**** *« Youth, faith and vocational discernment »*

*THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN TODAY’S WORLD*

***28th MAY 2018:***

***Let us pray for the young people***

 ***LET US PRAY FOR THE VOCATIONS!***

 ***Let us pray for us!***

***TODAY, IN PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS, READ “Preparatory Document the Synod of Bishops” in joint piece***

**Mary of Nazareth**

The synodal process is entrusted to Mary. In the course of this process, the Church is self-examining herself on how to accompany young people to accept God’s call to the joy of love and the fullness of life. Mary, the young woman of Nazareth, who in every stage of her existence accepted the Word, and preserve it, pondering it in her heart (cf. *Lk*2:19) was the first to fulfill this journey.

Each young person can discover in Mary’s life the way to listen, the courage that faith generates, the depths of discernment and dedication to service (cf. *Lk*1:39-45). In her “lowliness,” the Virgin betrothed to Joseph, experienced human weakness and difficulty in understanding the mysterious will of God (cf. *Lk*1:34). She also was called to live by an exodus from herself and her plans by learning to trust and to confide.

Recalling the “great things” which the Almighty accomplished in her (cf. *Lk*1:49), the Virgin did not feel alone, but fully loved and supported by the “Fear not” of the Angel (cf. *Lk*1:30). Knowing that God is with her, Mary opened her heart to “Here I am”, and thus began the Gospel journey (cf. *Lk*1:38). Woman of Intercession (cf. *Jn*2:3), at the foot of the cross of her Son, united to the “beloved disciple”, again accepted the call to be fruitful and generate life in human history. In her eyes every young person can rediscover the beauty of discernment; in her heart every young person can experience the tenderness of intimacy and the courage of witness and mission.

***Let us pray!***