#### Oristano: Cycle of meetings on Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)

Apostolic Movement has been present and operates in the city of Oristano since 2011 in the St. Sebastian Martyr Parish. We have been collaborating for many years with our pastor Msgr. Giuseppe Sanna, who also administers the Cathedral of Oristano.

In 2017, on the initiative of our parish priest to share with the Cathedral parish a common path of service aimed at the two communities, we inaugurated the oratory for young people, entitled to St. John Paul II. A new reception and fraternity courtyard, with the aim of training and amuse children with play and workshop activities, in which the young people of post-confirmation interact and cooperate having been made responsible with the task of animators.

In the light of this renewed open relationship to the younger generations, it was simultaneously agreed to build a dialogue with adults and with families. Certain of the unavoidable importance of formation and knowledge of the Gospel for a serious and conscious growth in faith, we shared with the parish priest the idea of offering an interparochial formative journey of catechesis inspired by the Encyclical of Pope Francis Amoris Laetitia (The joy of love), considering it essential to meet the family in its entirety. This was possible thanks to the availability and apostolic activity of Fr. Davide Marino who, from Rome, periodically reaches our island to offer us this support

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and service in perfect adherence to the charisma of the Apostolic Movement.

This presence of Fr David, in addition to supporting and giving courage to our journey as diocesan responsible adhering members of the A.M., has allowed us to undertake, starting November, a series of monthly meetings specifically both for the young animators of the oratory and for adults. In particular, for the latter the meetings were organized according to a thematic path that, starting from the project of the Creator (Genesis), addressed and deepened the sacrament of marriage (image of the family in Christ), and then proceeded shortly on the theme of charity in family, the relationship between parents and children and the situations of difficulty that pass through it every day. Themes that, in a society that shows itself increasingly distracted, indifferent and often open-minded, demand to be faced with courage, wisdom and humility. Today more than ever it is necessary to grow in the word of Jesus Christ, we must be credible witnesses of an indissoluble truth, the only way to salvation. Out of this, one loses himself and risks inexorably to cause to fail the project of the couple and unity of the family.

This silent need for truth and the search for God is of much wider proportions. Demonstration of this was the number of participants in the catechesis performed so far that, compared to the usual numbers, has seen the presence of different souls who do not normally attend or who declare themselves nonbelievers. This is certainly a stimulus and spur to continue with confidence and perseverance on this path. We thank Fr. Davide Marino for his support and service and we entrust the path of the A.M. to the Redemption Mother. in the various dioceses of the world. Let us invoke her intercession and protection, and in particular the grace of perseverance.

Germana Dolce and Paolo Abis



### You will worship him alone

ur faith is obedience to the truth of God, of man and of every animate and inanimate being created by the Lord, truth that is not left to the mind of man and not even to his desires, instincts, passions and thoughts. The truth to which man must obey is that contained in the Word given to man, both by making it reach his ear, just as he did at the beginning of creation with man and woman, created in his image and likeness, and after sin, just as it happened with the serpent, the woman, the man, Cain, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. With Moses to the Word spoken in a direct way the written Word is added, which becomes the norm to know every other Word of God. But God does not deprive himself of his direct Word. The whole of the Old Testament is the Word given by him to his prophets and sages. The New Testament is the Word spoken by Christ Jesus and by the Holy Spirit to his Apostles. Never has the Spirit stopped talking to his Church. But the written Word always remains the norm of the truth of every Word uttered throughout history by the Spirit of the Lord. The Spirit is the truth of the Word. But He does not act alone. He and the Apostles of Christ Jesus act together.

One worships God, choosing, accepting and obeying the truth that is in the Word of the Lord, according to the divine light reflected in it by the Holy Spirit and the Apostles. Therefore, the Apostle has the obligation to listen to the Spirit because sealing his Word is his ministry, attesting that what the Spirit teaches, reveals and says, is his Word, his truth and his revelation so that the Church walks in the footsteps of Christ Jesus and of his Gospel. If one detaches himself from the Apostles and from the Spirit, there is no adoration of God, because there might never be obedience to his Word and to his commandments. But in the Word of God an interpreter of falsehood and lie always insinuates himself: Satan. He comes to give the Word different meanings than those placed in it by the heavenly Father through his Prophets, Christ Jesus, the Apostles and the Holy Spirit. But Satan does not always present himself directly.

He also dresses as an angel of light, a friend, a confidant and a person interested in our lives. He goes to Christ as a person that is interested both of his hunger and glory. But he indicates a way that leads to eternal hunger and the eternal loss of God's glory. He is a murderer who disguises himself as a doctor and gives as a medicine for our healing some lethal poison. How do we go about knowing him, despite his role as benefactor of our life? Knowing the truth placed in the Word of the Lord. Without this knowledge, it is easy to assume his poison presented to us as a miraculous medicine. This is why if the Church wants to preserve herself in truth she must start from a solid formation of her children in the purest truth contained in the Word. But also Christians, if they want to know the temptation, they must be assiduous and constant in listening to the teachings of the Apostles. Mother of God, give your Church the power of the Spirit for the remembrance of the Word.

# «YOU HAVE FREELY RECEIVED, FREELY GIVE» (Mt 10,8)

#### Reflections on the Message of H. H. Francis for the XXVII World Day of the Sick 2019

view of the World Day of the Sick, the Holy Father Francis has invited us to recognize that the human condition is intrinsically characterized by the notes of poverty and indigence: "Every man is poor, needy and destitute. When we are born, to live we need the care of our parents and so in every phase and stage of life each of us will never be able to free himself completely from the need and help of others, will never be able to rid himself of the limit of impotence in front of someone or something. This is also a condition that characterizes our being "creatures" ».

This constitutive human frailty manifests itself in a very particular way in the painful story of the disease, which strikes the life of man, revealing itself to be a true creature limit. However, this limit is not something negative. It must be accepted serenely, allowing ourselves to be helped, with humility and trust, by those who share with us the path of life, in the awareness that it is precisely this limit which becomes a vocation to mutual communion and way that favours interwoven relationships of sincere love.

On the other hand, even those who are assigned, by profession or as volunteers, to the assistance of the sick must carry out their mission according to the canons of the Gospel. Addressing them, the Pontiff recalled the importance of the gift as a "paradigm able to challenge individualism and contemporary social fragmentation". Donating - the Pope explains - always implies "giving oneself and it cannot be reduced to a mere transfer of a property or some object. It differs from giving as gifts

view of the World Day of the because it contains the gift of the self and Sick, the Holy Father Francis supposes the desire to establish a bond".

In this sense the Christian, in contact with the world of suffering, cannot understand his action towards the patient as a mere provision of a service. The disciple of Christ is called to conform his heart to that of his Master, full of compassion before the drama of a humanity devastated by the leprosy of sin (cf. Mk 1: 40-42), fallen under the blows of the brigand Satan (Lk 10: 29-37), prostrated in the pain of death (see Lk 7: 11-17).

But, this compassion is of a supernatural kind. To give life back to humanity, Christ made a gift of his whole life to the Father. In the same way the Christian, if he wants to bring true salvation to the world, must also make a gift of his own life to Christ in faith. True compassion for man is only in this gift of his own life made to Christ, which becomes motion of the Holy Spirit and produces abundant fruits of true salvation.

If this exchange of life does not take place, the love of Christ is not poured into our hearts (see Rom 5: 5). It is then that every work of assistance exposes itself to the risk of becoming a cold professional service. Even the achievements of medicine and biotechnology, from instruments for the life of man, are transformed into a temptation to the "manipulation" of the tree of life" (see Genesis 3,24)».

May the Virgin Mary keep the world of health and all those who work in the care and relief of suffering in the love of Christ.

Father Nicola Rotundo

# The<br/>YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD, YOUR GOD<br/>(I SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C)

#### YOU SHALL BOW DOWN IN HIS PRE-SENCE (Dt 26,4-10)

Our faith is the history created by God for us. It does not end in time, it continues in eternity. In the celebrated cult, we confess that all our past, present and future of good is operated by God for us. In lived worship, we obey every command the Lord has given to us for our present and future of salvation. The cult celebrated without lived worship is useless. Moreover, without the lived worship, little by little we also dissociate ourselves from the celebrated cult. Lived worship and celebrated worship must be one. Who makes two things of them, does not live according to truth either one or the other. Temptation has only one purpose: separating us from our God and Lord. Those who separate, leave the history of blessing and salvation and enter a history of death. In detachment, the Lord can no longer create for us our life of salvation. In separation from Him there is slavery, death and eternal perdition.

#### EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD (Rm 10,8-13)

Those who will invoke the name of the Lord will be saved. How is the name of the Lord invoked? Who can invoke it? What name must one invoke? The name to invoke is that of Jesus the Nazarene. Whoever believes that the Father has constituted only Him, Lord and Christ, Saviour and Redeemer of every man can invoke him. Only He is the way, the truth and the life. Only in Him there is eternal life. He alone is the Mediator of all grace and truth, but also of every invocation that rises from the earth to heaven. Today this truth has been erased, not in a direct but in an indirect way. How? By declaring every other man way of salvation, redemption, justification and peace. Against the Holy Spirit who says that only in Jesus of Nazareth is true salvation, we say that every man is the way of salvation. If every man is the way of salvation, it is useless to invoke the name of Christ the Lord. We are erasing the truth of Christ to please men. An indirect way of felling our faith.

## HIM ALONE SHALL YOU SERVE (Lk 4,1-13)

Satan tempts Jesus so that he separate himself from the Father. He suggests him not to follow the history written from eternity for him by God, but to take history in his hands and write it to his taste. He is the Son of God. He is God. Why depend on another God, even if it is the Father? But temptation has a crescendo. Satan proposes himself as God for Jesus. The gain would have been great. He would have had in possession all the kingdoms of the earth. But Satan does not tell Jesus an essential truth. The kingdoms he promises - we know it is a great lie and falsehood - are until the moment of death. With death the full separation from history takes place. With Satan as God, everything ends in a moment. With the Father everything remains for eternity. Nor does he tell him that the service rendered to him brings the soul into perdition, while the service given to God leads the whole man to eternal glory in the holy skies. Temptation gives you an enjoyment that lasts a moment. But takes eternal glory away from you. Apparently it gives you life. In reality it only gives death. Obedience to God gives endless bliss instead.

*by the theologian,* **Msgr. Costantino Di Bruno**