



WORLDWIDE EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

“Five barley loaves and two fish”

✿ Introduction

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
 We are gathered as Calabrian family from the different corners of the world in the presence of the same Jesus, alive and true, in the Eucharist. We humble ourselves before him, to adore him, to thank him and to entrust to him the intentions of the Opera, of the Church and the entire humanity. May our prayer be intensified by invoking the Holy Spirit, spirit of communion, so that he may guide us on this journey of preparation for the General Chapters. Enlightened by this Sunday's Liturgy, today we too wish to climb the mountain with Jesus and with him to lift our gaze on the suffering humanity, invoking the end of this pandemic. Let us offer him our prayer and our life, like "five loaves of barley and two fish", aware that in his hands it becomes bread of life for the salvation of the humanity.

✿ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (song)

✿ Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Guide: We let ourselves to be guided in our prayer by this Sunday's Gospel, which presents the great sign of the multiplication of the loaves, in the narration of the Evangelist John (Jn. 6:1-11). We letting ourselves to be guided by three words: discipleship, sharing, communion.

FIRST MOMENT: *DISCIPLESHIP (Sequela)*

✚ *From the Gospel of John (6:1-5)*

After this, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee - or of Tiberias- and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he had done in curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside and sat down there with his disciples. The time of the Jewish Passover was near.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?'

🕯 *From the words of Pope Francis*

First of all: who are those who must be given something to eat? We find the answer at the beginning of the Gospel passage: it is the crowd, the multitude. Jesus is in the midst of the people, he welcomes them, he speaks to them, he heals them, he shows them God's mercy; it is from among them that he chooses the Twelve Apostles to be with him and, like him, to

immerse themselves in the practical situations of the world. Furthermore, the people follow him and listen to him, ...

Today we are the crowd of the Gospel, we too seek to follow Jesus in order to listen to him, to enter into communion with him in the Eucharist, to accompany him and in order that he accompany us. Let us ask ourselves: *how do I follow Jesus?*

Jesus speaks in silence in the Mystery of the Eucharist. He reminds us every time that following him means going out of ourselves and not making our life a possession of our own, but rather a gift to him and to others¹.



From the writings of St. John Calabria.

We are not the one who accomplishes, it is the Lord who does good deeds and uses docile instruments, humble and intimately united with him².



Moment of personal reflection in silence.



Spontaneous prayers of offering to Jesus, renewing our willingness to follow him.



Song

SECOND MOMENT: SHARING



From the Gospel of John (6:5-9)

⁵ Jesus said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?'

⁶ He said this only to put Philip to the test; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would not buy enough to give them a little piece each.' ⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, ⁹ 'Here is a small boy with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that among so many?'



From the word of Pope Francis

God's love for a humanity that is hungry for bread, freedom, justice, peace and, above all, his divine grace, never fails. Even today, Jesus continues to feed, to make his presence alive and comforting, and he does so through us. So, the Gospel invites us to be available and hardworking, like that youth who, realizing he had five loaves, says: "I contribute this, then you will see [to it] ...". Faced with the cry of hunger – all types of "hunger" – of many brothers and sisters in every part of the world, we cannot be detached and calm spectators. The proclamation of Christ, Bread of eternal life, requires a generous commitment of solidarity toward the poor, the weak, the least ones, the defenceless. This action of closeness

¹ POPE FRANCIS, *Homily on the Solemnity of Corpus Domini, 2013.*

² Fr. JOHN CALABRIA, LETT. COLLETT. * 9373/B 1951(?).

and charity is the best test of the quality of our faith, both at the personal level and at the community level.³

Before the suffering, loneliness, poverty and difficulties of so many people, what can we ourselves do? Who among us doesn't have "five loaves and two fish" of his own? We all have them!

God is capable of multiplying our small acts of solidarity and allowing us to share in his gift.⁴



From the writings of St. John Calabria

With our life, with the practical spirit, by being living Gospels, spirit of charity, spirit of humility, spirit of purity, great love for all, privilege for the poorest, for the most abandoned, for the most miserable, for the most suffering, for the greatest sinners. This is our divine goal, which we must seek and do⁵.

Here the Lord does everything, and he does it the more we are convinced of our nothingness, let's work, but always with the Lord, in the Lord, for the Lord⁶.



Moment of personal reflection in silence



Song

THIRD MOMENT: COMMUNION



From the Gospel of John: (6:9-11)

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down.

¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were sitting there; he then did the same with the fish, distributing as much as they wanted.



From the words of Pope Francis

Jesus asks the disciples to have the people sit down. He looks up to heaven, thanks and distributes the loaves. It is a moment of deep *communion*: the crowd is satisfied by the word of the Lord and is now nourished by his bread of life. And they were all satisfied.

It is in listening to his word, in nourishing ourselves with his Body and his Blood that he moves us on from being a multitude to being a community, from anonymity to communion. The Eucharist is the sacrament of communion that brings us out of individualism so that we may follow him together, living out our faith in him. Therefore, we should all ask ourselves

³ POPE FRANCIS, *Angelus* 29 July 2018.

⁴ Pope Francis, *Angelus*, 26 July 2015.

⁵ Fr. JOHN CALABRIA, *CONFERENCE - EXORTATION * 1356 [without date]*.

⁶ Fr. JOHN CALABRIA, *CONFERENCE – EXORTATION * 5451 4-10-1931*.

before the Lord: *how do I live the Eucharist? Do I live it anonymously or as a moment of true communion with the Lord, and also with all the brothers and sisters? Do I let the Lord who gives himself to me, guide me to going out ever more from my little enclosure, in order to give, to share, to love him and others?*⁷.



From Instrumentum Laboris, n. 21.

Spiritual sharing favours communion and the growth of the fraternity that humanizes us. When our relationships are based on a profound sharing of life, an atmosphere of respect, is created without difficulty, **mutual help and friendship** which are fundamental for communion. The synodal experience lived as the Calabrian Family confirms that the spiritual sharing “makes a difference”. **In the light of the charism, narration of our stories, unites us and strengthens us in communion making our testimony credible.**

- ✿ Silence and personal reflection.
- ✿ Spontaneous prayers of thanksgiving and entrustment.
- ✿ Our Father
- ✿ **Prayer for the General Chapters**

Lord God, merciful Father,
look with benevolence on us
members of the Calabrian Family;
fill us with your Spirit
to respond faithfully to your call.
Lord, preserve us always in your love,
through the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mary,
St. Joseph, St. John Calabria
and all our patrons.
Grant us brothers, sisters and laity with the apostolic spirit
that united in only one family
we may believe in you and your Word.
Grant that free from all earthly worries,
with full trust in your Providence
and in communion with those who represent you,
we may be ready to do your will
and suffer with Christ
so that the souls may welcome your holy Kingdom.
Send, O Lord, your Holy Spirit
so that we can accept the signs of communion
which, through Brothers and Sisters
General Chapters
You make sprout in the Opera and in the Church.
Amen.

- ✿ Blessing with the Holy Eucharist.

⁷ POPE FRANCIS, *Homily on the Solemnity of Corpus Christy, 2013.*