

FINAL MESSAGE OF THE FOURTH CONTINENTAL ASSEMBLY OF CLARETIAN SOLIDARITY AND MISSION IN AMERICA

Chaclacayo, Peru, September 3, 2023

From August 27 to September 3, the *IV Continental Assembly of Solidarity and Mission of the Claretian Missionaries of America, "Artisans of Care, Prophets of Justice and Peace, Rooted and Bold!"* was held at the retreat house "Padre Claret" in the district of Chaclacayo.

Marcos Loro and Victor Matute, president and executive secretary of MICLA respectively, 7 Prefects of the Apostolate, Referents of the 9 organisms, members of Lay Claretians, Religious of Mary Immaculate and Missionaries of St. Anthony Mary Claret, Referents of the Theological Institute of Consecrated Life of America, REBICLAR and Youth Ministry in Claretian Family, Representative of the Corporation Norman Pérez Bello, and Special Guests: Fr. Pedro Belderrain, General Prefect of Apostolate; Fr. Rohan Dominic, coordinator of the Claretian team at the UN, and Fr. Gabriel Ponce, coordinator of SOMI Fatima.

The 56 participants, among them 16 women, gathered to share the common Claretian vocation lived from the service of SOMI. We would also like to highlight the presence of Cardinal Pedro Barreto, president of the Ecclesial Conference of the Amazon and the virtual intervention of Vincent Anes, outgoing coordinator of the General Secretariat of JPIC.

Our celebrations, reflections and dialogues were crossed by:

1. The cries of the geographic and existential peripheries, the agony of violated women, the cry of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples, the ordeal of so many migrants, the pain of the victims of extractivism and climate change, the drama of displacements, the anguish caused by forced disappearances, the martyrdom of so many massacred environmental leaders, our peoples subjected by authoritarian governments that continue to undermine the incipient democracies and the deep wounds that furrow our Common Home, expressed in the aggressions against the sacred biome of the Amazon.
2. The joy of fraternity and sisterhood that we live in the mission, the hope and challenge of the youth and their life projects, the prophetic protagonism of the women of our continent, the testimony of the guardians of Creation, the examples of resistance and resilience of our peoples, the audacious commitment of so many Claretian brothers in critical areas of the mission and the enlightening horizon that gives us the experience of synodality, an authentic way of being Church.
3. Claret, a man of solidarity, whose spirit continues to be for everyone, especially for those of us who want to risk our lives for the closeness of the Kingdom and its justice.

SOMI does not ask of the Congregation more than what the Gospel asks, more than what God asks. With the conviction that human dignity and the dignity of Creation is God's DNA, we reaffirm that our commitment to human rights is the focus of all our choices. The look at reality that

The work we have shared these days reaffirms our firm commitment to the urgencies expressed in the continental priorities: Migrants, Common Home and Human Rights with a gender perspective and intersectionality.

Responding to the need to articulate these priorities with concrete actions and works that are already being developed in our communities, **this Assembly has agreed to provide effective support to 3 projects: Óscar Romero Migrant Reception Center (Ciudad Juárez), SOMI Training, Research and Accompaniment Center (Guatemala) and Shared Mission at the service of the Common Home (Jacobacci, Argentina).**

We note that the 2030 Agenda approach provides a vision of global justice and is a privileged synergy to educate, transform and engage people in the struggle for human dignity and the transformation of the world. We have asked ourselves: do our pastoral ministries encourage this commitment? The experience of genuine synodality demands that we leave our comfort zones and establish ourselves in new places of prophetic dialogue where we live a discipleship of equals.

We finished by making a collective experience of the Joy of the Gospel: how nice it was to meet each other, but even nicer to have confirmed that fraternity overcomes all conflicts and that then, serene spirits, we are better disposed to fight for the cause of Jesus.

