



MEETING THREE: How do we use the gifts that we receive so that CLC is a living witness to joy?

Check In: Share in a word, a phrase, or an image how you are at this moment.

Relaxation (5 mins): You might begin by listening to the hymn "How can I keep from Singing" which is an acknowledgement of the joy and strength of God's grace.

Grace: We desire greater depth and integration in living out our CLC charism in the world today

Scripture (3 mins): **Philippians 2: 1-7**

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God, as something to be exploited, but emptied himself ...

Discerning/ Reflecting: To do the following exercise you will need:

- **A basket**
- **Papers cut into the shape and size of loaves**
or
- **Real loaves of bread and stickers to paste on them**
- **Pens or markers**

Make sure everyone has about six "loaves" to use then turn your attention to the graces which your life in CLC has brought to you. In our first reflection, we focussed on the gift of CLC to us personally. You might have spoken of the community you enjoy and its companionship. Perhaps you thought of the strengthening of faith through living yours with others on the journey, a renewed hope when sharing in the joy of others, and the gift of courage to endure because you were no longer alone. You might have turned your mind to some of the lives you have observed of those you know in CLC and the ways in which these lives reflect St Paul's advice: *Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. (Phillipians 2:4).*

As you remember all these gifts, let them be with you for a moment, then imagine each as a loaf of bread, give them a name and place them in the basket in the centre of the room.

You might see also an image of how being part of CLC has changed your wider relationships in the world. It might be from input at gatherings and celebrations, it might be from the ideas and understandings of others of, for example, what justice and sharing of resources in our society and in the wider world should be. It might be from sharing your concern for refugees by joining in the Palm Sunday March, or from CLC's submission to the Royal Commission into child abuse. Again, give these a name and place these loaves in your basket.

In the second reflection, we allowed Pope Francis' words to speak to us. What gifts do we remember from these words? Imagine them as loaves, name them and place them in your basket.

Spend a little time looking at the "loaves" in your basket. Talk to God about your experience in this prayer. Choose one of the loaves which you think might help you in being "a living witness to joy in the world".



Sharing (15 mins) *Share with your companions something of your meditation. Some of the following considerations might be helpful:*

First Round

What feelings did you encounter in your prayer? What was the strongest feeling? What stood out for you as you remembered?

How does CLC reflect for you the community of Christians described in the Acts of the Apostles?

In what ways has CLC helped to form you into a person who hears, in Pope Francis' words, *the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor*? (#49)

What suggestions can you make for CLC to have "the fullest depth of engagement in the world, personally and collectively according to our CLC charism and appropriate to our life circumstances and to seek constantly the answers to the needs of our times". {GP20}.

Second Round

What resonated with you as you heard others speak?

Where did you experience harmony with the others as they shared?

Were their difficulties discerned in answering the call of Pope Francis?

Responding (5 mins): Together the group could say the prayer of St Ignatius – "Teach me to be generous"

Evaluation (5 mins): Is there a word or phrase which describes your response to the exercises you have done?

Closing Prayer: God help us to change. To change ourselves and to change our world. To know the need for it. To deal with the pain of it. To feel the joy of it. To undertake the journey without understanding the destination. The art of gentle revolution. Michael Leunig

Amen

