

**Apostolado Encuentro Mass
June 23, 2019**

This great feast of the Church is dedicated to the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ who sustains us. He gives us his very self to feed and accompany us in the mission he entrusted to the members of his Church. We who live the Apostolado de la Cruz can rejoice in a special way in this feast, because it unites us more fully to the spirituality we have received.

St. Paul recalls the giving of the Eucharist with these words: “I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you” (1 Cor). This is the very essence of the life of our Church. We hand on what we have received. In the Apostolado this is no different. Your mission is to share the message of our Lord as he shared it with Blessed Conchita. May we recall these words of our Lord to our patron:

«Tú serás madre de un gran número de hijos espirituales, pero ellos constarán a tu corazón como mil mártires. Ofrécete como holocausto para los sacerdotes, únete a mi sacrificio para obtener gracias para ellos.»

Conchita was called to unite herself fully to the Cross of Christ, and to offer herself in sacrifices the way our Lord did. Each of us has received the mission in a manner different than that of Conchita, but

the same mission has come to us all. We are to carry out this great work through the mode of the Cross, through the mode of sacrifice. As we celebrate our unity in the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, may we remember the true meaning of this source and summit of our faith. Renew your commitment to this unity with the Cross.

We can take inspiration as well from Pope Francis. In audience last year he taught that, “The lives of the faithful, their suffering, their prayer, their work, are united to those of Christ and to his total offering, and in this way they take on a new value... In the bread and wine we present him with the offering of our lives, so that it is transformed by the Holy Spirit in the sacrifice of Christ and becomes with him one offering pleasing to the Father” (28 Feb 2018).

Thanks be to God for the gift of the Eucharist. Thanks be to Jesus Christ for uniting us in his body and blood. Thanks be to the Holy Spirit who makes us one and enlivens us for the mission. We give thanks also for the life of Blessed Conchita, and for her great fidelity to the Lord in building the Apostolado de la Cruz. May her intercession, and the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, help us to unite ourselves to the Cross of Christ, in whose body and blood we have communion.