



Prayer in preparation to the XXI General Chapter

O Most Holy Trinity, who reign in heaven, we thank you for the gifts and grace which you bestowed on our Mother St. Jeanne Antide and we pray you to grant us, through her intercession the graces that we are requesting

**Oh Lord, we are aware that our Congregation will soon enter the fullness of an experience of grace, sprinkled with the presence of the Spirit. Grant each one of us, in particular the Chapter-Delegates, freedom of heart, purity of mind and a look that is attentive to the challenges of our time.*

**Oh Lord, we are aware that the Chapter will be our small “Congregational Bethany”. Grant us to enter this symbolic house, which is waiting to welcome each one of us, ready to abandon the “many things” for which Jesus blames Martha, in order to find afresh the only thing that matters, “the best part” which Jesus praises in Mary: an active and diligent listening to his Word.*

**Oh Lord, we are aware, that we will be celebrating our upcoming Chapter in a time marked by uncertainties and trial. Grant all the sisters who have to reach Rome, a tranquil and safe journey, and may all our nations rediscover their serenity after the sanitary emergency which is looming on the world’s horizon.*

**Oh Most Holy Trinity, we are aware that the chapter experience will be your Pentecost gift for our Congregation. Grant each one of us too, that “living faith, sound hope and fervent charity” which our foundress never lacked in the strong moments of her decisions and her new initiatives.*

OUR FATHER

On the example of Our Lady, woman of listening and Mother of Fair Love, we offer you all ourselves, so that transfigured by your Love we may become vigilant in listening and faithful in announcing. Amen. (don Renato D’Auria)



Hymn to Our Lady



March 2020

On a journey: to communicate



Hymn

Voice 1 : Let us continue our journey towards Bethany with the help of the Encyclical *Laudato Si’*, so that we may look in a new way at the society in which we live ...

Voice 2: One of the effects of the environmental changes is the crisis of interpersonal communication. Our world has become digital ... and young people as well as elderly ones cannot live without being connected. *Laudato Si’* too has confirmed that we are all connected ...

Voice 1: In the past we had only the TV to be informed and connected to the world; today, Internet replaces more and more real encounters with virtual ones ...

Voice 2: Communication and relationships are part of our being ... the need for communication is felt by everyone in a deep and strong way ... We are meant to communicate and to love. Deep down in each one of us, there is an immense and deep wish for *authentic relationships and true love*. Let us cultivate and share true love with all those we meet!



Voice 1: Communication among people needs silence and time: without silence words become empty and are nothing more than chatter; without time we cannot tame each other « One only understands the things that one tames, ... Men have no more time to understand anything »



Hymn or music

From the Encyclical Laudato Si n. 47

« Efforts need to be made to help these media become sources of new cultural progress for humanity and not a threat to our deepest riches. True wisdom, as the fruit of self-examination, dialogue and generous encounter between persons, is not acquired by a mere accumulation of data which eventually leads to overload and confusion, a sort of mental pollution. »

PSAUME 113B Ant: Not to us Lord, but to your name be the glory

Not to us, Lord, not to us
but to your name be the glory,
because of your love and faithfulness
Why do the nations say, “Where is their God?”
Our God is in heaven;
he does whatever pleases him
But their idols are silver and gold,
made by human hands.
They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see.
They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see
They have ears, but cannot hear, noses, but cannot smell.
They have hands, but cannot feel, feet, but cannot walk,
nor can they utter a sound with their throats
Those who make them will be like them,
and so will all who trust in them.
The Lord remembers us and will bless us,
he will bless those who fear the Lord— small and great alike.
May the Lord cause you to flourish, both you and your children!
May you be blessed by the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth!
The highest heavens belong to the Lord,
but the earth he has given to mankind.
It is not the dead who praise the Lord,
those who go down to the place of silence.



Reading from the Gospel of S. Mark 7 :31

Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him. After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man’s ears. Then he spit and touched the man’s tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, “Ephphatha!” (which means “Be opened!”). At this, the man’s ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. People were overwhelmed with amazement. “He has done everything well,” they said. “He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”



Hymn or music

Time for Reflection:

- * Am I able to stop each day and ask how much time should I dedicate to the PC, the social networks (facebook, twitter, instagram, etc...), whatsapp, and others? What can I do to keep up my relationships through cordial and truthful conversations ?
- * Does all that we communicate bring a transformation ?



Music

From the Encyclical Laudato Si' n. 47

Today’s media do enable us to communicate and to share our knowledge and affections. Yet at times they also shield us from direct contact with the pain, the fears and the joys of others and the complexity of their personal experiences. For this reason, we should be concerned that, alongside the exciting possibilities offered by these media, a deep and melancholic dissatisfaction with interpersonal relations, or a harmful sense of isolation, can also arise.