

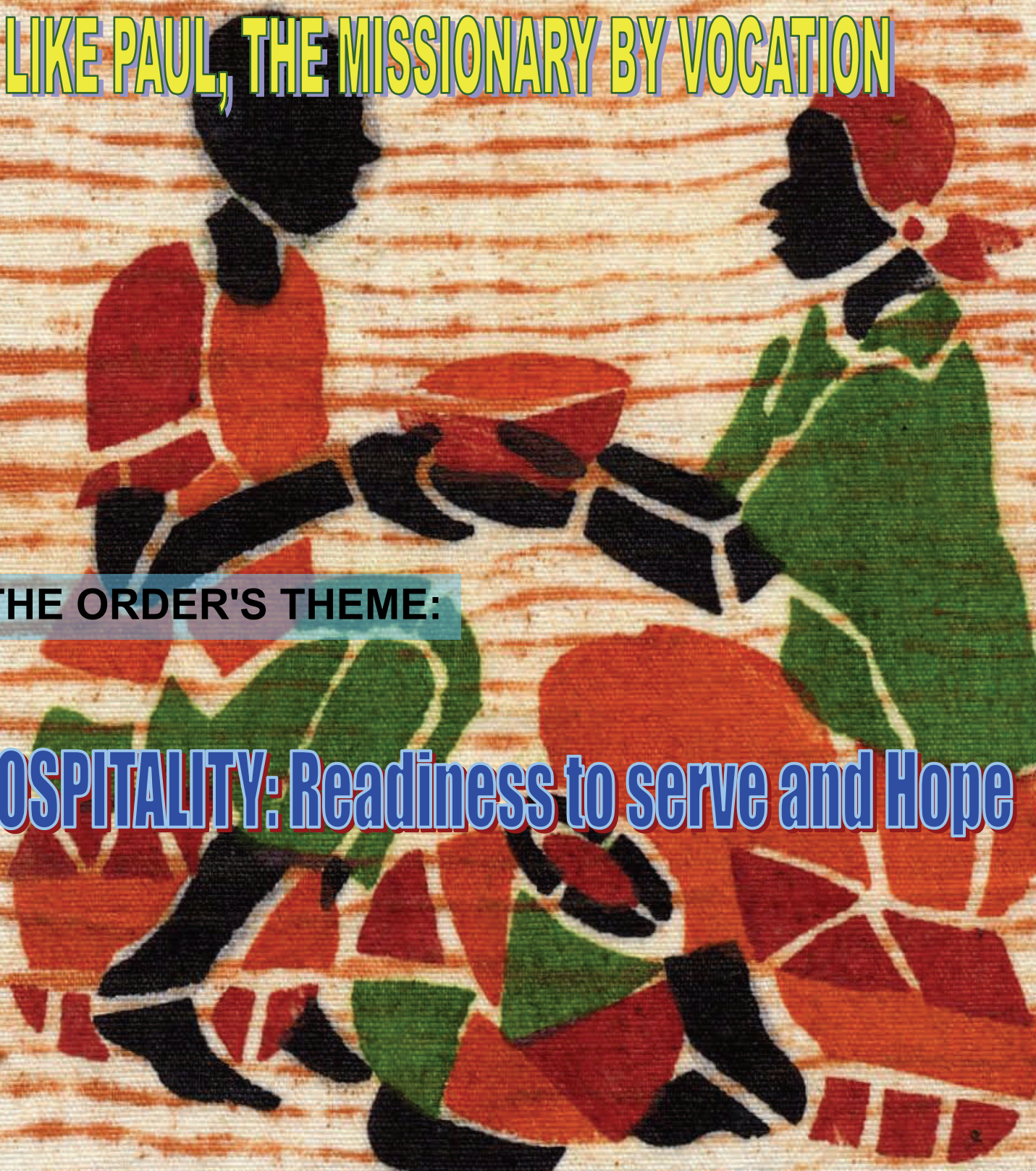
SECONDS HOSPITALLER-MISSION WEEK
Hospitaller Order of St John of God
13 - 19 October 2008

THEME OF THE WORLD DAY

LIKE PAUL, THE MISSIONARY BY VOCATION

THE ORDER'S THEME:

HOSPITALITY: Readiness to serve and Hope



PRESENTATION

The experience of missionary animation in our Communities will be a sign of maturity in the faith, of our Consecrated Life centred around Christ and committed to promoting and saving all mankind, thereby building up the Kingdom of God in the world (MDHOSIG. Vh. 8.2/Cf. RMI 77).

With the celebration of this **Second Week of Prayer and Shared Reflection** throughout the Order, we are once again inviting you, together with our coworkers and our guests wherever this is possible, to call to mind all the **Missionaries, Brothers, Sisters and Coworkers**, who leave their homes to hand to others on the Good News of the Gospel. We want them to feel gratitude to them, which we are now converting into prayer, remembrance and action.

This year, united to the universal Church, we are looking to the image of **Saint Paul** who, for those of us who work in the mission ad gentes stands as the model of the witness of faith for those who have not yet known the Gospel. As we recall the second millennium of his birth, let us take this opportunity to contemplate him as a benchmark for all those who, like him, have also been called to the mission.

And as particular churches, let us revitalise the spirit of St John of God and of those first Brothers who left their own environments to go out and seek people in need, wherever they were, even far from their own lands; they were transformed and are still being transformed into models of readiness to serve, practising and being Hospitality for others.

Today, missionaries are also being sent out to work in ordered to share their faith: it is a special vocation based on the model of the Apostles: it is manifested in a total commitment to serving evangelisation, as **SERVANTS AND APOSTLES OF JESUS CHRIST**, and to improve their environment and the quality of life of their peoples, and to enable our **HOSPITALITY** to be converted into **READINESS TO SERVE AND HOPE**.

As Hospitallers, one way in which we can hand on the Good News of the Gospel it is through Hospitality, and we also exercise it through International Cooperation, Solidarity and **TWINNING** between Centres and Hospitals, through the **readiness to serve** which our vocation demands of us, and in the **hope** that we can help all of us to have the same opportunities; those of us to live in the more industrialised countries must do so by seeking out and offering them criteria, funding, and collaboration, to be able to move ahead improving the services that we provide.

Under those who receive our services, by being responsible and multipliers of our service then become themselves protagonists of our way of life. Bearing witness to this faith, which is commitment, as **SERVANTS AND APOSTLES OF CHRIST JESUS**.

May this week be an opportunity for us to gather together with our Coworkers, enabling them to feel part of a more universal family which ranges far beyond the environment of their own hospital or their religious Province, and even their country, to be **LIKE ST JOHN OF GOD, HOSPITALLERS WITH THE WHOLE WORLD**.

INSTRUMENTS

The purpose of this guide is to help us in our prayers during this Hospitaller-Missionary Week and to bring us into contact with other situations that are close to us but which, for one reason or another, we may feel to be distant from us, inviting the people who are closest to us to join us in this.

The tools we can use are the Documents of the Church dealing with the Mission and Development, such as "Populorum Progressio" Redentoris Missio", "Evangelii Nuntiandi"... Then mission aid societies in each country also have a variety of materials which we can use. Then there are our Constitutions and General Statutes and our document entitled The Missionary Dimension of the Hospitaller Order of Saint John of God, especially chapter 8.

This is obviously only a proposal, a helping hand, and every Provincial coordinator will see whether it can be used, or whether he has other materials. Some Provinces in the Order or groups of Provinces have already been working for a long time on these issues and they have other instruments and traditions: the important thing is **MOVE FORWARD**.

What is important is to seek to draw close to the World, the Church, and the Order, where some of our Brothers and Coworkers are already serving, so that it will be **increasing be less distant to us**.

FOURTH WEEK OF THE PSALTER

MORNING PRAYER/VESPERS



Monday 13: *HOSPITALITY: THE CENTRAL CORE OF OUR LIFE*

- Const. 1984, 1
- John Paul II, Redemptoris Missio 77
- Const. 1984, 2

“The experience of God's mercy stimulates us to give ourselves wholly to God and to make ourselves fully available for serving any needy person, wherever they may be, to announce to them the Good News of the Kingdom of God” (MDHOSJG Ch. 8, a)

Tuesday 14: *THE CHURCH'S MISSION OF HEALING THROUGH THE ORDER*

- Vita Consecrat 83

“Being faithful to the most original tradition of the Order we must place at the centre of our concerns suffering mankind, to whom we minister comprehensively, thereby extending in time the healing work of Christ. We place special interest in providing spiritual care in addition to physical, psychological and social care”(MDHOSJG one Ch. 8, b) .

Wednesday 15: *EVANGELISATION, HUMANISATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT*

- DCG 4.3
- Letter to Luis Bautista, 15

“Our commitment requires us to ensure that our care is of the highest calibre, using the best and the very latest techniques, filled with charity and gentleness. This is the twin combination which the Order, ever since the time of St John of God, has tried to maintain in order to perform the mission of charity and ministering to the sick..” (MDHOSJG, Ch. 8, c)

Thursday 16: *UNIVERSAL WELCOME AND INCULTURATION*

- 2a.Gutierre Lasso, 8
- Phil. 2,6
- Ecclesia in Africa 59

“We must draw close to cultures with great respect, with due preparation and formation, respecting their ideas, styles and beliefs. This is the only way in which we can show the mercy and love which God has for all mankind” (MDHOSJG, Ch. 8, d)

MORNING PRAYER/VESPERS

Friday 17: *IN COOPERATION WITH THE CHURCH, WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS, AND REACHING OUT TO INTERFAITH DIALOGUE*



- Vita Consecrata. 102
- RMI. 55

“The Brothers working in the mission lands must be particularly prepared and trained in order to perform this ecumenical mission.” (MDHOSJG, Ch. 8, e)

Saturday 18: *MARY: THE PROPHETIC DIMENSION OF OUR HOSPITALER MISSION*

- Vita Consecrata. 83; 85
- Const. 1984, 23
- Ecclesia in Africa 70
- Evangelii Nuntiandi 69

If we look towards the mission lands, we will see new emergencies: endemic poverty, diseases that have not yet been eradicated (malaria, leprosy, polio, parasite diseases, etc.) with the mentally sick left to their own devices, the aftermath of war, refugees and displaced” (MDHOSJG Ch. 8, f)

“We perform our work convinced that this is the way we can help our old Europe. “*Brothers, do good to yourselves by giving to the poor...*”. We put into practice these simple but penetrating words of St John of God by proclaiming, from our rustic hospitals and the forests, looking to the north which is satiated but dissatisfied. What we do with our hands wishes to be a prayer so that Europe will truly believe the words of the Sermon on the Mount, “*in deeds and in truth*”. This is our hope and it is one reason more to underpin our missionary commitment.” (Bro. Racardo Botifoll, OH)

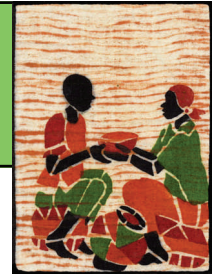
SUNDAY 19: *XXIX SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME* ***OUR CO-WORKERS ARE ALSO WITNESSES OF HOSPITALITY***

MORNING PRAYER

- Declarations of the LXIII Gen. Ch. p. 82
- “ Brothers and Co-Workers together to serve and promote life ” (1992)
- Vita Consecrata. 54

“It is necessary to boldly boost new projects and enhance those that already exist in which the Brothers are pioneers and animators and the Co-workers accept and promote undertakings on behalf of the most needy. There are many experiments in this direction which must be used as a guide for other new ones” (MSHOSJG, Ch. 8, g)

SUNDAY 19: XXIX SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OUR CO-WORKERS ARE ALSO WITNESSES
OF HOSPITALITY



VESPERS

- 2 Cor 13, 15
- Rom 1, 14
- Eph 3, 6

“It is a gift to the Church and to the Order that so many of our Co-workers (Employees, Volunteers, Benefactors) participate in our charism and our mission, and make up the Hospitaller Family. In communion with them we perform our apostolic mission” (MDHOSJG, Ch. 8, g)

“...you,
dear brothers and
sisters,
who are marked
by your vocation
by a powerful
missionary character,
go out and proclaim
the Gospel to all,
especially
those who are furthest
away,
by offering them
a coherent testimony to
Christ
and a radical following
of his Gospel”.

His Holiness Benedict XVI
World Mission Day 2008

“insecurity caused by violence, war,
crimes and terrorism
is so threatening that
the traditional values of hospitality
are bearing the brunt of it.
But within all of this world of grace,
the Order of the BSJG is present,
with the weight of its tradition.
The Order wishes to be able
to keep pace with the times
and to respond with new vigour
to its specific vocation,
by offering places in which
organisation, professionalism,
technology and humanisation
can be coupled harmoniously
with attitudes and deeds
of welcome, service, solidarity
and the healing
of physical and moral suffering”

The Path of Hospitality
in the Manner of St John of God No. 74

PRAYER:

O Lord

Your voice is resonating in our ears:

"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few"

"Go therefore and make disciples...

baptizing them... teaching them"

"I am with you always, to the close of the age..."

We trust your word,

**we open our hearts to your missionary message
and ask you with the strength of the faith we have re-
ceived:**

May DOMUND Day

be a "new Pentecost of love",

may our communities

be missionary and resist the temptation

to become inward-looking,

and may the nascent churches in the mission

co-operate with others in greater need

and give of their poverty;

may the young, the sick and consecrated people

share the missionary commitment,

and may those who are called with a missionary vocation

respond to it generously,

and all baptised Christians play their part

in the Church's missionary work

responsibly taking on your missionary remit.

We pray this with Mary, the Queen of the Missions.

Amen

**MISSIONS
AND INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION OFFICE**



**HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF
ST. JOHN OF GOD**