

20 & 21 MAY 2023
(World Social Communications
Sunday)

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

7th Sunday of Easter

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:
COMMUNION (INCLUSIVE), PARTICIPATION (CREATIVE) & MISSION (BRIDGE BUILDING)

MONTHLY FOCUS: FAMILY LIFE

FOCUS EVENT: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES



Speaking with the heart...

“The truth in love” (Eph 4:15)

is the message of Pope Francis, for the 57th World Day of Social Communications. *(below are extracts and reflections from the message)*

Communication from the heart spurs us to go, to see and to listen, and moves us to be open and welcoming.

Listening, waiting and patience is needed to speak from the heart. It leads to dialogue, is compassionate and respectful of all. It recognises one's own brokenness. Truth is spoken, even when it is uncomfortable.

On the road to Emmaus, the Risen Jesus spoke to the two, with the heart, accompanying their suffering, with respect, proposing and not imposing himself, lovingly opening their minds to understand, the profound meaning of what had happened. Their hearts burned within them as he spoke (Lk 24:32).

Saint Francis de Sales, who lived some 400 years ago is a great example of one who, spoke with the heart. He is the patron of Catholic journalists. As bishop of Geneva he faced heated disputes with Calvinists. His meek attitude, humanity and willingness to dialogue patiently with everyone, especially with those who disagreed with him, made him an extraordinary witness of God's merciful love.

His most famous statement, “heart speaks to heart”, inspired many generations. He saw communication as a reflection of the soul, and not something artificial, for a marketing strategy, as seen today.

In our Synodal journey, I dream of an ecclesial communication, guided by the Holy Spirit, gentle and prophetic, finding new ways and means for the wonderful proclamation it is called to deliver. A Communication from the heart puts all relationships at the centre, that fires one's faith rather than a self seeking identity.

May the Lord Jesus, from the heart of the Father, help us to make our communication clear, open and heartfelt, that we may feel like protectors of one another.

The Media and Social Communications Ministry, in our parishes and of our dioceses has done much to promote this communication from the heart, building hearts that connect, with God and one another.

Many individuals in our parishes have come forward to sacrifice their time and energy, using their gifts and talents for this purpose of helping us speak with our hearts. Still many more desire, to harness the means of Social Communications to build a Church, speaking with the heart. Wait no longer! **Contact the members of your parish / diocesan Social Media Ministry get involved and let's continue the Easter Revolution!** ❖

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INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY

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