



Samaritan look

Madrid, December 2, 2018

To the Sisters and religious Communities.

To those who share the Calasancian Educational Mission
Of the Daughters of the Divine Shepherdess
To those who feel attracted by the Calasancian Charism
Of the Daughters of the Divine Shepherdess,
Bequeathed by Saint Faustino Miguez of the Incarnation.

J.R.E.N.C.

To all I desire that Jesus, the Lord, continues to be present in our heart, enriching us with his gifts and making us instruments of his goodness and tenderness among the little ones.

Today Advent begins. The readings of the first Sunday of this liturgical time give us some keys that can help us to live it intensely and as a moment of grace from the Lord for each one of us. I am going to stop to consider one of them.

In the Gospel of Saint Luke there is a clear and concrete call addressed to us: "Then, be awake at all times" (Lk. 21, 36).

To accept this Word can lead each one of us to ask ourselves what it means, "To remain awake". Moreover, within me resounds interiorly, and in a special way, that the evangelical urgency of "keeping awake, of dispelling sleep", is a way of guiding ourselves, of suggesting, of thinking about or considering. "Of going back to the essential".

The invitation to "remain awake" is a light on the way, so as not to be misled from what is fundamental, from what really is worthwhile, and fills our vital horizon with sense as persons; so as not to allow ourselves to be overcome by darkness which centers us solely on ourselves and gets us sleepy for God and for others.





Advent orientates us to direct our look to God. It is a favorable occasion to go back to Jesus, to prepare us to accept his overflowing Love which comes to us, in the silence of night, weak and in need and enlightening the darkness.

Advent places us in a situation to rediscover that what is essential in our life is the experience that is a gift for us, of the loving, alive and merciful presence of God, who places his tent among us for always. It is an experience, which needs learning that makes Advent possible, because it places us to listen to the Word and in prayer. Attitudes from which we open ourselves to wait and to contemplate the Incarnate God who is born in a manger, to enrich us with his poverty.

This time of grace can help us to reorder and resituate our existence before God. To go back to the essential is to prepare our interior to accept Him, to give him the central place in it, to level down what is high in us, and prepare for Him new paths on which God can travel in us and transform our sentiments so that they are in conformity with His. Only in this way will we be witnesses of His Love among those to whom we are

This is also a time to be brave, courageous and in truth to ask ourselves what is essential for me, what is that without which I cannot live, or what is the same, which is the treasure of my life? On what is, my heart placed and centered?

I invite you and invite myself, to live this Advent, like that gift which we receive to be able to center ourselves on the essential, to "go to the profound, to what counts and has value for life", as Pope Francis affirms. I encourage you not to let it go by indifferently, but to live it as that occasion to ask the Lord, with simplicity and humility to make us feel the need to go back to Him, to His life style, to His sentiments, to His way of looking at reality, His Kingdom, to his preferred ones.

A fraternal embrace for each one and, a Happy Advent!

M. Sacramento Calderón R. de G.

Superior General