

Daily Word of Life

June of 2018

01	Fri 1Pedro 4,7-13	Love covers many sins. Sin is a break with the love of God, the love of our brother, or our own essence and dignity. It is not possible to undo certain mistakes of the past, but it is always possible to start over. We can witness the "resumption" of mutual love, receiving and welcoming people, treating well who lives with us, serving, donating and, finally, making available the gifts we receive from God. Love solves more than regret. Let's live love reciprocally.
02	Sat Judas / Verse 17.20b-25	... That you shall remain in the love of God. "If you try to live in love, you will see that on this earth you must do your part. The other, you never know if it will come, nor is it necessary for it to come. Sometimes you will be disappointed, but you will never lose your courage if you convince yourself that in love, what is worth is to love. And to love Jesus in the brother, Jesus who always returns to you, perhaps in other ways." (Chiara Lubich, Ideal and Light, page 124)
03	Sun	IX Sunday of Ordinary Time - "The Son of Man is the Lord also of the Sabbath." (Mark 2: 23-28)
04	Mon Mathew 5,9	Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Would you like to be an instrument of peace wherever you go? We invite you to become a builder of peace, one who loves peace to the point of not being afraid to intervene in conflicts, in order to make it happen among those who live in discord. Only those who have peace within can take it to others.
05	Tue Mark 12, 13-17	Give to God what belongs to God. Whoever seeks the Kingdom of God recognizes himself as the image and likeness of this same God and follows the Word that comes from Him. The image and inscription of "Cesar" is intended for those who are under the yoke of the passengers kingdoms of this earth. Life goes beyond the obligations we must take on a daily basis. It is necessary to do each thing well without forgetting that the most precious good we have is the relationship with "That" who is love. And because He is love, He does not pass. Let's search the essentials.
06	Wed Mark 12, 18-27 (S. Norberto)	He is God of the living. When we want to see the essential things of life only through our logic, we fall into a mistake. The explanations, even if necessary, are limited because we are limited. The Word invites us to enter into an experience that goes beyond logic and remains for eternity. Today, with each gesture, we can witness to love for eternal life. Let's announce life by loving.
07	Thu Mk 12, 28b-34	To love God and neighbor. We are fulfilled people when we discover the Love that exists in us and in others. Love, God, generates family spirit wherever we are. Our personal closure is with God and with the other, it takes away our freedom and prevents us from growing as people. He who does not love decrees his own unhappiness. Loving is not just a motto. It is the way to be happy. Let's love everyone.
08	Fri Ephesians 3: 8-12, 14-19 (S. Heart of Jesus)	Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, make our hearts like yours. What are the shortcomings, the negative things we would like to throw out of our lives? Is it possible to have only good things in the heart? Each time we make an act of love we are closer to having a heart similar to that of Jesus. At least for a few moments during the day, doing good, we can transform our little heart, and the place where we live, into a piece of paradise. Let's grow in our capability to love.
09	Sat Luke 2: 41-51 Immaculate Heart of Mary	"Did you not know that I ought to be mindful of my Father's things?" You should never turn back, but always forward. Your life, that was. God already knows. The important thing is that you do not escape the present, the only one in your hands. In Him, he loves God with all his heart, doing his will. (Chiara Lubich, Ideal and Light, page 117)
10	Sun	X. Common Time Gift - "Whoever does the will of God, this is my brother, sister and mother." (Mark 3: 20-35)
11	Mon Mathew 5:9	Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. It is necessary to bring peace, first and foremost, through the acts of each moment, living in full agreement with God and with his will. Peace builders, therefore, strive to forge bonds and establish relationships between people, alleviating tensions, disarming discord and indifference.
12	Tue Mathew 5: 13-16	May they see your good works and praise the Father. Circulate in the media images and terrible news of all kinds. Yes. The negative, the evil exists. But above all there is God. He is charity, kindness and beauty. Humanity is thirsting for beautiful and true things. We share the experiences of the Word so that the beauty of God's love can be seen by as many people as possible. It is important to go against the current and to proclaim the good that God does in our midst. Sharing good is also loving. Announce the good.
13	Wed Mt 5, 17-19	Practice and teach. Where intelligence is highly valued, teaching is being in control. In the Gospel, what gives the authority to teach is wisdom, which is born of the capability to love. Love must be announcing beforehand with practice, that is: live first and speak, if necessary, afterwards. Let's teach loving.
14	Thu Mathew 5, 20-26	First reconcile with your brother. Often we feel wronged: a misunderstanding, a slander, a failure, etc. "Just" is what is "in the measure". Love has an unlimited measure that "opens" us to life and to eternity. The anger, the hurt, the resentment "closes us" in ourselves. The Word invites us to meet those who have closed their "measure" against us. We cannot impose Love, but we can offer it by doing what we can. Let's seek reconciliation..
15	Fri Mathew 5, 27-32	Cut off the attitudes of sin. Jesus knows that the problem is not the hand, the foot or the eye. He speaks several times in the Gospels of the "heart" where the negative feelings that give rise to many evils are born. It is difficult for someone to have a balanced life when they do not control their emotions and negative reactions that are born from the wounds of their own history. To rediscover Love, it is necessary to cut off, throw away, what makes us evil, discovering the joy of sharing and forgiveness. Let's throw away what's wrong.
16	Sat Mathew 5: 33-37 (Albertina Berkenbrok -SC, Brasil)	Be your yes, yes and your no, no. "He loves man and so he is also demanding. What a true educator, asks and educates for responsibility and for commitment. God is love and so He has freed us from the greatest bondage, reopening the doors of His House, and we know the price His Son paid for this ransom. No educator ever considered man as much as a God who died for man. God-Love has elevated man ... to the dignity of son and heir." (Chiara Lubich, Ideal and Light, 276)
17	Sun	XI Gift of Common Time - "When I was alone with the disciples, I explained everything." (Mark 4: 26-34)
18	Mon Mathew 5,9	Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Peace is a characteristic of the relationship that Christians seek to establish with the people they meet occasionally or with whom they coexist. It is a sincere love relationship, without falsehoods or deceit, without any form of implied violence or rivalry or competition or egocentrism.

19	Tue Mathew 5,43-48	Love your enemies. Loving is not liking. A mother who spends her nights caring for her sick son loves her son, but does not like the situation. To love is to do and to want the good for the other. It is something we can accomplish even when we feel the other does not deserve it. The Word, the relationship with God give us the strength to forgive and be free from the evil that the other has caused us. Get rid of evil by radiating good.
20	Wed Mathew 6,1-6, 16-18	The Father will give you the reward. Receiving acknowledgments for the good we do is good. But it is not good to do good by expecting something from people in return. True good is not done out of interest. Jesus says in the Gospel that our light should shine before people for the glory of God (Mt 5: 15-16) and not for our personal glory. We could today in every small or great act of love repeat "for you, Jesus." Let us remember: "In love, what is worth is to love." Let's do good for love.
21	Thu Mathew 6, 7-15 (S. Luis Gonzaga)	Your Father knows what you need. God is the Good. Often our relationship with God is limited to a list of requests and needs. A true relationship, because it is full of love and trust, does not "use" the other. Spirituality, work and coexistence, in the experience of loving trust in God and in the love of the brothers, attract providence and grace. More than a form of prayer, the "Our Father" is a declaration of love and trust in a Father who makes us one family. Let's trust in providence.
22	Fri Mathew 6,19-23 (S. J. Fischer e Thomas Morus)	Where your treasure is, there will be your heart. This is true for material and for spiritual. When the soul is hurt, the way of looking at life, events and people, is also hurt. Often we accumulate, lock and hide negative "treasures" of feelings and memories that contaminate, sick and destroy us. In order to see life in an enlightened way, it is necessary to give up these false treasures and to discover, in the life of communion, forgiveness and bestowal, "The One", which is the true treasure. Open the heart.
23	Sat Mathew 6, 24-34	"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." ... means living our faith, making God reign in us and in the world If we behave as children, God the Father takes care of us He wants to do his own part for his human family and do it as God But if Jesus asks us above all to seek the Kingdom of God, it does not mean that he exempts us from work The Word of God, becoming man, did not retire in solitude to meditate and pray in the thirty years of his private life, did not behave as a consecrated person, so to speak, even though he was holy and God, but he was a worker. "(Chiara Lubich, Ideal and Light, p.337-338)
24	Sun	XII. Gift of Common Time - " John is his name " (Luke 1,57-66,80)
25	Mon Mathew 5,9	Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Today, developing and establishing peace in the world is challenging and revolutionary. Jesus asked his disciples to always take the initiative, without waiting for others to correspond and without intending reciprocity. He says, "Love your enemies" ... A simple gesture, a friendly word, an act of love can be the beginning of a conciliatory action.
26	Tue Mathew 7, 6.12- 14	Enter through the narrow door. Our door is the cross. It is so narrow that it does not allow us to pass with our "luggage". To go through it we must leave what is negative, the attachments and even many things that we consider good and beautiful. We embrace on the cross the one who is Love. It is natural to want to flee from the cross, but it is in it that Jesus is, and we want him. In every difficult situation, on each cross that we find we can recognize it by saying: "Jesus, you are present in this pain. I want you". Let's go beyond pain.
27	Wed Mathew 7,15-20 (S. Cirilo de Alexandria)	A good tree produces good fruit. Good is not closed in on itself, but because He is love, it is in His nature to want to spread, to radiate. Certainly there are things in the soul of a person that only God can see, but the fruits of life can be seen by all. The fruit tree does not hide the fruit inside the trunk. It hurts. In our communities, we recognize that a person does a sincere walk not when he speaks well but through the experiences of the Word that he is able to give. Let's Witness with concrete fruits.
28	Thu Mathew 7, 21-29	Build the house on the rock. Solid construction requires time, investment and fatigue. A solid life too. Some build life on the "sands" of appearances, negative feelings, closure, destructive attitudes ... and fall. A firm life requires the courage to dig your own soul and establish deep foundations. Living the Word is not theoretical discourse. It costs, demands, takes time and sometimes hurts, puts us in danger, hurts ... but builds strengths. When it costs to do good, then it is true love. Our time is short, so let's start now. Let's love doing what costs.
29	Fri Mathew 8, 1-4 (35 years of the Fazenda da Esperança)	Stay clean. There are things that dirty, hurt, and sick the soul. The healing of our internal, and often also external, ills begins with our decision to present our wounds to God. Love heals. When the relationship with Him is true, we overcome the fear and shame of showing us just the way we are. He has the Word that cleanses and manifests his will, which is always love. Love heals.
30	Sat Mathew 8, 5-17	Say a word and my servant will be healed. "We are frighteningly defenseless, exposed to all sorts of diseases of the spirit ... We are naked and could be clothed with Christ. We are homeless and we could all be here already on earth in the welcoming home of the Father ... if we were to discover ourselves again as brothers We walk like those who do not know where to go, and we have in our hands – just have to want! - the code of life, of every life, which is the Gospel." (Chiara Lubich, Ideal and Light, p.333)

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).

Fr. Marcio Roberto Geira