

APOSTOLIC COMMITMENT*



The third essential element that gives identity to the Apostleship of the Cross is aimed to the mission and service we offer to the church and to the world. Our mission and service as Apostles of the Cross means that we are in communion with Jesus fostering holiness and moving beyond our comfort zones to meet everyone, but in a special way those who suffer. This mission is to be done according to the local pastoral plans of our dioceses and parishes, and according to the Social Doctrine of the Church.

The Document of Aparecida (Brazil, 2007) lists some of the challenges our Church is facing in the world. These challenges are: urgency of apostolic commitment, much ritualism and little evangelization, lack of social influence by our lay people, Catholics who are prepared only for intra-ecclesial services, clericalism, our spirituality is weak and superficial, exodus of catholic people to other denominations. We are also constantly bombarded by the issues that threaten religious freedom and by religious intolerance. In addition, the fast change of social paradigms in which consumerism, hedonism, lack of interest for others, and the desire to accumulate material possessions play a predominant influence over most of the people. These challenges and this approach to life are only the source of never-ending suffering for us.

In the face of this reality, the Apostles of the Cross are invited to promote solidarity from the Spirituality of the Cross. Benedict XVI said that we are threatened by the pragmatism of the daily life, but Christians are called to start anew from Christ.

We are called to minister to our world from the perspective of charity knowing that the face of Christ is the very face of every Christian. To desire the common good is a demand for all of us so that justice and charity can take place, and thus the Reign of the Holy Spirit can be spread in our world.



We, as Apostles of the Cross and in our desire to make the kingdom of God a reality in our world, are challenged to critically place ourselves in the events of the whole humanity (in its politic, economic, social, and cultural dimensions). We are also called to pursue a human development from the perspective of love and the belief that evil can only be overcome by good. Additionally, our mission in the world invites us to propose values that foster life, and to propose a new way of living that respects our environment.

*This article is a summary of the Spanish version of the article entitled "Compromiso Solidario", which was redacted by some members of the Apostleship of the Cross of the Conchita Cabrera de Armida Region.

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