

Daily Word of Life

December of 2018

01	Sat Rev 22: 1-7 Blessed Charles de Foucauld	The Lord will shine upon them ... "We will have times when we will be really upset with God or, as a whole, downcast or totally disillusioned because it seems that God is doing nothing ... But taking advantage of these moments of loss dark of the soul '...', our relationship with God can become deeper. If I praise God only when the sun shines, my faith is superficial. " (David Watson, Come the Father there amato me ..., 83)
02	Sun	I Advent Sunday - " Your deliverance is near " (Lk 21: 25-28, 34-36)
03	Mon Fl 4,4	Always rejoice in the Lord! ... There is a joy that is linked to external factors, to favorable circumstances that do not depend on our will. But there is also another joy, linked to particular inner dispositions that depend on us. The joy that comes from the Holy Spirit produces good fruit in us.
04	Tue Is 11, 1-10 S. João Damasceno	The wolf and the lamb will live together. Each person has something internal or external that makes it unique. But there is something that makes us the same: the ability to love. Love gathers, surpasses and respects differences creating favorable environments for coexistence. Overcoming judgments, suspicions, prejudices, rancor is one of the conditions for building unity. God is the beauty in relationships. <i>Lets live the harmony.</i>
05	Qua Mt 15,29-37	How many loaves of bread do you have? The attitude of giving always provokes small or great miracles. Greater than the amount of things we have to give, it must be our compassion for who we want to do something concrete. When we give, we open space in the soul and life for innumerable miracles, and we become freer and more joyful. We can only give of what we have, whether in the financial field, material or time, work, abilities ... And so we will see multiplying love, joy and hope in us and in whom we help. Live the communion of goods.
06	Thu Mt 7, 21.24-27 S. Nicolau	Build the house on the rock. Often the reactions of anger, fear or judgment destroy relationships, projects and the soul itself. These reactions, which can be born from deep pains that we carry, can reduce to the "sand" everything we do and do not allow us to have a solid life. To build on the rock of Love we must give up what makes us evil. Love, who came to dwell among us and gave himself on the cross, is the rock of our life. <i>Firm yourself in Love.</i>
07	Fri Is 29,17-24 St. Ambrósio	The humble will increase their joy. It is the message addressed to those who awaited the re-emergence of Israel. The falls and defeats suffered in life can make us better people if we discover the Love that exists beyond pain. "Love always leads to forgiveness." When we forgive, joy immediately enters our soul. To be humble is to discover that true joy comes from the One who lives in us. Without Him we are only weakness. Humbleness is the strength of those who have discovered Love. <i>Act with humbleness.</i>
08	Sat Lc 1- 26-38 Immaculate Conception	Here is the servant of the Lord: "Mary, the Mother ... She lives from God, God lives in her, who annuls every moment to give her life. His voice, which is his will, speaks loudly in the depths of her soul, because she always hears it. She is the servant to his total service: the servant of the Lord But I can also be her. I offer the light of my being, moment by moment, to magnify the Lord and glorify him. " (Chiara Lubich, Ideal and Light, p.183)
09	Sun	II Advent Sunday - " Prepare the way of the Lord ". (Lc3, 1-6)
10	Mon Fl 4,4	Rejoice in the Lord always! It is the joy that Jesus infallibly gives us if we are truly united to him, if we imitate his example, if we live his Word radically and especially if we follow him generously in the way of the cross.
11	Tue Is 40, 1-11	Your slavery is over. We were not born into slavery. Often we become slaves to sin, past, addictions, attachments, worries, destructive feelings, things and people. The boy who comes at Christmas is also the one who on the cross delivers his life for us by proclaiming our freedom. There is a song that says, "Free today I am." Love makes us free. Be free doing good.
12	Wed Lc1, 39-47 Our Lady of Guadalupe	My spirit rejoiced in God my Savior. Disbelief in love, indifference and distrust of everything and everyone rob us of the ability to recognize and rejoice in the good that God says and does. In the scripture, "promise" and "covenant" are part of the same reality. Mary rejoiced because she believed and was faithful. When we are open to the will of God in his love, we are able to recognize his action and his presence in us and in others. <i>Recognize the good.</i>
13	Thu Is 41, 13-20 St. Luzia	I hold you by the hand. I'll help you. Are we allowing God to lead our lives? In our quest for happiness, we are often driven by feelings, vices, desires, ideas, people, etc. How about giving God a chance? When we are willing to live His Word, life around us is transformed. Indeed, it is He who gives us the chance to be happy. Let yourself be led by the good.
14	Fri Is 48, 17-19 St. John of the Cross	I the Lord, I teach you useful things. I present a list of useful "things": work, economy, and communion of goods; witness and irradiation of the good; spirituality and prayer; health, food, physical activity, leisure and rest; personal harmony and coexistence; study and pursuit of wisdom; communication, dialogue and unity ... when we love God, our neighbor and ourselves we seek a balanced life. Giving good laughs with friends, sleeping well, playing, strolling become useful things for those who have learned to love. <i>Spend time with useful things.</i>
15	Sat Sl 79	Come and bring us salvation. "That we might not judge him differently from us, he endured fatigues ... he did not reject suffering, he submitted to death and manifested his resurrection. He offered his own humanity so that you will not be discouraged in the midst of suffering, but, recognizing your condition as a man, you also expect to receive what God has given you. When you contemplate God as He is, you will have an immortal and incorruptible body, like the soul, and you will possess the kingdom of the heavens, ... then you will live in the intimacy of God and you will be heir with Christ ". (Saint Hippolyte, Office of the Readings, 6th Sunday of Christmas)
16	Sun	III Sunday of Advent - " He shall baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in the fire. " (Lc 3,10-18)
17	Mon Fl 4,4	Rejoice in the Lord always! Paul writes these words at a very difficult time in his life. He is in prison, passing needs, knowing that his life is in grave danger. With these words, therefore, he gives us the demonstration that difficulties,

		persecutions and death itself, if embraced in union with Jesus, cannot take from us that peace and joy that proceed from Him; on the contrary, they increase even more.
18	Tue Mt 1,18-24	God with us. Joseph had to overcome mistrust, fear, and belief. Situations always arise that require a step of trust. Maintain faithfulness by believing that the Word of God is true. In the face of pain and difficulty, you may repeat: " <i>God is with me.</i> "
19	Wed Lk1, 5-25	The Lord has deigned to remove me from public humiliation! In our Farms this word means a lot. Zechariah had doubts. Many did not believe that a woman of advanced age would give birth. Overcome doubt. God can recover people and do the miracle where they are not expected. For those who believe in the Word of God and live concretely, the miracle happens. To love the other, not to respond, to become small, to be humble, to serve ... is not humiliation. Living in sin, is. <i>Believe.</i>
20	Thu Lk 1,26-38	To God nothing is impossible. You can overcome and resolve many things by trusting in God. These days difficult situations can arise. Keep calm and trust. This Christmas will be unique in your life. Do your part and trust Him with what seems impossible to you. Trust as Mary. Para Deus nada é impossível. Você pode superar e resolver muitas coisas confiando em Deus. Estes dias podem aparecer situações difíceis. Mantenha a calma e a confiança. Este Natal será único em sua vida. Faça sua parte e confie para Ele o que parece impossível para você. <i>Confiar como Maria.</i>
21	Fri Lk1, 39-45 St. Peter Canísio	"They are to do the things which have been said by the Lord." Mary is declared to be happy, blessed because she believed in the promise of God. Whoever believes in the Word and puts it into practice experiences the good that God accomplishes. In this time of advent, your strength and creativity are at the service of the brothers. In every act of love there is a possibility to experience Christmas. Let's serve
22	Sat Lk1, 46-56	His mercy extends from generation to generation. "... Christmas has, above all, a taste of hope, because, despite our darkness, the light of God shines forth. His gentle light does not scare; in love with us, God draws us with his tenderness, being born poor and fragile in our midst, as one of us. It is born in Bethlehem, which means "house of bread"; in this way he seems to be telling us that he is born as bread for us; Come into our lives, to give us your life; Come to our world, to bring us your love. Come, not to devour and command, but to feed and serve. " (Pope Francis, Christmas Homily, 12/24/2016)
23	Sun	IV Advent Sunday - " Blessed art thou among women ". (Lk 1, 39-45)
24	Mon Fl 4,4	Rejoice in the Lord always! It seems clear what the content of this Word is and how we should live it. It encourages us to launch spiritually, to live the Christian life in its fullness rather than in half - especially the commandment of love for our neighbor; to embrace with all our heart the inevitable difficulties, crosses and trials of life, recognizing in them the figure of Jesus crucified. Alegrai-vos sempre no Senhor! Parece estar claro o conteúdo desta Palavra e o modo como devemos vivê-la. Ela nos estimula a nos lançarmos espiritualmente, vivermos a vida cristã em plenitude e não pela metade – especialmente o mandamento do amor ao próximo; a abraçarmos com todo o coração as inevitáveis dificuldades, cruces e provações da vida, reconhecendo nelas a figura de Jesus crucificado.
25	Tue Jn1, 1-18	Merry Christmas - "The Word became flesh and came to live among us." "It's Christmas! The Word became man and kindled love on earth ... It's Christmas! May your love on earth make our hearts burn and love us as you please! Then you will be among us. "(Chiara Lubich, E makes Natale ..., pp. 78-79)
26	Wed At 6,8-10; 7,54-59 St. Steve	Witness wisely. The true proclamation, besides good works and the word, needs the inner and intimate relationship with the one who is our strength in facing danger and pain. Stephen believed in the grace of God. What if our lives are in danger because of the Gospel? Thousands of our brothers have been killed in recent years and these days, because of Jesus, victims of incomprehension and fundamentalism. Many celebrated Christmas in the midst of pain, fear and uncertainty, but faithful to the Gospel. What response would we give in their place? Believe.
27	Thu Jn 20, 2-8 St. John Evangelista	See and believe. At the birth of Jesus, the shepherds and the magicians saw far beyond a baby wrapped in cloths. In the Gospel of today, John and Peter see beyond dirty cloths that enveloped the dead body of the Lord. He who believes in Love can see beyond appearances. The "cloths" of fragility, pain and death manifest more than we can see. We can lay all this on the ground of God's love. Then let us announce with concrete actions the new life, the resurrection that we experience. <i>Let's see with the heart.</i>
28	Fri 1Jo 1, 5-2,2 Innocent Saints	If we walk in the light we are in communion with one another. Sometimes we look at people and the world from our darkness. All carry the light of God even if it is hidden. This light returns to manifest itself when we begin to love again in a life of sharing and true communion. It is a day to forgive, to start over, to improve living together and to escape isolation by doing good. <i>Build unity.</i>
29	Sat 1Jn 2, 3-11 St Tomas B.	Those who love their brother remain in the light. "Let us respect creation, let us not be instruments of destruction! Let us respect every human being: cease the armed conflicts that bloody the earth, silence the weapons and then hatred gives way to love, the offense to forgiveness and disagreement to unity. " (Pope Francisco, 10/4/2013)
30	Sun	Holy Family - " All who heard him were astonished at the wisdom of his answers. " (Lc2, 41-52)
31	Mon Fl 4,4 St. Silvestre	Rejoice in the Lord always! As we face the difficulties and recognize in them the crucified Jesus, we can always merit this peculiar fruit of the Spirit, the joy. It is precisely the sign of the fullness of the Christian life in us and the proof of coherence for those who believe. We are then Christians, to be the witnesses of joy in the world.

*Comments usually prepared for the daily meditations of the young people of the Farm of Hope.
The Word of Life of the Month can be found at www.focolare.org (English).
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