

# ART, HUMANISM & SPIRITUALITY

ARTE, HUMANISMO E ESPIRITUALIDADE ART, HUMANISME ET ESPIRITUALITÉ

ARTE, UMANESIMO E SPIRITUALITÀ ARTE, HUMANISMO Y ESPIRITUALIDAD



Subject 0

TO ACCOMPANY PARTICIPANTS



ARTE, HUMANISMO Y ESPIRITUALIDAD



# ACCOMPANING PARTICIPANTS

Contents: \_\_\_\_\_

## **SPIRITUALITY:**

ACCOMPANY FOR THE FACE TO FACE AND BREAKING OF THE BREAD..... pg.2

    Resounding / Deepening ..... pg.2

    Dialogue ..... pg.4

    Expressing ..... pg.5

    Praying ..... pg.5

## **HUMANISM:**

ACCOMPANY TO EMBRACE WHAT IS HUMAN ..... pg.6

    Resounding / Deepening ..... pg. 6

    Dialogue ..... pg. 8

    Expressing .....pg. 8

    Praying .....pg. 8

## **ART:**

ACCOMPANY TO DECIPHER THE BEAUTY AND REMAIN WITH THE GOOD.....pg. 9

    Resounding / Deepening .....pg. 9

    Dialogue .....pg.11

    Expressing ..... pg.11

    Praying ..... pg.11

TO ACCOMPANY  
FACE TO FACE AND BREAKING OF THE BREAD

To Accompany  
is to take on a challenge...  
take a mission...  
begin an adventure...  
contemplate a mystery...  
listen to a beat...  
pronounce a hope...  
probe a heart...  
witness a miracle...



TO LET RESOUND / RING:

Today there is much talk of prayer, but prayer is hardly done. However, an infinite thirst seems to intoxicate all sectors of society. A sincere search for spirituality is evident, a meaning of God; a certain inclination to "Mystery", to an encounter, a Face to Face. A longing for God.

In search of horizon, of importance, many get lost in appearances or wander without finding a response. They end up fatigued or unsatisfied, fed up and thirsty as before. In many occasions these searches are wavering, spontaneous, many things are speculated about God, but we do not get to know and experience Him.

In that context the necessity of having a companion for the journey surges, someone with courage to stretch out a hand, that offers their littleness, that shares life, that walks in faith; someone full of humaneness and capable of "divinity."



In the passage of Emmaus we find traces that could help us outline being companions of the journey in the Company of Mary:

*. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them...*

It is about taking advantage of the occasions that life offers, to get closer to the reality of the youth.. Making silence to listen with them the echoes of life, to make us sensible to their sadness, their absence, their yearning.

Walking beside them without any level of insignificance, but having clarity in the route and goal.

*. ... He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?"*

The journey companion, expresses the opportune word, questions at a proper time...does not respond immediately, nor have unimportant dialogue, parts from life, permits the most authentic human experiences to emerge, gives way to expression, to memory, to life... and listens with eagerness, without prejudices.

*. ... Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures.*

As companions we are called to maintain in the youth's mind the love of God, to announce Jesus explicitly. Reference to the "Word", should be constant, vital. It is urgent to provoke in the youth a contemplative gaze, propose faith as a life- style, like a manner of situating oneself before reality, before history.



*. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning (within us) while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"*

Convener, transmit, provoke, arouse...this is the challenge of the accompanist.

With their word and their testimony they are invited to generate actions in favor of life.

She or He is called to foster room around the table being shared, to solidarity, because there, it is possible to have the most authentic experience of God.

#### **FOR DIALOGUE:**

Set a time to reflect and share with the youth/young adults who will participate in the encounter:

- Which is the image of God that each one has?
- What necessities of companionship, orientation or illumination does your level of faith have?
- Create with them some ideas (criteria, resources, experiences) that can help accompany the youth in a more accurate manner their walk of faith.

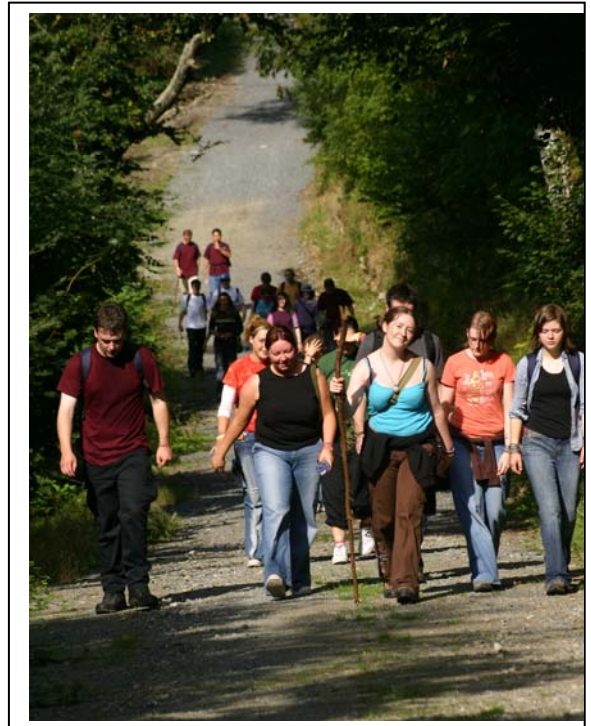
#### **FOR EXPRESSION:**



Create a painting / Picture that expresses what has resounded in your heart...that summarizes the calls that you experience in being an accompanist.

**FOR PRAYER:**

- Reflect in the presence of God.
- Read in silence: Luke 24: 13-35, Road to Emmaus
- Ask for the grace to be a good companion in the journey.
- Lord Jesus, increase our faith in the strength of the spirit, in the value of the small, in the power of the communal. Give us hope, passion for the ordinary, restore our wings and give us a new mosaic of dreams and reasons. Fill us with tenderness and may our heart be of mercy. Amen!



**Humanism**

**ACCOMPANY  
TO EMBRACE WHATS HUMAN**

Companionship  
is simply  
putting on your shoes  
and at its rhythm  
deciphering one by one  
the mysteries  
of the human heart...



**TO LET RESOUND:**

We have the challenge of accompanying to permit the best of each person emerge, their most authentic self.

Accompany to make possible life in its pluralism, in its complexity.

Accompany to help the youth see themselves in the truth of who they are and embrace with realism the clay from which they came from.

Accompany to humanize, to offer alternatives, to encourage growth.

Accompany in the truth and for the truth, without lies, disguises, nor accommodations.

Accompany loving, getting involved, letting it affect us - in an Ignatian sense-, his world, his experiences.

In this context, it is urgent that in our mission as companions, we allow this letter of Jeanne de Lestonnac resound in us:

**From the Heart of God**



**You who accompany in my "Company":**

In this moment of festive memory, I contact you to thank you for your interest in accompanying others in the search for meaning.

I have seen you determined to understand the characteristics of youth cultures. It is not easy to accompany in this era, in truth, it has never been. Human beings are unique in the universe, unrepeatable and difficult to conquer. Only love can make all frontiers disappear, fears collapse, and make the word flow.

I am happy to know that you are preparing for the encounter that will allow youth from different cultures and languages come together as one to experience: **"Art, Humanism and Spirituality."** Truly it is a good motive.

I hope to share with you some of my insights of what it means to accompany to help the person emerge:

**Do not ever forget that each one has his/her own experience: there are no same forms or formulas.** Daily you have the challenge of facing diversity and that will always be a possibility. Let each person's best melody resound. Do not impose on anybody your rhythm...let the pauses and the hurries appear at their given time. Remember that behind every name is a history, that every person is "holy land", a privileged place where God reveals Himself.

**Extend a hand and in all circumstances:** never pass in front of someone who may need from you a gaze, a word, a hug...extend a hand at all times. Around you is a lot of loneliness, sadness, emptiness, fear, nonconformity...discover it and love without limits.

**Help so that the flame remains lit:** You have the challenge of accompanying the youth, that in them the flame of faith, joy, and solidarity remains lit. Radiate your light and permit that each person be brightened with their own light.

Count with me always in this effort of making possible a more human world.

**Jeanne de Lestonnac**

**TO DIALOGUE:**

Set a time to reflect and share with the youth/young adults who will participate in the encounter:

- What is the ideal "human" according to society?



- In your communication with the Company, how do you find the companionship and priority of the human aspect?
- Create with them some ideas (criteria, resources, experiences) that can help accompany the youth in a more accurate manner their human formation.

**FOR EXPRESSION:**

Write a letter to St. Jeanne telling her the characteristics of the youth you accompany, and what you desire for them.

**FOR PRAYER:**

- Reflect in the presence of God.
- Read in silence the letter you wrote to St. Jeanne
- Read in silence: Luke 10: 25-37, The Good Samaritan.
- Ask for the grace of being a good companion in the journey.
- Repeat a couple of times: "Lord give me a merciful heart before all human misery, show me the gesture and the opportune word when facing a person who feels alone and abandoned" Amen.

ACCOMPANY  
TO DECIPHER THE BEAUTY AND REMAIN WITH THE GOOD

To accompany  
is to break bonds  
and cross oceans.  
Contemplate at each harbor  
the beauty, take delight in the good,  
opt for the good.

..And it is to raise anchor once a  
with the soul filled,  
of names and memories  
and of sunsets and a warm sun.



TO LET RESOUND:

We are inserted in a society that drugs itself seeking to forget, that saturates itself in favor of comfort, and well being. A society that over stimulates babies in the womb of mothers assuring harmonized personalities and in its defect produces weak human appearances, without tolerating frustration, incapable of enjoying the simple, with suicidal tendency, fearful to confront reality or of feeling the protagonist in their story.

And in this society we have been entrusted the mission of accompanying, and of permanently showing other values, another way of placing ourselves before faith, before history, before life. We are challenged to enkindle contemplation, silence, the enjoyment of the simple, the natural, the everyday. Accompany to motivate authenticity, liberty, happiness and community, to suggest other possibilities of being and doing.

Let us allow this prayer to resound:

LET US HASTEN



**Let Us Hasten** to celebrate life, four hundred years of history and presence. May the memories live in us, be pressed into the most profound part of our heart, the centuries, the events, the persons. That we feel the joy of being the new learned person and the confidence of having strong and profound roots.

**Let Us Hasten** to transmit to others the joy of having COMPANY. Let us invigorate a new way of seeing our history. Let us hurry and go to the places where opportunities and hopes are lacking. Let us continue announcing that love is possible, that Jesus is alive and lives among us.

**Let Us Hasten** to draw new dreams, to create lands where no boundaries exist, to mold the future with our own hands, to shape with our own life the characteristics of men and women that need our history.

**Let Us Hasten** to sing new songs, with happier rhythms and lyrics that reflect life and that give hope to the most fragile of our world. Let us sing for those who do not have a voice. Let us sing at every moment and in a variety of languages. Let us make the song lessen the cry.

**Let Us Hasten** to put on stage what we are, to mark the difference. To embody the persons that reveal the profound human, the profound Christian. Let us construct fewer dramas and more comedies and that our monologues only speak of peace, of love, of coexisting.

**Let Us Hasten** to dance to the sound of our most authentic rhythms. Let us prolong the party. That the dance unite us and remind us that we are sisters and brothers, citizens of the world, children of one same Father.

**Let Us Hasten...**Let us dress in lights and colors, it is necessary to celebrate life. Let us give thanks for It, for Jeanne and her Project. For Jeanne's first inspiration that has made this encounter possible.

**Let Us Hasten...the world, needs our Company.**

#### **FOR DIALOGUE:**

Set a time to reflect and share with the youth/young adults who will participate in the encounter:



- Which artistic expressions do you believe to be the most beautiful of your country?
- How could art help the youth better their quality of life, in the strengthening of their faith?
- Would it be possible to incorporate art to the formation plans and accompaniment in the Company of Mary? How so?

#### **FOR EXPRESSION:**

Make a drawing using a magnetic paint where it is possible to see the beauty, good, nature and artistry of your context.

#### **FOR PRAYER:**

- Reflect in the presence of God.
- Read in Silence: Mark 4: 26-29
- Ask for the grace to be a good companion in the journey.
- God Creator, of all good and beauty, give me the grace to always walk towards the simple, natural, and authentic. I want to prioritize liberty and always give wings to my dreams, my intuitions. Infuse in me your creator Spirit, so I may endeavor seeking new responses, in recreating life. Amen.

**Liliana Franco odn  
Columbia, June 2006**