

## **WELCOME**

## **Rafael Corso**

President of CA Argentina, IFCA Secretariat Coordinator

Dear friends, you are all welcome!

It is a great joy to meet again to share a moment of reflection, discernment and prayer about the social teaching of Pope Francis in the Encyclical Letter Laudato Si'.

Greetings to the many friends who are connected we are more than one hundred members from 30 countries on 4 continents, especially those countries that are connecting for the first time from Africa!

SLIDE PPT and reading of the list of countries

We also greet two international organizations present sisters and brothers of IFCA: WUCWO Catholic women and Unum Omnes Catholic men.

It would be nice to hear everyone's voice, but times don't allow it, we can exchange our greetings in the chat!!!!

Thank you in advance for your patience, for this first time with simultaneous translation.

Today the theme is "Universal Brotherhood, and Politics with a Capital P". In this way we are continuing the day celebrated in the company of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati on May 20 "everything is connected" and the meeting with Sandro Calvani on June 25 "the Pope's appeal in Laudato si". These moments of meeting, exchange and sharing help us to walk together.

The COVID'19 pandemic continues to affect many countries in terms of health, especially among the most fragile people, and unfortunately it is affecting all countries in terms of the economic question.

It seemed logical then to choose this topic for our meeting, which will be introduced by Luisa Responsibility for the common good identifies our lay vocation at all ages and in all conditions of life.

In this interconnected reality in which we live we need to have a "Catholic" outlook that means universal, global and that asks us to use that criterion that Pope Francis indicated to us in EG 235

The whole is greater than the part, but it is also greater than the sum of its parts. There is no need, then, to be overly obsessed with limited and particular questions. We constantly have to broaden our horizons and see the greater good which will benefit us all. But this has to be done without evasion or uprooting. We need to sink our roots deeper into the fertile soil and history of our native place, which is a gift of God. We can work on a small scale, in our own neighbourhood, but with a larger perspective.

This existential experience enlightened by Christian faith and hope leads us inexorably to the need for a lifestyle centred on solidarity, cooperation, human brotherhood, civil and political love.

Pope Francis tells us: "Care for nature is part of a lifestyle which includes the capacity for living together and communion. Jesus reminded us that we have God as our common Father and that this makes us brothers and sisters. Fraternal love can only be gratuitous; .... This same gratuitousness inspires us to love and accept the wind, the sun and the clouds, even though we cannot control them. In this sense, we can speak of a "universal fraternity". LS.228.

We now have the pleasure to listen to our dear and luminous Luisa, National Vice-President of Youth of Italian Catholic Action, who, together with Michele, is responsible for the Youth Coordination of IFCA.

We then welcome two dear IFCA friends, the new bishop of Bururi, Salvator Niciteretse, in Burundi in Africa and our Emilio Inzaurraga, president of Justice and Peace Commission of the Argentinean Bishops' Conference and IFCA coordinator of America.

With them we will deepen the need to achieve universal and political brotherhood.

## In the end

Friends,

"We must regain the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world, and that being good and decent are worth it. We have had enough of immorality and the mockery of ethics, goodness, faith and honesty. It is time to acknowledge that light-hearted superficiality has done us no good. When the foundations of social life are corroded, what ensues are battles over conflicting interests, new forms of violence and brutality, and obstacles to the growth of a genuine culture of care for the environment".LS 229.

## **NEXT ONLINE APPOINTMENTS**

- Thanks to Maria Grazia, Codruta and the whole team of the Secretariat and collaborators for the organizational work and the contagious push! In particular to our friends that help us for the simultaneous translation
- Thank you to each of you for your generous dedication and fruitful work!
- Thank you for the Mission developed by Catholic Action in each of our countries, for the service of sowing and growth of the Church and for the service of building the Common Good and Social Friendship.
- Thank you to each member of Catholic Action for being a missionary disciple of Jesus Christ in today's world,... there, in the ordinary of everyday life! To be a Mission with all and for all!

IN THE YEAR LAUDATO SI' with the same timetable

September 4

October 2nd

A SPECIAL CALL BY YOUNG PEOPLE for young people and for everyone

August 6 at 20 Rome Madrid Malta at 21 Romania Jerusalem at 15 Buenos Aires and in the night in Asia!!!

Presentation of a text by the Youth Coordination on Christus Vivit

Information will come in the next few days with surprises!!!!