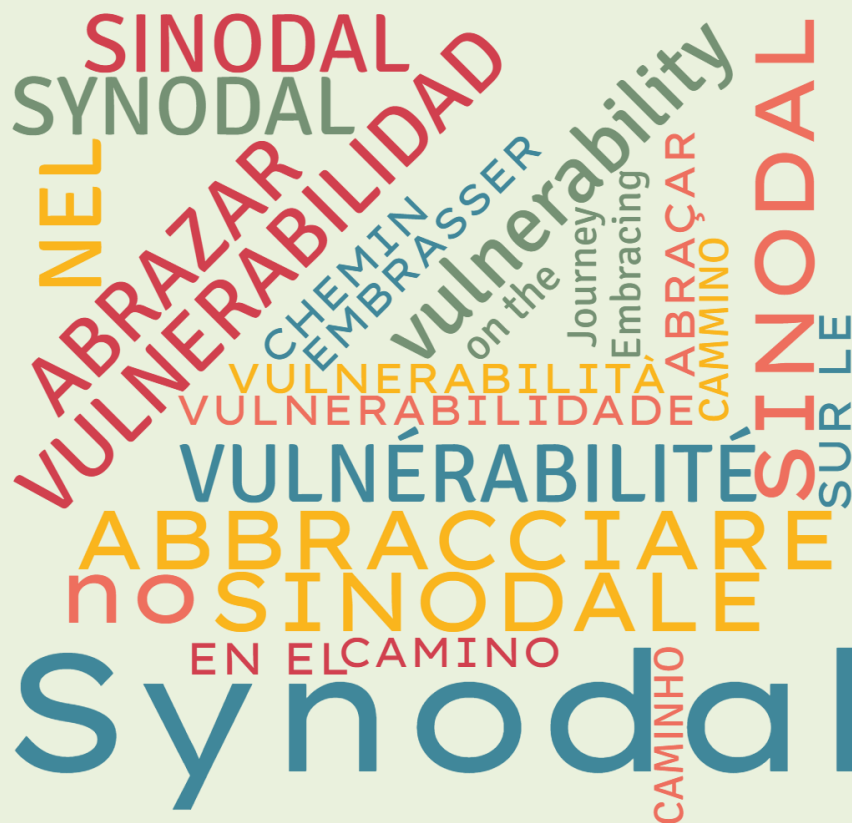


Praying for the #UISGPlenary2022

We pray for the fruitfulness of the UISG assembly in our communities, in the Church and in the whole world.



1st moment:

Jesus after His resurrection kept journeying with His disciples, embracing their vulnerability. **His journey to Emmaus, with two of them, will guide our prayer today.**



Luke 24: 13-34

**13 Now that very same day,
two of them**

- Write today's date on your piece of paper and become aware of this present moment
- Write also the names of the people you are with on your journey. Take a time to ponder over their presence in your life.

They were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem,

What is the name of the place where you are?

Padlet map localization: https://bit.ly/UISG_MAP_ASSEMBLY

We are journeying in so many different parts of the world and at the same time, we are all journeying together.

Let us take a moment of silence and gaze upon the Padlet Map of the World with the places where we and all the sisters attending the Plenary are.



2nd moment:

14 and they were talking together about all that had happened.

The disciples talked of what had happened those days in town. Normally the theme of our conversations is what happened to us.

15 And it happened that as they were talking together and discussing it, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side;

But without us recognizing, Jesus himself, comes up and walks by our side but our eyes are not able to recognize Him.

16 but their eyes were prevented from recognising him.

So often we fail to recognize Jesus' presence with us. Let us listen to the following video:

Song/Video: Look, I'm standing at the door by Paula Jordão, Verbum Dei.

**Look, I'm standing at the door
Listen, I'm knocking at the door
If you hear me calling, if you open the door
I will come in, and share a meal
side by side with you. Heart to heart, face to face with you and
you with me.**

The words we have just listened to are exactly what will happen to those disciples on the road:

- Jesus knocked at their door,
- they listened and they opened up.
- He entered into their lives,
- shared a meal with them,
- met them face to face
- and make their hearts burn.

Let us take some time to make an act of faith and say: **Jesus, thank you for walking by our side.**

We can write this sentence in our own language on our piece of paper. And as we do, we are called to believe that even though we don't see him, He is with us.



Jesus, thank you for walking by our side.

3rd moment:

17 He said to them, 'What are all these things that you are discussing as you walk along?' They stopped; their faces downcast.

Jesus asks them what they are discussing as they go along. Jesus is always here with us as we discuss our realities... Jesus wants to know what is there in our hearts and minds.

Let us TAKE A MOMENT OF SILENCE TO TELL JESUS what we are discussing as we walk.

18 Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.'

Cleopas says: '**You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.'**

Often, we think God doesn't know what we are living, what are beloved ones are going through, and what the world is suffering. But what happens to each one, happens to God.

God does know, God does hear and God journeys with us with our vulnerability.

Psalm 34:

1 I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise continually on my lips.

2 I will praise the Lord from my heart; let the humble hear and rejoice.

3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord, let us acclaim his name together.

4 I seek the Lord and he answers me, frees me from all my fears.

5 Fix your gaze on the Lord and your face will grow bright, you will never hang your head in shame.

6 A pauper calls out and the Lord hears, saves him from all his troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and rescues them.

8 Taste and see that the Lord is good. How blessed are those who take refuge in him.

9 Fear the Lord, you his holy ones; those who fear him lack for nothing.

10 Young lions may go needy and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack nothing good.

11 Come, my children, listen to me, I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

15 The eyes of the Lord are on the upright, his ear turned to their cry.

17 They cry in anguish and the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.

18 Yahweh is near to the broken-hearted, he helps those whose spirit is crushed.

19 Though hardships without number beset the upright, the Lord brings rescue from them all.

20 the Lord takes care of all their bones, not one of them the Lord be broken.

22 Yahweh ransoms the lives of those who serve him, and there will be no penalty for those who take refuge in him.

4th moment:

19 He asked, 'What things?'

Jesus asks us “**What things?**”

God does not avoid our pain, our past, our doubts. God welcomes our vulnerability, our wounds...

He knows what our world is going through.

Today’s reality of the world is the reality of Christ in his Mystical Body.

In community, we take a moment to share the situations we carry in our hearts: the concerns that burden us and also the hopes we cherish.

If we are on our own, we can write these things on our piece of paper. Jesus wants to listen to them.

They answered, 'All about Jesus of Nazareth, who showed himself a prophet powerful in action and speech before God and the whole people; 20 and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified.

**21 Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have now gone by since it all happened;
22 and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning,
23 and when they could not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive.**

24 Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

The disciples recited the **CREED** but were SLOW TO BELIEVE!

Most of their words are part of what we profess as our faith every Sunday at Mass. But they said struggling to believing they were the events and the way God chose to save us and to show us God’s love.

We need to profess our faith in the life of Christ as it is, not as we would have liked it to unfold.

Let profess our FAITH in Jesus, God made man:

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ...

I believe that for us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

I believe that for our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

I believe that he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

I believe He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

After reciting this part of the CREED, we spend some moments in silence asking God to increase our Faith:

We can say to God in silence or out loud:
I believe but help my unbelief.
(Mark 9:24)

5th moment:

25 Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe all that the prophets have said!

God's ways are not our ways and that is why it is so difficult for us to understand and accept the mystery of vulnerability and suffering...

26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer before entering into his glory?'

In the fulfilment of God's promise, suffering will never have the last word. Mysteriously, God can work through the suffering, especially the one we cannot avoid.

The words of Julian of Norwich can help us pray today to believe in the power of Christ's Resurrection amid our vulnerability:

But Jesus, who in this Vision informed me of all that is needful to me, answered by this word and said: It behoved that there should be sin; but all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well. (Julian of Norwich)

Song/Video: All will be well by Emmaus.

We have a hope in Jesus (x2)
That all things will be well (x2)
That all things will be well in the Lord

We have a hope, one voice is heard
We have a hope, one bread, one God

That all things will be well (x2)
That all things will be well in the Lord

We have a hope in Jesus...
All will be well. And all things will be well
And all manner of things will be well in your heart

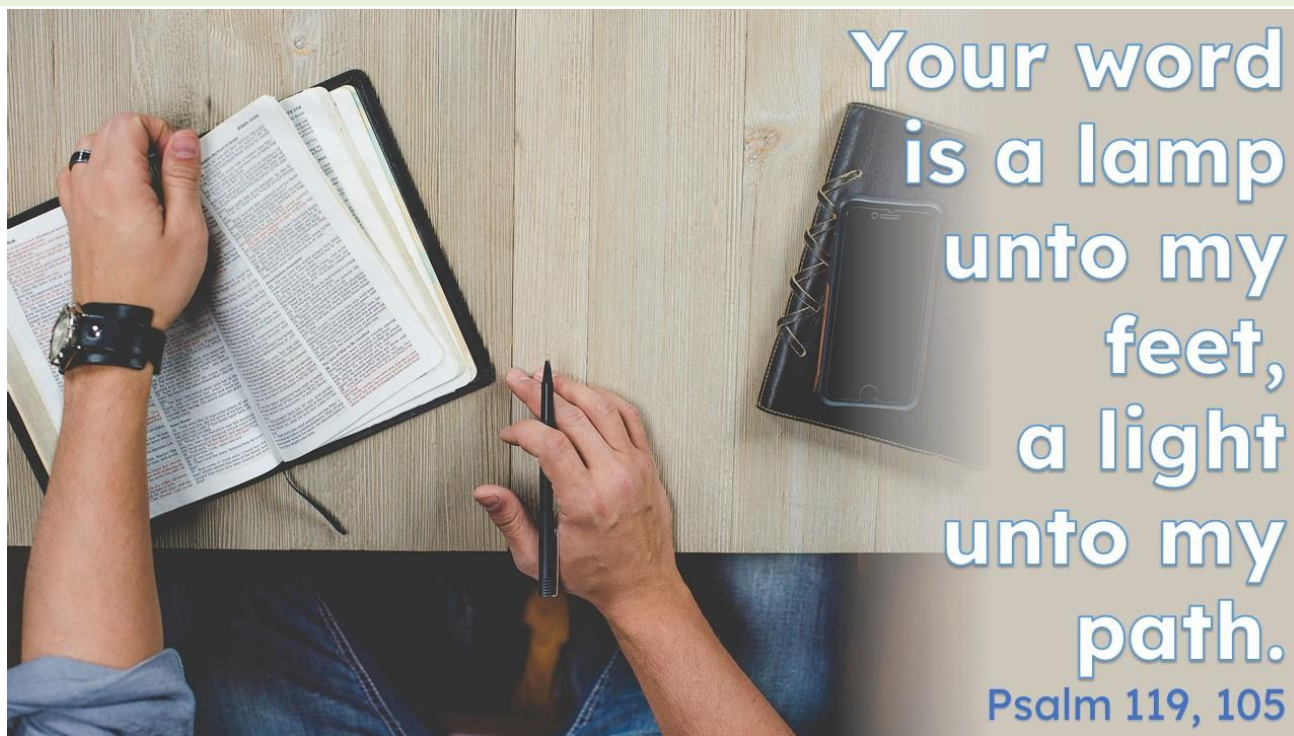
6th moment:

27 Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

Jesus on the road of our lives has broken open the Scriptures to us, helping us to understand His mystery. And as we read this passage, He is doing so. He is explaining the Scripture, his ways, his love, and his passion for humanity to us.

We give thanks for God's word that lead our path.

Thank you, Lord, because your Word is a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path. (Ps 119,105)



28 When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on;

As the disciples did, we ask Jesus to stay with us as we pray for the UISG 2022 General Assembly.

29 but they pressed him to stay with them saying, 'It is nearly evening, and the day is almost over.' So, he went in to stay with them.

- **We pray for the fruitfulness of the UISG Assembly in our communities, the Church, and the whole world.**

30 Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them.

- **Lord, walk together with the participants of the UISG Assembly and share your BREAD with them.**
- Bless each one of the sisters that will attend on-site and online;
- Inspire the speakers and all the guests;
- Strengthen all the staff that makes the assembly possible;
- Accompany the personnel of the Ergife Hotel
- **We pray for each one of us, and for our Congregations, that nourished by your BREAD and WINE, can embrace vulnerability on the Synodal Journey with compassion and joy.**
- We pray for the whole Church.
- We pray for the whole world.
- We pray for **peace**
- **Stay with us, Lord!**

7th moment:

31 And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but

Jesus is present in our midst. He is here with us as we pray, as we share, and as we are gathered in His name.

he had vanished from their sight.

Let us take some moments to be in HIS PRESENCE in silence.

32 Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

Let us acknowledge the feelings in our hearts at this moment. **And let us ask Him to make our hearts burn as we walk the road of life.**

And in doing so we pray with the words Jesus himself taught us:

OUR FATHER...

33 They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions,

Now we are called to return to Jerusalem, to the community.

We are sent onto the world.

We are to share the faith, hope, and love we receive from Jesus.

34 who said to them, 'The Lord has indeed risen and has appeared to Simon.'

Because the Lord is indeed risen and has appeared to us.

So let us go in the certainty of Jesus' presence with us. Amen.

35 Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.



Final Song: Alleluia of the Earth by Brotes de Olivo

Who wants to resurrect this dying world?
Who will sing the hallelujah of that new light to come?

Who, when he looks at the earth and the tragedies he observes, will feel in his heart the pain of the dying?

Who can save this decaying world
And holds the hope of the many who lose it?
The one who suffers, kills and dies, despairs and goes mad
And others are spectators, they don't feel it

Who will bring down from the cross so many a suffering Christ
While we men look on, impassive and indolent?
Who cries out from the silence of a being who holds back his God
Because it becomes a word that is understood without speaking?

Who turns into hallelujah because he translates death?
Like wheat that rots and hundreds come from one?
Hallelujah will sing, who has lost hope
And the earth will smile, alleluia!