

Day – 11

From the Gospel of John 6:1-15, the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, the Sisters from the West African region, helped us live the morning prayer: “Open our hearts to give bread, open our hands to give life...”.

Our facilitator, Sr. Micheline, reminded us that we had reached the mid-point of our Chapter, already ten days have passed, and we look ahead to the next ten days.

She presented the day’s program and explained that we would get back to certain points later. We put the best of ourselves in participating in different groups, attentive listening, the effort with different languages, and all that helps us understand and discern the best direction.



Like the other days, following listening to the minutes of the previous day presented by Sr. Maria del Pilar, and generally approved without major corrections, we began with the theme of the morning: reflecting on the apostolic presence of an international community in France, place of our origins, with different options and possibilities for offering a presence and service.

A member of the General Council presented the theme and the manner the question has been approached to now. Sr. Catherine Barange presented the subject and work was then done in international groups, followed by a large assembly conversation long enough to allow deepening of the question.

Another important question taken up this day was concerning our engagement for justice, peace and the integrity of Creation. We examined how this was lived in the Provinces and Regions at the local level, and on the international level in relation with Sr. Rojamani (Province of India) and with Sr. Justine (Annecy) representing the ONG Saint Joseph at the UN. The clarification of terms, the dialogues, the reflections and the propositions were very enriching. It gave us a felt sense of how this question of Justice and Peace developed and became part of living our charism of communion in our lives, influencing our choices in our everyday. It can also engage us during important national or international events with other groups or the ONG, whether in specific situations or large scale actions. We need to grow in this engagement.

In the afternoon, we revisited some elements of our reflection on the structures and the propositions of the Provinces and Regions to better move forward together in clarity and understanding.

Our day came to an end with the Eucharistic celebration animated by our temporary professed sisters. With great creativity, they led us: symbols, dance, songs... “Carry this light...” and Be light...! Fr. Lacroette, SJ once again was our presider. We appreciate his great flexibility, for he accepts with gentleness our different propositions.



An evening of relaxation: cards, knitting, dances and songs, and even “African hairstyling”, also featuring snacks and drinks, brought our day to conclusion. Thank you to the sisters who organized it, and to all the participants. However, some could not profit from these festivities, for they were at a meeting to prepare the work for tomorrow. We thank them also!

