

DIGNITY

A Gift from God



MOTIVATION

Dealing with the theme of dignity at this time, just after Christmas, is not perchance or mere coincidence, but rather a grace of God to help us to enter this beautiful Mystery, which is the Incarnation: God who becomes Man to enable Man to become God and to help us to understand the greatness of this act for us humans! What an honor! What a respect! What a dignity! So then, let us be at the presence of Emmanuel, “the God with us”, incarnated in Mary’s womb, the one who comes to our world to bear witness to his greatest love for humanity. May he grant us the grace to enter this relationship of love with joy and gratitude for this great gift that he has given to us: a unique and inalienable dignity.

BIBLICAL ILLUMINATION

The story of the creation of mankind: man and woman.

Gen 1,26a: “Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image and likeness’.”
Gen 1,27: “God created man in his own image; male and female he created them”.

SONG: Bob Marley - Get Up Stand Up.

https://youtu.be/X2W3aG8uizA?si=iNWcKdD8_hXEaqY8



WHAT IS DIGNITY?

Human Dignity: A Religious mark.

From the Creation account, we discover God's special regard for human beings, man, and woman, "created as persons who are loved and are capable of loving, created in his own image and likeness", as Pope Francis affirms. Every human being receives, from the creation the same gift, therefore the same value, the same dignity, hence every human life is sacred and worthy of respect.

For centuries, the Church and most of the religions in the world have acknowledged and taught that all human beings are equal, hence they are all entitled to the same respect. By the virtue of being human beings, a special value is attached to them all, for the simple reason that they were all created in the image of God.

Dignity, is therefore, one of the most beautiful and precious gifts that God has ever bestowed on humanity, because it is an intrinsic part of human nature; It is something that the divine being gives to human beings irrespective of their class, race, sex, religion, abilities, or any other factor other than simply being human beings. This is one of the most beautiful facets of God's infinite Love for humanity. For this reason, the life of every human being sacred and worthy of respect.

Human dignity: A mark for human rights.

The term "dignity" has evolved over the years. Originally, its meaning had nothing to do with the value inherent in a person. Rather, it referred to "merit". That's if someone was "worthy," it meant that one had a high social ranking because one belonged to royalty, the Church, possessed wealth, etc.

The expression, as we understand it today, had a different meaning then until 1948. It was at that time, that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was ratified by the United Nations, stated in its Article 1 that: "All human beings are born free and are equal in dignity and rights."

Consequently, dignity then became something that was no longer bestowed by social ranking; class, race, or other privileges, but rather, an inherent characteristic of the human being. Therefore, Human rights is naturally derived from human dignity.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted in 1966, also perpetuates this conviction. The preamble affirms that "... These rights derive from the inherent dignity of the human person." By redefining dignity as something which is inherent in every human being, it therefor establishes the universal rights and impels us to respect every life, however it may be.

YOU, matter,



OUR CONSTITUTIONS OF 2011

The Congregation is not left out in this conviction that every person is worthy of respect, since the reason for its existence is to continue to be the sign of God's love for humanity. Therefore, Since its origins, the Congregation has been attentive to the rights of all persons. This explains the reason why within the Congregation there has always been "only one class of Sisters with the same rights and duties" Const. 105.

- Const. 6: "The Charism received by our Founders and First Sisters is a dynamic gift of the Spirit... universal charity, chiefly to the poorest and neediest, charity made hospitality to the point of heroism".

Human dignity cannot be dissociated from God's love for the person, both male and female; it is out of love that God created them in His own image; this dignity as children of God, with time, could be, trampled underfoot by sickness, poverty, and injustice of all kinds.

For this reason, if we go deep down into our Charism, we will understand that the lives of our Founders; Father John Bonal and Mother Maria Rafols, as well as that of our First Sisters, was a response to God's call to restore or defend the human dignity that was being trampled down among the men and women of their time.

They were human rights advoctes of their time, they fought against injustice against orphans, at the Hospital of Our Lady of Grace, and wherever they found themselves.

Today, it behooves us who share in this gift, to bear witness, like Jesus Christ, to the love of God the Father for every person, man, and woman, without distinction, living according to the signs of times and promoting a culture of good treatment and care.

CC. 6.7.



COMPLAINT SHEET TO GOD

1. LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GODS IN THE EARTH:

(Mark with an X the person who is going to complain)

- Jesus
- Mary
- Saint Peter
- Saint Paul
- Blessed María Ràfols
- Venerable Juan Bonal
- Others:

2. DATA OF THE COMPLAINANT:

Name and Surname:
Province:
Country:
Phone:

ID/Passport:

3. PROBLEM WHICH MOTIVATES THE COMPLAINT:

Unworthy acts.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE FACT:

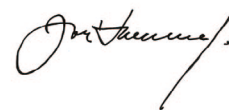
APPLICATION:

Please bear in mind this writing and proceed with its transmission in accordance with the procedure that corresponds to your case.

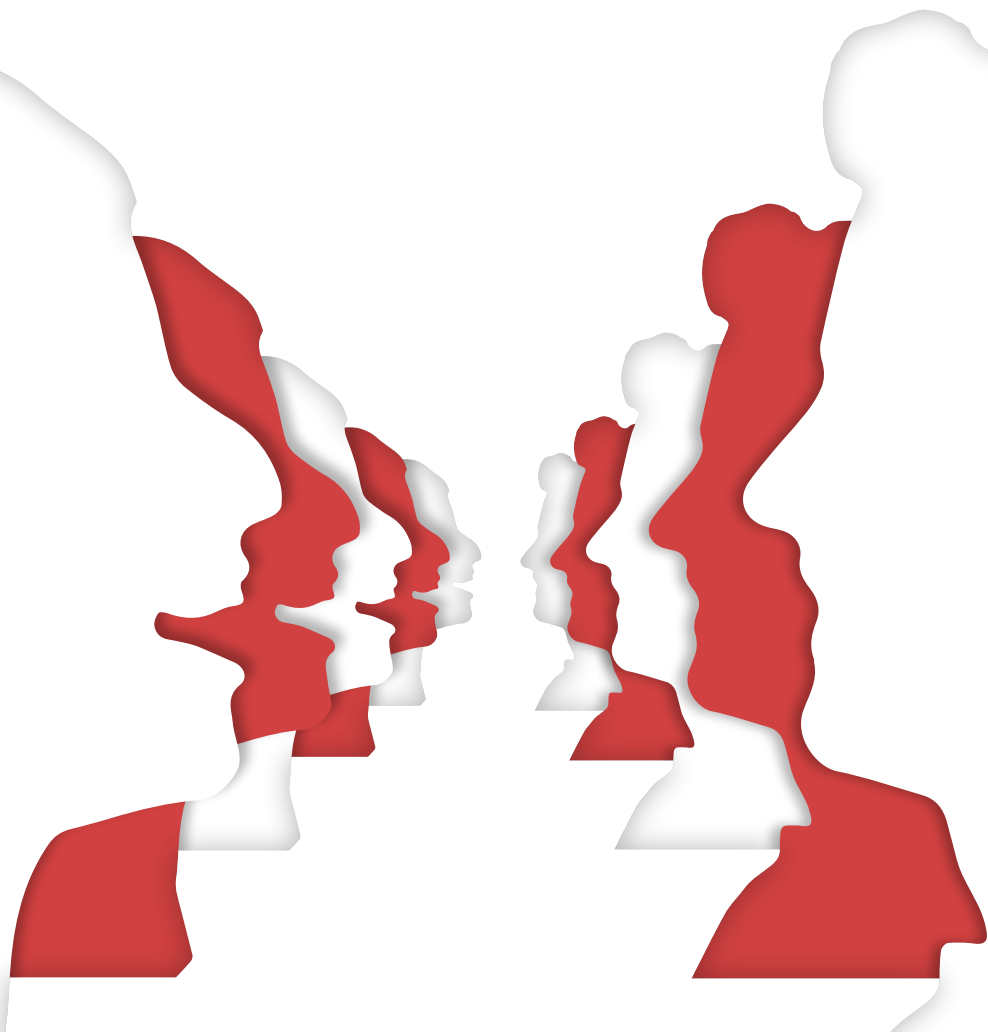
In Date

Signed

*Nobody performs her or his duties. Governments do not, because they do not know, they are not able or they do not wish, or because they are not permitted by those who effectively govern the world: The multinational and pluricontinental companies whose power – absolutely nondemocratic – reduce to next to nothing what is left of the ideal of democracy. We citizens are not fulfilling our duties either. Let us think that no human rights will exist without symmetry of the duties that correspond to them. It is not to be expected that governments in the next 50 years will do it. Let us common citizens therefore speak up. **With the same vehemence as when we demanded our rights, let us demand responsibility over our duties.** Perhaps the world could turn a little better.*



VIEW: DUTY TO ACT. <https://youtu.be/B1mxsOp86AM?si=u1ID97jq1vTQxFas>



REFLECTION

-How do I define and live my dignity as a Daughter of God?

-I take a good look at my Sister in my community, who is different from me, how do I respect her?

-What is my community doing or going to do to implement the culture of good treatment or caring?

-Following in the footsteps of our Founders, Father John Bonal, Mother Maria Rafols and our First Sisters, how can I preserve the dignity of the persons whose rights have been trampled upon?

CLOSING PRAYER

Prayer to the Creator
Lord and Father of Mankind,
Who created all human beings with equal dignity,
bestow in our hearts a fraternal spirit.
Instill in us the desire of reunion, dialogue, justice, and peace.
Inspire us to create healthier societies
and a more dignified world,
without hunger, without poverty, without violence, without wars.

May our hearts be opened
to all the peoples and nations of the earth,
to acknowledge the goodness and the beauty
that you sowed in each one of them, to strengthen the bonds of unity,
of common projects, and of shared hope.

-Pope Francis-

Song: Bobby McFerrin - Don't Worry Be Happy. <https://youtu.be/d-diB65sc-QU?si=s34eYYmBJ26XvQs8>

Protecting Caring



HCSA