a communion that surpasses any community. The Lord himself cried out, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? 'And' I thirst. ' "(Jean Vanier, Community, Place of Forgiveness and the Party, page 384)
16	Sun	XXIV D. T. C. - "... renounce yourself, take up your cross and follow me." (Mark 8: 27-35)
17	Mon Tg 1,21	Receive with meekness the Word of God that has been implanted in you and which is capable of saving us. The Word of God received by us needs to be protected from all the errors that threaten it, but above all to find in us a certain depth - that is, gathering, listening, reflection, prayer - to be understood and assimilated.
18	Tue Lc7, 11-17	Have Compassion. Unlike the other miracles, here Jesus acts without asking, without the request of the widow who cries before the death of the only son. Jesus knew another mother that one day he would see his only son dead. Your own mother. We live compassion when we put ourselves in the place of the person who suffers, doing for it what we would have done to ourselves if we were in the same situation. <i>Let's live reciprocal love.</i>

19	Wed 1Cor 12, 31- 13, 13	If I had no love I would be nothing. It is not a romantic or sentimental text. Love is the wisdom that can renew all aspects of life. The lack of love in attitudes, reactions, relationships and other points isolates the person in the jail of their wounds. Love, because it is therapeutic, healing, liberating, harmonizing relationships and environments, creates spaces of dialogue and communion, drives us to do good, unites us to God, our brothers and sisters and the whole creation. Love will not pass. <i>Let's believe in love.</i>
20	Thu Lc7, 36-50	Find forgiveness by loving. The woman considered to be a sinner overcame prejudice, fear and shame, for Jesus' sake. Love generates love and is always united to forgiveness. There are people who cannot love others because they cannot forgive themselves. Someone who does not forgive can carry a forgiveness in history that he did not give to someone. The love of God enables us to give away the pain of the past, to love our neighbor and experience the joy of forgiveness in our lives. Love, in forgiveness, heals and cleanses our history. <i>Let's heal in forgiveness.</i>
21	Fri Mt 9, 9-13 (St. Mathew, Apostle and Gospel writer.)	Follow me. Matthew was seen as unworthy, and certainly felt like this. The invitation of Jesus brings back the dignity, the joy. He feasts, a meal for Jesus. Young people who have gone through chemical dependency today consecrate themselves to God. Couples who felt distant from God, cast themselves as missionaries in distant lands or strive to do good where they live. Men and women lead the Living Hope Groups and other aid and evangelism groups. Neither the past, nor age, nor personal boundaries can prevent us from saying yes to Him when we believe. <i>Let's always connect with the good.</i>
22	Sat Lc8, 4-15 (St. Maurício)	Produce Fruits. "The mission of a community is to be a source of life for others ... to infuse them with new hope ... to make them realize that they are loved by God just as they are with this mixture of good and evil, light and darkness within. Jesus wants each of us to bear fruit in him. But he also wants us to unite to produce much more and thus become his disciples (John 15)." (Jean Vanier, Community, Place of Forgiveness and Feast, page 107)
23	Sun	XXV Sunday of the Common T. - "If anyone wants to be the first, let him be the last ..." (Mk 9, 30-37)
24	Mon Tg 1,21	Receive with meekness the Word of God that has been implanted in you and that is capable of saving us. The Word of God in the Mass is as important as communion. It would be of little value if we were not bound to live the word of Jesus, listened to and practiced, and especially to live the commandment of love for our neighbor. We must therefore seek to live the Word we hear.
25	Tue Pr 21,1-6.10-13	It is the Lord who searches hearts. Attitudes of arrogance, pride, lies, mockery and lack of charity reveal a soul full of wounds, with fear, anger and insecurity. Investing in a life of appearances does not heal the hurts someone carries. We are loved by God, and when we believe in Love, the wounds can be healed. When we allow ourselves to be guided by Love, forgiveness is manifested, and we can entrust to Him our wounds. Healed hearts are carriers of Hope. <i>Let's heal.</i>
26	Wed Lc9, 1-6 (S. Cosme e Damião)	Announce the Good News. We consume news every day based on fear, insecurity, and negative. News that attract, sell, harm and spoil health, physical or mental. Jesus presents, as a new proposal of communication, the love that makes "all be one, that the world may believe" (Jn 14:21). On the cross He reconciled us. Let us go forward when there is no welcome. We announce unity with concrete acts of love. <i>Let's communicate the good by living the unity.</i>
27	Thu Ecl1, 2-11 (St.Vicente of Paulo)	All is vanity. Another translation: "Illusion of illusions, all is illusion". Our life passes fast. Those who today cling to goods, the physical, people, knowledge, will soon see that everything passes. There come moments in life when nothing is able to fill our emptiness and our pain. There is a divine wisdom that teaches us to seek the essential. Love fills and gives meaning to our existence. Whoever does good, especially in pain, is able to experience in this life drops of eternity. <i>Let's seek the essentials.</i>
28	Fri Ecl 3,1-11	Everything has its time. Our time is now when we live the present moment well. Living from the past or fear of the future is a recipe for unhappiness. Is it time to study? To work? Rest? Pray? Recovery? Let's live these moments well. And if we have many things to do, let us live each one, each time, in love. One remedy that helps to combat stress is to: <i>"live the present moment well"</i> .
29	Sat Jo1, 47-51 (S. Michael, Gabriel e Rafael)	God knows us. "We do not need to represent, to try to be better than others, to do things to be loved. We do not need to hide a whole part of ourselves, behind barriers and masks ... To be simple is to be yourself, knowing that others love you as you are. It is to recognize oneself with qualities and defects. To be simple is to let the love of God and his light shine on us, according to our vocation and our gifts." (Jean Vanier, Community, Place of Forgiveness and the Party, page 79)
30	Sun	XXVI Sunday of Ordinary Time - "Who is not against us is in our favor" . (Mc9, 38-43.45.47-48)

Comments usually prepared 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 (portuguese).

Fr. Marcio Roberto Geira