

Summary Webinar December 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our precious and large Comboni Family,

We are happy at the beginning of this second webinar to share some insights from our experience during the first webinar (4-5 December, 2020). First of all, we noticed that it was really a family event, given the active participation of everyone. This was also perceived through the work of the groups, which were so rich and that we want to share some of them with you briefly before launching into the second webinar. Later on, through a booklet we will return all the work collected.

The December webinar was an important step on the path that comes from afar, and was an exercise in collaboration between the various branches of the Combonian family, as a stimulus for the future.

Many important points emerged in the groups

First of all, the awareness that in order to transform the system, which kills and excludes the poor, through social ministry, it is necessary to live Comboni communion among ourselves, consecrated and lay, and proximity in the encounter with and among the poor; to adopt the art of listening for discernment, and to reach self-awareness of the movements of the Spirit in contemplation, and in the light of our Charism. This helps us to understand that time is greater than space.

Discovering the signs of the Kingdom from the margins. God reveals himself, always as a guest, in daily life, in often complex events and in the journey of people. The paradigm of everything that happens 'outside' our enclosure is often constitutive of the 'inside', because salvation/Good News always comes as an unprecedented gift and as such must be received.

The culture of the other in the mysticism of the encounter, offers us the possibility of living a peaceful revolution with the other in order to live the Mission to the full. There is no hierarchy in the diversity of cultures, but an opportunity to grasp the beauty of God's presence, which embraces every experience and urges us to learn how to optimise uniqueness in favour of conviviality in differences. Because unity prevails over conflict.

Remembering that we take vows before the Church for the mission. We do not take vows in the name of our own culture. We do not go to announce culture, but the Good News that we have received: Jesus who touched us, called us and sent us.

There is Mercy to be founded as a people through personal, community, social and ecclesial conversion, breaking internal and structural rigidity, permeating ourselves with compassion and mercy, to live the radicality of the message we proclaim as missionaries and missionaries.

Collaboration in the Combonian Family, starting from the positive and encouraging experiences that already exist, such as in youth ministry and social ministry. Aware that it is only by bringing together the various points of view that it is possible to give effective responses to the challenges of mission.

Ministerial Practices for Social Transformation: Social ministry is constitutive of the mission that God has entrusted to the Comboni Family. "Saving Africa with Africa" means accompanying people so that they become protagonists of their lives, assuming their rights and duties as citizens and Christians.

Let us work as builders of a plural humanity. The pandemic, it is true, has brought suffering, fear and death, even in our Combonian family; but there has been no lack of creativity, giving rise to new ideas, helping this synodal process of social ministry to continue its ecclesial and missionary journey into the future.

No matter the age, no matter the fear, this is the TIME to get our hands dirty and to dare. Helped by all that we will see in this Webinar from the mapping of 200 stories of social ministry in the Combonian family.

This second webinar is a powerful moment to make truth in us and with us, as an individual, as a community, as the Comboni Family. Through the data we will see, we ask ourselves if what we are doing is meaningful, if it has an impact in society, if it is still a transforming force in the lives of the poorest who are still increasing today?

Have a good experience together and thank you for being part of this wonderful Comboni Family.