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Apostleship of the Cross

Houston Center



IN CELEBRATION OF THE 111TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF THE WORKS OF THE CROSS, WE ARE SHARING WITH YOU THE THOUGHTS OF ONE MEMBER OF EACH OF THE WORKS OF THE CROSS.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE CROSS

The days of Advent when we are awaiting the birth of Baby Jesus are very important days in our spiritual life to reflect upon what we have been doing with our lives. When I question myself I always obtain the same answer: “I could have done better”. It is with the help of the Holy Spirit that I can see, despite of my miseries and falls, God’s mercy and endless love for me when He forgives me and accepts me like I am.

In what is helping me, and how is changing me the Spirituality of the Cross? These past years I have seen how little by little I have grown, in knowledge, charity, prayer, sacrifices, love, and strength to accept my daily crosses at work, at home, and everywhere I go, offering all in union with Christ, and for Christ.

Lord, I want to offer you all my happiness and sorrows!

**Auxiliadora Cordón
Houston, TX.**

SISTERS OF THE CROSS

Each of our Communities is a gift of the Spirit more than being one of human origin. The Religious Community has its origin in God’s love, diffused in the hearts by means of the Spirit, and for Him, it builds like a true family united in the name of the Lord.

From our spirituality, the spirit that enlightens us is eminently priestly. We have been called especially to be like Jesus and to be in his union, by the hands of Mary, a permanent offer to the Father in favour of the Church. Only by having Jesus as the *Center and Entirety* of our lives, we will accomplish our mission. Not one single act of the creature, no matter how saintly it may be, can amount to anything in front of God if it is not united to the Incarnate Word.

The participation in the priestly mission of Christ in our lives as Sisters of the Cross can be expressed in *the Perpetual Eucharist Adoration*, and by *Being Victims for the Church and Praying and Sacrificing Ourselves for the Salvation of Men, Especially for Priests*.

Before doing any visible work, the mission of the Oasis is to make present in the world the priestly feelings of Jesus in his virginal and spousal love, like the one of Mary, from which a particular fecundity proceeds that contributes to the birth and recognition of the divine life in the hearts.

Sister Regina Alonzo RCSCJ
Modesto, CA.

COVENANT OF LOVE

How do I live the Spirituality of the Cross?

I can't imagine living without it! The Spirituality of the Cross has given so much more meaning to my every day experiences. I can now make use of the smallest and even insignificant incidents in my daily life for either personal spiritual growth or to join them to the suffering of Jesus Christ in Calvary. Most of the time both apply, which gives me joy here on earth that truly surpasses human understanding.

The Spirituality of the Cross gives me such an appetite to know more about my Catholic Faith and supports me on how to lovingly lead others to a deeper understanding of the many gifts the Catholic Church offers. I intend to spend the rest of my life learning from our beloved Conchita on how to gain souls for life everlasting.

Hilda Sielicki
Modesto, CA.

FRATERNITY OF CHRIST THE PRIEST

The object of the Fraternity of Christ the Priest is to work to restore all things in Christ by means of the Works of the Cross.

The Fraternity of Christ the Priest has answered, as long as it has existed, to the wishes of the Church: to give impulse to the spirituality of the clergy. In these last decades, the Holy Spirit has opened new perspectives and ecclesiastic dimensions, and this Fraternity has found new ways to give answer to the needs of the Church, cultivating the priestly spirituality of its presbyters.

The Fraternity of Christ the Priest has a characteristic spirit, the one that comes from the "configuration with Christ Priest, Son, Head, Pastor and Spouse of the Church".

This information has been taken from the book "Work of the Cross" by Fr. Luis Ruiz Vazquez, M.Sp.S

MISSIONARIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

What is the daily experience in the life of a Missionary of the Holy Spirit (M.Sp.S)?

The way a M.Sp.S. lives is by knowing and deepening in what the Spirituality of the Cross means, which is the spirituality of Christ Priest and Victim, and it is expressed in a rich symbol contained in *The Cross of the Apostolate*.

The Spirituality of the Cross lightens the path of a Missionary of the Holy Spirit; it is a spirituality common to the five branches of the Works of the Cross, with unique characteristics for each of them. The unique characteristic of a M.Sp.S., like the name implies, is to communicate salvation to men, by sharing with them the gift that Christ makes at the time of his death in the cross: his Holy Spirit, Spirit of Light, happiness, life and peace.

This is the Spirit that enlivens our life and service; we call it Spirit of the Cross, and we symbolize it in *The Cross of the Apostolate* that is the cross of Christ Priest. Mary the mother of Christ is our model of that priestly attitude.

Our spirit and mission ask that we are men of prayer; only by praying we can help others to grow as individuals and as Christians, and to discover their vocation. Because of this, we want to be *before anything contemplatives, and then men of action*; this requires of us an intense *Liturgical Life* that culminates in the celebration of the Mass. And because Christ continues his priestly presence in the Eucharist, the fidelity to the *Eucharistic Adoration* occupies an extremely vital place in our religious life.

Fr. Gerardo Alberto, M.Sp.S.
Oxnard, CA.



Evelyn Ereso (Covenant of Love), Myrta Vanegas (Apostleship of the Cross),
Luz Angélica Arana R.C.S.C.J., Fr. José Ortega M.Sp.S., Fr. Mark Wagner (Fraternity of Christ the Priest)

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 2005

- 1- Mary, Mother of God**
- 2- Epiphany of the Lord**
- 8- Celebration Birth of the Works of the Cross
with Fr. Conrado Aquino M.Sp.S. (Spanish)**
- 9- Celebration Birth of the Works if the Cross
with Fr. Conrado Aquino M.Sp.S. (English)**
- 9- Baptism of the Lord**
- 10- Anniversary Death Fr. Felix (1938)**
- 14- 111th Anniversary Birth Works of the Cross (1894)**
- 23- Conchita's Spiritual Spousals (1894)**
- 30- III Assembly Region I (Hillsboro-Oregon)**

February 2005

- 2- Presentation of Jesus in the Temple**
- 3- Anniversary Encounter Conchita and Fr. Félix (1903)**
- 9- Ash Wednesday**

III ASSEMBLY REGION I

Let us join in prayers to ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten those attending the III Assembly of Region I, which will take place on January 30th in Hillsboro, Oregon.

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2004

In a very festive and fraternal atmosphere, members of the three sections of our center gathered to celebrate Christmas. We shared delicious traditional plates such as turkey, roasted pork, rice with beans (gandules), and flan, from the different countries from where we come from.

Thank you Father for the gift of Jesus, and for inviting us to be a part of the Family of the Cross!

AND THEY WILL SAY... HERE WE ARE LORD!!!

Three of our Missionaries of the Holy Spirit will be ordained priest in January.
January 15: B.Dn. Joel Quezada M.Sp.S., in Guadalajara, México
January 16: B.Dn. Miguel Corona M.Sp.S, in Autlán, México
January 29: B.Dn. Hugo Maese M.Sp.S, in Hillsboro, Oregon

May Our Lord overflow them with endless blessings!

Reflection

“What are the spousals if not the union of two wills?

In eternity I had marked this instant and longed for it. It is not untruth, you are my wife, and as such you are received in heaven, and in hell. Only when you penetrate in eternity you will understand what I have done with you today. Love me, I am thirsty, I am burning for love”.

Oh my Lord! You can see my impotence, but when I can, and with all my strength I love you, Spouse of my soul.

“Ask me all that you want, because today I cannot say no to anything that you ask me for”

You ask me first, Jesus, because I will not deny you anything.

“As I wish that you try as soon as you can, to model your life to Mine”.

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***Jesus, Savior of all people,
Save them!***