



# Salt and Light

Publication of the Latin American Secular Branch. May 2024. Number 1.

## LAY IDENTITY SS.CC. AND PRAYER

**Lay identity is framed in the baptismal communion that makes us part of God's People.**

After many years trying to define lay life, based on differentiation, or on complementarity or on the tasks that are carried out, we have the joy of finally recognizing that all of this is accessory for all of us who want to live in the Church. In the last years of our journey as a Church, we know that we are called to live as a people, and to follow Jesus from our diversity of vocations and charismas. The only foundation of our ecclesial life is baptism, thanks to which we are all people of God and called to communion and participation.

### Questions:

**What has it meant for our lay experience to rediscover our common condition of baptized men and women?**

**What difficulties do we find in our groups or communities to live this baptismal dignity in our Church and in our Congregation?**

**Lay identity ss.cc. It is present today in different experiences, but one purpose: to live the ss.cc charism from the experience of the lay vocation.**

Within the history of the ss.cc family has been creating different forms of connection from lay life: brotherhoods, external associations, groups around worship or the Consecration of the Sacred Hearts in families, and more recently the Secular Branch. They all coexist for the greatest honor and glory of our Congregation. These lay organizations in turn coincide with the life and simple testimony of many lay people in parishes, aid organizations, schools, foundations and volunteer organizations, among others. All this great set of lay presences turns out to be the support of a testimony that throughout the ss.cc path. They have made and continue to make lay people, all with a valuable experience of spirituality.

The challenge of all these groups and experiences should not be focused on trying to differentiate themselves from other experiences or lay groups. The great task of all these lay experiences is to promote the maturation and fullness of the lay vocation within our ss.cc family. This task is a great platform from which we are called to communion and collaboration among all lay men and women who embrace SS.CC spirituality. From this perspective, there is therefore no more or less important lay group or testimony within our family, since they all enrich the varied presence of the laity in the world and in the Church.

### Questions:

**How do you live SSCC spirituality in your group or community?**

**From your group or experience, do you think that SS.CC. lay identity is promoted?**

**The experience of prayer within ss.cc spirituality invites us lay men and women ss.cc. to live adoration and the Eucharist more intensely.**

The lay vocation, like all Christian vocations, is enriched in prayer, as a means of communication and deepening of the discernment of testimony and as a dialogue with God. This experience has in the ss.cc family. a very special way of living it, and that is Eucharistic adoration. Adoration is an experience of prayer that has its source in the Eucharist and that, from the experience of the founders, offers us a reparative and intercessory dimension, which makes it an experience and a permanent task.

**Questions:**

What difficulties do we encounter in living prayer in our daily lives?

What challenges do you think we lay sacred hearts have in being able to live Eucharistic adoration?

**ADDITIONAL NOTE:** We attach the link to the documents that have served as the basis for the writing of this text. To deepen reading and reflection. Link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/116-rSLK49wuZRI4N3mA9n9womFj8giXq?usp=sharing>

**TO CONTINUE THIS PATH .... (click on the image)**

“The Nursery” recounts the formation of the community in Poitiers, its first steps and the votes of the founding group.



## RETIRO

La Congregación:  
la obra de Dios



We invite the brothers, sisters and lay people to this time of retreat in preparation for the General Chapters. This retreat can be a favorable time for discernment and listening to God in his Word, our brothers and sisters, in the cries of our world and our planet.

### WE PRESENT A NEW SECTION: ELARS NEWS.

We take another step in the development of our publication, incorporating from this date into our reflection the sharing of the experience and journey of the sectors of the SS.CC Secular Branch in Latin America. This new section is in charge of the team of ELARS correspondents, which we have managed to organize starting this year 2024. Without further ado, we present this material, which we hope will motivate the testimony and commitment and life of all the lay men and women of the SS. CC.

## NOTICIAS ELARS

Producido por el equipo de  
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