

General Assembly 2021 – January Reflection Exercise

Preparing your heart: Take as much time as you need to become centered and interiorly at peace. Become aware of God's presence and welcome it. Then offer yourself to God and to the action of God's Spirit in this time of reflection and prayer.

Listening to the Word:

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. To each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. (1 Cor 12:4-7)

You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. (Eph 2:19-22)

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. (Eph 4:14-16)

Pathways for Reflection:

- Listen again to the short presentation on the origins of the CRC.
- Take your time to listen also to the short "witness videos" from various CRC members.
- As you listen, what moves you, gives you energy, awakens your love and zeal?
- As you listen, what aspects of the testimonies connect with your own experience and desires?
- What, in your own experience of the CRC, gives you life?

Sharing conversation as with a friend:

- At some point, you may feel drawn to share the fruits of your ongoing reflection with Jesus, or Mary, or perhaps with the founder or foundress of your community. Take time also to listen to what they have to say to you, and let this conversation lead you deeper.
- When you sense that the time of conversation is coming to an end, give thanks for what you have been given.

Make a short note:

- Write down a short account, no more than ten lines, of the fruits of your prayerful reflection. This short note will form the basis for your sharing in the first round of small group spiritual conversation.