

RECONCILIATION

“Lay Saletenses - Called and sent - The joy of Reconciliation”

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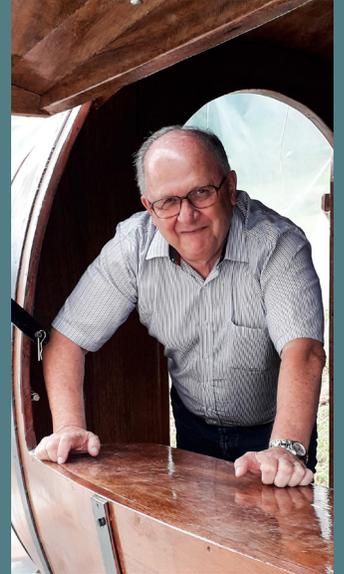
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION OF LA SALETTE LAITY

ACCOMPANYING WORDS

Fraternal Greetings,

These days we have reflected on the Gospel text that speaks of the Beatitudes, Jesus' ideal of happiness. I wonder what the ideal of happiness was for an adult Jew at that time. I think it was something like having a house to live in, a beautiful and faithful wife, who would give him many children, preferably men who could help him support the household. If she were an adult woman, maybe her ideal in life would be to have a strong and honest husband, who would honor and respect her, and give her many children.

Mario Apone
International Coordinator of La Salette Laity



Jesus comes and reverses all this, saying “Blessed are the poor in Spirit..., Blessed are those who mourn..., Blessed are the meek..., Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness..., Blessed are the merciful..., Blessed are those who make peace..., and Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake...”

How to understand this in today’s world where the “culture of satisfaction” is preached?

In this regard, John Kenneth Galbraith, an important economist who died at the beginning of this millennium, said that this culture has led to a situation of enormous numbers of marginalized people around the world. And this has been the most serious social problem of our time, since it represents a major threat to peace and social coexistence. In this culture, a “military camp” mentality is growing among the privileged classes: private security is hired, protection systems are installed, and there is a call for tougher repression. Governments, though democratic, become more rigid.

Many modern thinkers, besides Galbraith, have been concerned about this kind of apathy in modern society. We are losing the capacity to perceive the suffering of others; we are becoming insensitive to that suffering. We, as La Salette laity, must not accept this situation; as long as there is someone suffering, La Salette laity must not rest.

The Beatitudes of Jesus resound, in this society, as a condemnation of this “well-being”, since we are building a happiness that is empty of humanity. We have to pay attention to this. Jesus places God as the guarantee of human happiness. Those who live inspired by this program of life will be consoled, will be filled with justice, will obtain mercy, and will enjoy all this eternally in his Kingdom. In practice, the “Beatitudes”, according to God’s plan, implies making others happy. Tough that...

May February bring us all a greater awareness of this situation.

Hugs the size of Brazil.

LIVING PRESENCE - ITALY

La Salette Laity presence in the world



I am a La Salette Laity with the desire to respond to Mary's invitation "Make him known to all my people" becomes concrete, that is, it generates within me an action, it sets me in motion!

Living the vocation of La Salette laity means using every means available so that everyone knows that Our Lady came to La Salette to bring us, through her tears and words, the tenderness of God who never stops seeking us!

Only in this way, we will live the heart of our vocation and be a reason for reconciliation between men and God.

Antonella Portinaro
National Coordinator

In Italy, There are La Salette laity in the cities of Turin and Rome where there are communities of the Missionary Fathers. In Turin and the south of Italy there is also, since 1974, the beautiful reality of the "Missionaries of Mary Reconciler," consecrated laywomen, founded by La Salette Missionary, Father Carmine Savinelli. Our story of people attracted by the charisma of La Salette who set out to become La Salette laity starts:

► in TURIN from the prayer group "Our Lady of La Salette" which began in 2000 by a small group of young people under the spiritual guidance of La Salette Fathers.

► in ROME by a small group of lay people already involved in the activities of the parish who, after having participated

in 2009 in the 1st European Meeting in La Salette, wanted to deepen La Salette charism and to live fully the apostolic commitment requested by Our Lady

Since 2011, the year in which the 1st National Meeting and the 1st International Meeting of La Salette took place, a path of greater unity and collaboration among the existing laity groups began in Italy. To date through the journey made in the National, European and International meetings:

► we have drafted a STATUTE of the La Salette that was approved at the 2017 National Meeting.

► in 2017, at the end of the National Meeting, the OFFICIAL PRESENTATION of 18 lay people who made a public



commitment to form themselves and to live La Salette Charism.

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE APOSTOLATE

► in 2015 the LAICI SALETTINI ITALIA facebook page was opened where every 19th of the month we post short reflections on the apparition of La salette and spread our initiatives.

► La Salette laity take part in the edition of the Italian magazine LA SALETTE, whose columns they have been editing for years.

► since 2017 La Salette laity have been promoting the initiative “Mary’s pilgrimage” with the statue of Our Lady of La Salette. The statue, purchased at the Shrine in France, was blessed in Turin on the 171st anniversary of the apparition and from that date she began its pilgrimage throughout Italy. In these 5 years of apostolate, the pilgrim

statue reached 5 Italian regions, 55 parishes, 2 retirement homes, 3 associations, passed through some hospitals, municipalities and an incalculable number of families.

► Since 2022, La Salette laity have been promoting the knowledge of the apparition through the hand-making of a ROSARY WITH THE COLORS OF THE APARITION. This project was born from the desire to have a rosary dedicated to Our Lady of La Salette and draws its inspiration, for the choice of the colors of each tens, from the description of the Virgin that Melania wrote on November 21, 1878.

OUR COMMITMENT TO FORMATION

► In 2016 we held a training course on the “Ten Commandments of Reconciliation” presented during the 1st International Meeting. The material and reflections shared were collected in a book that is awaiting publication.



- ▶ ONLINE MEETINGS every 10th of each month about the apparition of La Salette that is open to all public to promote and spread knowledge.
- ▶ monthly meetings of formation carried out in local groups.

OUR COMMITMENT TO PRAYER

- ▶ Active participation in the INTERNATIONAL ROSARY.
- ▶ Prayer on the 19th of each month organized in local groups.
- ▶ Since 2020, organization of the NOVENA ON LINE to Our Lady of La Salette on the anniversary of the apparition.

- ▶ La Salette Laity has promoted devotion to Our Lady of La Salette through the prayer group “Our Lady of La Salette” in Turin for 23 years.

*Our Virgin of La Salette
accompany us to strengthen our vocation as
La Salette laity and help us to build together a
reconciled world!*



TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Mary, Mother of compassion

Mary, Mother of compassion,
your motherly love led you to the mountain of La Salette,
where you wept bitterly for me and for the world.
Look at me today: I consecrate myself to you without reserve.
I want to console your heart.
I want to hold back your tears.
With you I want to give my life to the service of reconciliation.
I place under your motherly protection all that I am,
all my hopes and all my joys,
all my difficulties, all my fears and all my sufferings.
I offer you my whole life and especially my last moments.
Please guide my steps in the life of the Gospel.
Amen.



