
SPIRITUAL RETREAT

JUNE
2025



Orden de la Compañía de María Nuestra Señora
PROVINCIA DEL PACÍFICO
| *Order of the Company of Mary Our Lady*



RETREAT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2025

Let us pray very attentively, asking, through Mary Our Lady, the Spirit to unite us and keep us firm in faith and persevering in PRAYER.

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in the same place. Suddenly there came a noise from heaven, like a mighty wind, and filled the whole house where they were. Then there appeared tongues as of fire, which were divided and rested on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:1-4)



The main effect of the presence of the Holy Spirit is the joy that transforms hearts, dispels fears, unifies persons, makes them free and available. And it disposes us to receive the mission that Jesus has received from the Father so that we may reach permanent communion through actions of generosity and service.

Jesus gives his Spirit to heal humanity. Those who have the Holy Spirit are open and disposed to forgiveness through the reconciling encounter and dialogue that knows how to recognize, value and respect the other. They become experts in untying knots and breaking chains, in opening furrows and in planting seeds, in healing wounds and in keeping hope alive.

"Humanity needs Christ as a **bridge** to be reached by God and his love. Help us, and help one another, to build bridges," Pope Leo XIV proclaimed.

What bridges do we have to build in the Church, in the Province, in the Community and in society?





Jesus was the bridge builder par excellence. "The Word became flesh." He bridged the biggest gap we can imagine... the gap between God and humanity. He entered our world. He became one of us.

- **Peace builds bridges, while hatred builds walls. You must decide in life: either I build bridges, or I build walls.**

- **Walls divide** and hatred grows; when there is division, hatred grows. **Bridges unite**, and when there is a bridge, hatred can disappear because I

can hear people talk to each other.

- When you shake hands with a friend, any person, **you build a human bridge**. You create a bridge. On the other hand, when you hit someone, when you insult another person, you build a wall. Hatred always grows alongside the walls.
- Sometimes it may happen that you want to build a bridge and offer your hand, but the other party does not accept it; these are the humiliations we must suffer in life in order to do good.
- **But we always have to build bridges.**

Jesus was always building bridges, transcending borders.

Just look at the kind of people Jesus was dealing with...

- prostitutes and sinners. John 8:3-11
- 'the outcasts (lepers and the sick) Mark 2:5-12
- Heretics (Samaritans and Pagans) John 4
- Co-workers (tax collectors and soldiers) Luke 15:3-7
- 'The weak' and 'the poor' (who have no power) Matthew 25:35-40.

With whom have I built a bridge? Last week? Last month?

Hope is the virtue of the poor, the peasant, the worker and the migrant who sets out in search of a better future, as well as that of those who are open to hospitality, dialogue and mutual acceptance; it is the virtue that pushes everyone to build bridges, to share life.

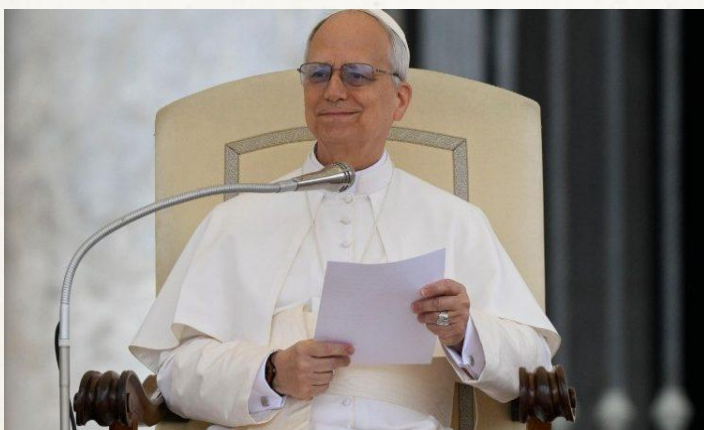




Together we will be able to move forward and overcome as the Company of Mary the great challenges. We share hope with those of us who live in Community, with the laity with whom we carry out the mission, with our families and with all the people with whom we relate and build bridges.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- **What is the newness that impels us to build bridges that will help us to promote coexistence, peace and reconciliation in our world?**
- **How can we cultivate love in our relationships as a means toward the increase of hope?**
- **How does Jesus teach us to build bridges?**
- **What strategies can we implement to strengthen the bonds of communion and foster an inclusive dialogue that reflects the values of the Gospel?**
- **To conclude: What are the calls that the Lord has made to me in this Retreat?**
- **I ask the Holy Spirit to help me discover God's will.**



In the Kingdom of God, what counts is the overflowing love and patient trust of a God who calls for each one of us to manifest that love, the gift of God's mercy.

Always listen to the word of God. Then, listen to others also; know how to build bridges... Let us walk together in the Church.

Pope Leo XIV



