



Newsletter No.65 – October 2018

Dear friends of FIAT,

This month of October, "month of the Rosary", offers us the joy of presenting to you the booklet "Putting prayer into action" which deepens appreciation for the FIAT prayer and the FIAT rosary. It reminds us how much the FIAT prayer is an urgent invitation to participate - in words and deeds - in the mission of the Church, the mission of making Christ known by living in the heart of the Church and in union with Mary. It is her greatest desire to help us to know her Son, so Mary's faith, humility and courage are very helpful to us in announcing the Good News.

In addition, the FIAT prayer can introduce the recitation of the classical rosary with its five decades. So the Holy Spirit and Mary are united in one prayer.

This booklet "Putting prayer into action" can surely help each of us to better understand the meaning of "evangelization", a mission entrusted to every baptized person. Let's get to know this booklet with its clear explanations.

Well fraternally,
On behalf of the FIAT team.

Cecile & Roger Matthys

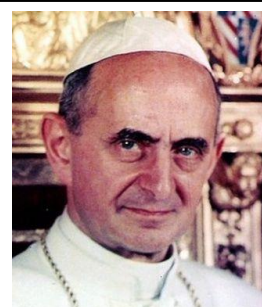


*"Even today,
Jesus is born of Mary and
the Holy Spirit".*

+ L.J. Cardinal Suenens

"The development We speak of here cannot be restricted to economic growth alone. To be authentic, it must be well rounded; it must foster the development of each man and of the whole man".

Pope Paul VI in "Populorum Progressio".



Putting prayer into action – Cardinal Suenens

Most Holy Spirit grant us to live in union with Mary ...

God wanted Mary's cooperation so that His plan of salvation would be fulfilled. When we unite ourselves to Mary in childlike dependence we enter into the covenant between heaven and earth, and between the Holy Spirit and Mary. This unity with Mary, so as to be more open to the action of the Holy Spirit, is the secret of all apostolic fruitfulness.

Yesterday

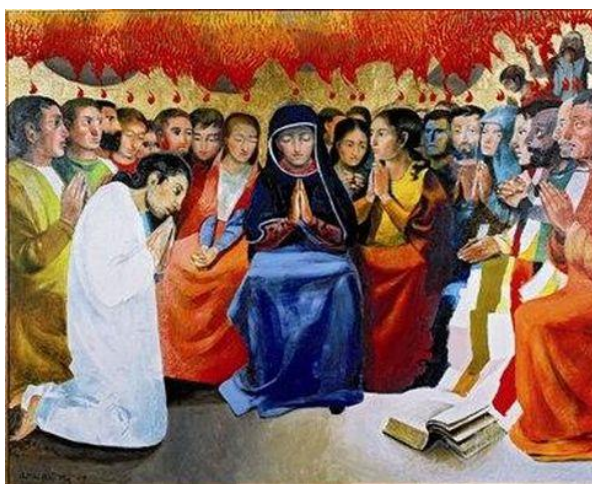
Throughout the ages, the experience – especially that of the Saints – has shown how the living out of filial dependency towards Mary makes the life of Christ grow and blossom in the Christian heart.

St Louis de Montfort wrote: *“When the Holy Spirit finds Mary in a soul, he flies to it, enters deeply into it, and communicates himself to that soul abundantly and in the same measure as the soul makes room for Mary”* (Cfr. Treatise N° 36).

The Spirit is this crowning promise of Christ, the pledge of His promise and His victory. When He came down on the Apostles in the Upper Room on Pentecost, a new era began for the world.

Today

So we too have to allow ourselves to be transformed by the Spirit, to open ourselves to His grace and His gifts.



© Arcabas – “Pentecost”

Today with the same realism and with the same faith in the acting and actual presence of the Holy Spirit we ask Him to help us to relive the joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious mysteries of Our Saviour.

He will help us to understand more and more ‘the height, the length, the depth of God’s mystery’. He alone will reveal the Father and the Son to us and teach us to pray. He alone can begin to make us understand the role of Mary in God’s plan.

We also have to leave the Upper Room to fulfil our mission as Christ’s representatives in today’s world, knowing that a Christian is only fully evangelical if he/she accepts to be an evangelist. Whoever says Church, says mission.

Mary in the acting of God

In a very special way Mary is the answer of the sanctified creature to the divine vocation. She is the supreme outcome of the steps taken by the God of the Old Testament throughout the centuries to form from Israel a people of God, a spouse 'sanctified in truth and in holiness'. In Mary, 'the earth has yielded its fruit' and 'the heavens rained down the Saviour'.

We need to understand the hidden sense of this union between the Holy Spirit and Our Lady: to draw on it so as to live in all its meaning the affirmation of our creed which proclaims that Jesus 'was conceived by the Holy Spirit and was born of the Virgin Mary.'

Christianity is the covenant of two loves in Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit: the divine love which comes towards us. Mary: the purest human love which rises from earth to meet God. Jesus Christ: the heart of the covenant, the junction of a double affection.



The FIAT rosary

All of the above is by way of introduction to the FIAT rosary.

The Latin word 'FIAT' refers to the 'Yes' of Mary at the Annunciation and to the 'Yes' of Jesus during the Agony on the Mount of Olives.

This rosary, called 'FIAT', is introduced by the FIAT prayer which invokes the Holy Spirit, so that in union with Mary He can introduce us into the very heart of the joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious mysteries of Jesus.

Its aim is to recreate in us the experience of the Apostles in the Upper Room in Jerusalem, when praying there with Mary they awaited the coming of the Holy Spirit who would transform them and give them the courage and strength to carry the Gospel to the heart of the world. It reminds us all of our duty 'to live our prayer'.

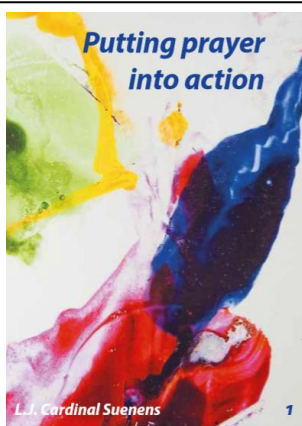
Mary's single and instant thought is found in the words she spoke to the servants at Cana: 'Do whatever He tells you.' This is the only message she has. Look at Mary who is turned towards God with the whole of her being. She is the purest human love. She alone is immaculate. She is raised from earth to meet divine Love.

Mary, privileged path to the Holy Spirit

With all the fibres of her body and soul she is the Fiat which she proclaims. She only wants to be that: available to the Holy Spirit, saying Yes to His will, she collaborates totally with His work. She hands herself over to the Spirit, keeping nothing back.

She lives God's covenant in the highest and most intense freedom. But don't let us be mistaken: her freedom in saying 'yes' is a grace in itself. Mary's free and active collaboration is nourished and penetrated with love which works 'the will and the action'.

She gives not only a private answer, but the human answer to God's love. By God's choice Mary is, in a special way, the privileged path to the Holy Spirit.



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"Whatever the gift that you're willing to present to God, do not forget to entrust it to Mary, because grace goes back to the donor through the same channel that brought it. "

(St Bernard, 12th century)

The whole FIAT apostolate is based on voluntary work. However the running of the international secretarial office requires some funding. We are very often invited to offer reductions on costs for sending rosaries and various evangelization tools to economically weak countries. We are grateful for financial support.

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