

**1st JULY**

**2021**

## *It is the Lord who gives everything*

*"... If you want to understand even more deeply the strength of this blood, consider where it began to flow and from which source it sprang. It was poured out on the cross and flowed from the side of the Lord. According to the Gospel, a soldier approached Jesus dead and still hanging on the cross and opened his side with a blow of a spear: water and blood came out. One symbol of Baptism, the other of the Eucharist ... Now the Church is born from these two sacraments, from this bath of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit through Baptism and the Eucharist. And the symbols of Baptism and the Eucharist came out of the side. So it is from his side that Christ formed the Church... By his blood we are born, with his blood we nourish our life. As a woman nourishes her child with her own milk, so Christ constantly nourishes with his blood those whom he has regenerated "*

[St. John Chrysostom]

Dearest, *best wishes!*

We live this feast of the Precious Blood as a gift of new life, because we return to contemplate the source from which the Blood of Jesus flows: His open side, which says the gift of His life for each of us:

*"This heart is the heart of the Son, a heart that is human and divine at the same time, a heart that listens, obeys and loves ... A gesture of human violence is transformed into a gesture of infinite compassion of God because through it God reveals and gives the infinite treasures of His love hidden in the heart of the Son ... "*

[Fr. Adalberto Piovano]

Drinking from this source heals us and allows us to discover the treasures of the infinite mercy of the Father. We experience this gift every time we celebrate the Eucharist, which "attracts us into its dynamism of love" [cost 2] and which repeats to us that God played with us to the point of giving us His body and shedding His blood and then

*"One loves in body and blood, not starting from the need to be understood, but from the desire to be able to reach the other in his most authentic need"*

[Fr. Roberto Pasolini]

Pope Francis in the homily of the Feast of Corpus Domini 2021 reminded us:

*"The image of Jesus breaking the Bread is the Eucharistic gesture par excellence, the identity gesture of our faith, the place of our encounter with the Lord who offers himself to make us reborn to a new life ... it is Jesus who becomes a lamb and he immolates himself to give us life. In the Eucharist we contemplate and adore the God of love. It is the Lord who does not break anyone but breaks Himself. It is the Lord who does not demand sacrifices but sacrifices Himself. It is the Lord who asks for nothing but gives everything. To celebrate and live the Eucharist, we too are called to live this love. Because you cannot break the Sunday Bread if your heart is closed to the brothers. You cannot eat this Bread if you do not give bread to the hungry. You cannot share this Bread if you do not share the sufferings of those in need ... And from now on our Eucharists transform the world to the extent that we allow ourselves to be transformed and we become bread broken for other ... We break our lives in compassion and in solidarity, so that the world sees through us the greatness of God's love "*

I believe that these words of Pope Francis are the best wishes we can wish each other on this feast day: Jesus gives all of himself and we are called to "be immolated victims to the will of all"; the Lord does not break anyone but breaks himself and gives himself out of love ... he gives us all his history, his way of being in the world, of having care and passion for every life. And for us, this

*"It means responding with exclusive love to the Love of those who first showed it to us to the point of giving us life. Therefore, it involves going out of ourselves to love our brothers and sisters, to the point of risking and compromising ourselves for their salvation "fulfilling what Christ's sufferings lack in our flesh"*

[cost 7]

We continue to live in the awareness, joy and awe that

*"The gift of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus is at the center of spirituality: Blood of redemption, of reconciliation, of the new and eternal covenant prefigured in the Old Testament. Through the perfect sacrifice of the Son, who freed us from our sins, we, the people of the new covenant, experience God's mercy, enter into communion with him and share as children in the benefits of redemption "*

[cost 6]

We are loved, enveloped in the tenderness of the Father who in Christ saves us, makes us heirs of the Kingdom, never leaves us alone, comforts us, draws us to himself, gives us strength and courage in times of difficulty, revives in us the awareness of His grace and His mercy. This is the gift of the Holy Spirit that Mother Bucchi gave us and that still attracts us today. Letting ourselves be attracted by this gift of life means living it in everyday life, so I hope you look to the

*"... Experience of the life of the Foundress and of the first sisters which is a precious treasure that we wish to enhance and pass on to the people we approach through the faithful witness of the gift received. For this reason we are committed to making alive, in the different cultures, the heritage of values that has always characterized our communities: the spirit of sacrifice in the unconditional gift to God and in the caring attention to the brothers, the family spirit in simplicity and joy. of living together and the spirit of humility, aware of our limitations and of the gift of salvation already received"*

[cost 8]

Let us live this day with joy and gratitude, let us ask for the wisdom of the Holy Spirit for each other to be women who, clothed in the strength of the Blood of Christ, know how to love with humility, joy and tenderness, to be "Disciples of the Lamb: leaven for the world "

To each one my embrace of tenderness and my prayer, your sister and mother,

*Madre Donatella Zoia*

[Superior General]



Monza, 01 July 2021.