



Daily Word of Life

August of 2017

01	Tue Mt 13, 36-43 St. Afonso M. de Ligório	Belong to the Kingdom. It's great when we feel like we belong to a family or a group. We may even belong to a negative project or group, but we exist to belong to the good. To belong to the Kingdom is to establish a true relationship with God and with the neighbor. Whoever feels part of this life of unity, where He is present in our midst, produces good and abundant fruits. Let's belong to the good.
02	Wed Mt 13, 44-46 Dia do Forgiveness of Assis	Buy that pearl. Building eternity is the greatest investment we can make. In life we can get some wealth. But there is a greater wealth that is given to one who is able to give up his whole life to do good. The Word invites those who have the courage to take risks. The goods of the earth pass fast. Life given to God remains. Offer the best with joy.
03	Thu Sl 83(84)	Blessed are those who in God have their strength. The time comes when our strength is over. In this hour, if we are not involved by a greater force, we do not support. The psalm speaks of the joy of being in the house of God. There is a "house" of God in which we can always live: The Word. In it is the power of God's love. He who loves, who does good, experiences the strength and happiness that comes from Him.
04	Fri Mt 13, 54-58 S. João Maria Vianey	Have faith. Without faith our hope is empty and God cannot make miracles happen. We should never think that we know enough about the Word of God. Those who think this way usually do things by themselves or by custom. God acts when we open spaces in the soul and heart for His action. Let's Believe.
05	Sat Mt 14, 1-12	Learn from the cross. "The cross is the wisest book you can read. Those who do not know this book are ignorant even if they know all the other books. The true ones with wisdom, are only those who love you, consult you, deepen you ... the more you are in your school, the more you want to continue. Time then goes on without boredom. You know everything you want to know, and you can never be satisfied with what you taste. " (St. John Mary Vianney, Spring nell'anima, Citta Nuova, page 9)
06	Sun	Transfiguration of the Lord - "This is my beloved Son...listen to him." (Mt 17: 1-9)
07	Mon	<i>Word of the Month - "The Lord is good to all, compassionate to all his creatures." (Psalm 144 [145], 9) The protagonist of this hymn is God, who reveals His superabundant tenderness, as the maternal tenderness: He is merciful, compassionate, slow to anger, great in love, good to all ... The goodness of God has manifested itself to the people of Israel, but extends to all that have come from His creative hands, to each person and to all creation.</i>
08	Tue Mt 14, 22-36 S. Domingos	Courage! It's me. Do not be afraid! It is not easy to see the positive, or the Love of God, in the "nights" of suffering and difficulties. The winds and waves of life are sometimes very strong. The moment arrives where it seems we have nowhere to lean. When we believe in Love, we are able to hear, in each difficulty, a voice that calms us down and says, "I Am." Difficulties with people, illnesses, failures, painful memories, and so many other things can gain a name today. Let's Recognize Jesus.
09	Wed Mt 15, 21-28 St. Teresa B. da Cruz (Edith Stein)	Lord, help me. The woman who begged for it received a hard answer. If Jesus always loves why did He treat her like that? Certainly out of love. Sometimes God breaks our hardness with hard answers. There are such things as pride, arrogance and self-sufficiency that become a malign presence in our lives and in those who live with us. These are attitudes that reveal wounds that have not yet been healed. Today may be a good day for us to review how we treat others and expel the negative things from the heart. And when we need help we have the courage to ask, either to God or to our brothers and sisters. Let's believe in Love.
10	Thu Mt 16, 13-23 St. Lourenço	If the grain of wheat that falls on the earth does not die, it remains only a grain of wheat; But if it dies, then it bears much fruit. There is no joy of Jesus that is not the fruit of an embraced sorrow. There is no resurrection without death. That grain of wheat is Him. What did He do to "bring up much fruit"? Shared all our stile of being. He took upon himself our sufferings. With us, He became darkness, melancholy, weariness ... He experienced betrayal, loneliness, orphanhood ... In a word: He "became one" with us. Today we can live like him, "making us one" with each neighbor who passes by our side. Embracing the pain of a division, sharing a suffering, solving a problem, with a concrete love that knows how to serve.
11	Fri Mt 16, 24-28 Santa Clara de Assis	What's the use of winning the world and losing your life? It is the question of Jesus. In a selfish behavior, the important thing is to always win, going over everything and everyone. It is a mentality that sets aside the family, the others and especially God, to "win." And then? Losing health, peace, relationships, life itself and the soul. Professional and personal victories are important, but they can become a loss when we neglect the essentials. Life goes fast. To love, Always is worth more.
12	Sat Mt 17, 14-20	Be faithful. "... be faithful 'To him whom thou hast promised unto death ... Brief is our striving here, but the reward is eternal ... Suffer willingly the evils, and do not exalt yourself with favorable goods : For these stimulate faith and those drive it out. Fulfill faithfully what you promised to God and He will repay you ... look up to the sky, which invites us; And bear the cross and follow Christ who has gone before us ... He will be your help and the best of comforters. " (Santa Clara, F. Franciscanas, Ed. M.S.A., Pag. 1371)
13	Sun	19th Sunday of Ordinary Time - "Courage! It's me. Do not be afraid! " (Mt 14: 22-36)

14	Mon	<p><i>Word of the Month - "The Lord is good to all, compassionate to all his creatures." (Psalm 144 [145], 9)</i> <i>The protagonist of this hymn is God, who reveals His superabundant tenderness, as the maternal tenderness: He is merciful, compassionate, slow to anger, great in love, good to all ...</i> <i>The goodness of God has manifested itself to the people of Israel, but extends to all that have come from His creative hands, to each person and to all creation.</i></p>
15	Tue /Mt 18, 1-5. 10. 12-14	<p>Become small as a child. The "small" child was Jesus' answer to whoever asked who would be the "greater." There is a child who lives in us full of beauty, purity and kindness. And it may be that this child carries wounds. Our inner child needs to be healthy, for it is who commands our "adult" reactions. For this, the daily forgiveness and the acts of love are fundamental, because they are therapeutic. When we become healthy children we become accomplished adults. Let's be a child.</p>
16	Wed Jo 12, 24-26	<p>Ask with the presence of Jesus in the midst. Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered together." Jesus states, in practice, that the condition for obtaining what is asked is the mutual love between people. When we are united in this way, we have His presence among us and whatever we ask for with Him will be easier to obtain. In fact, it is Jesus himself who is present where reciprocal love unites our hearts and asks us to thank our Father. And can it be imagined that the Father does not care for Jesus? The Father and Christ are one. Don't you think all this is splendid? Doesn't it bring you assurance? Doesn't it inspire you with trust?</p>
17	Thu Mt 18, 21-19, 1 St. Clara of Assis	<p>Forgive always. Forgiveness is not magic. It is the hard and beautiful decision to start over again. Jesus' answer could also be understood as follows: "There are things we cannot forgive completely at once." Forgiveness is an exercise that, when put into practice every day, in small things, turns us into record-breaking athletes of the art of loving. More than the physical presence of the person we forgive, it matters how much in our mind and heart we come to want their good. Let's forgive.</p>
18	Fri Mt 19, 3-12	<p>Whoever can understand, understand. Being married or consecrated is not the most important. The most important thing is to do the will of God. It is love. Love does not allow us to live in whatever way. The "way of living" for us is that which the Word proposes. However, each one receives a unique call that allows him to say yes or no to life with God. Understand Love is for those who put it into practice. Let's understand living.</p>
19	Sat Lc 6, 36-38	<p>Use the measure of mercy. "Mercy in latin languages, "misericórdia" brings in its name two other words: 'miser' and 'cor' ('misery' and 'heart'). It speaks of mercy when the misery of others touches and shakes your heart. All the good works we do in this life fall into mercy." (St. Augustine, 358, 1)</p>
20	Sun	<p style="text-align: center;">Assumption of Our Lady - "All generations will call me Blessed"</p>
21	Mon	<p><i>Word of the Month - "The Lord is good to all, compassionate to all his creatures." (Psalm 144 [145], 9)</i> <i>The protagonist of this hymn is God, who reveals His superabundant tenderness, as the maternal tenderness: He is merciful, compassionate, slow to anger, great in love, good to all ...</i> <i>The goodness of God has manifested itself to the people of Israel, but extends to all that have come from His creative hands, to each person and to all creation.</i></p>
22	Tue Lc 1, 26-28	<p>To God nothing is impossible. Also in your life this is true. God wants, just as he did with Mary, to proclaim and make the life of his Son to be born in us. Do not be afraid. The grace given by God to Mary comes to us today through the Word of God. May your life today be a miracle of God.</p>
23	Wed Mt 13,44-46 St. Rosa de Lima	<p>Search for the Treasure. It is important to have a goal in life. In the gospel the vocation is the call of a God who loves us immensely. We are all born to love. The vocation is true when it is for the good of others. Because of eternity, each one is called in this life for a unique and untransferable mission. Still do not know what your mission is? He said that he will manifest himself to him who loves him (Jn 14:21). Those who live their vocation because of the Kingdom of God have found a precious treasure. Let's love always.</p>
24	Thu Jo 1, 45-51 St. Bartolomeu, Ap.	<p>You will see the open sky. Nathanael did not give much importance to Jesus for him being of Nazareth. He did not recognize who was in front of him. The "fig tree" of our history, with its shadows, is always under the gaze of the love of God. In every situation we can find this look, also in the pains, shame, failures, fatigue and disappointments. Each person, event, work, small or great gestures can become the presence of Jesus. It does not matter the origin. It is always Him. Let's recognize Jesus.</p>
25	Fri Mt 22,34-40	<p>To love God and the neighbor. Jesus says that we shall first love ourselves and then love the neighbor. To love, we need the neighbor. And the first person we need is God himself. Having good self-esteem, caring for our health, body, mind and soul become love in a positive relationship with those who live with us. Love is only love as it circulates. When it closes itself it becomes selfish. We can only give love when we have it, but we only have love when we give it. Understood? It's all together. Let's Love everyone.</p>
26	Sat Mt 23, 1-12	<p>Start over in mercy. Our miseries do not stop miracles. "The more we feel miserable, the more we must rely on the mercy of God. Because between mercy and misery, there is such a great connection that one can not exercise without the other." (St. Francis of Sales)</p>
27	Sun	<p style="text-align: center;">21st Sunday of the Ordinary Time - "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God". (Mt 16: 13-20)</p>
28	Mon	<p><i>Word of the Month - "The Lord is good to all, compassionate to all his creatures." (Psalm 144 [145], 9)</i> <i>The protagonist of this hymn is God, who reveals His superabundant tenderness, as the maternal tenderness: He is merciful, compassionate, slow to anger, great in love, good to all ...</i> <i>The goodness of God has manifested itself to the people of Israel, but extends to all that have come from His creative hands, to each person and to all creation.</i></p>
29	Tue	<p>John was fair and holy. Living for God will always attract hatred of the world. But whoever chooses God is</p>

	Mk 6, 17-29 Martirdom of John the Baptist	capable of giving everything. Herod even promised "the half" because it was divided. A righteous person is a whole person, whom who puts himself completely before the good. Herod "liked," but "was afraid." Never allow your life to be double with one attitude in front and another on the sly. Being fair always requires painful steps. Justice and holiness for the Christian have the measure of the cross. May the example of John help us.
30	Wed Mt 23, 27-32	Woe to you. To live by appearances is to have an anguished and superficial life. When we live like this, we give people only a distorted image of who we are. We are the image and likeness of God, and He is love. Let us seek today to overcome superficiality and hypocrisy, which may always be present in us, and let's establish true, sincere relationships in love. Let's live consistently.
31	Thu Mt 24, 42-51	Be prepared. We prepare for eternity by doing good and loving, in the present moment. Often, waiting for the future, we no longer live today. Do the pains come? We can embrace. Does someone need help? We can help. Is discouragement coming? Start over. Can we take this proposal together? Let's keep an eye on every new possibility. It's training for champions.

Comments prepared, usually, 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 / Luiz Fernando Braz