Summary of Day 4

Theme: Deepening self understanding of Lay Apostolic Body

The day started with presentation and acceptance of the 3 new communities namely Lithuania, Guatemala and Botswana to the World body. Thereafter, Congo DRC, Uruguay and Portugal shared their experiences of apostolic mission at the national level. The delegates later split into small groups to share their national experiences.

Franklin presented the four levels of lay apostolic mission namely:

a. Our ordinary activities i.e. our experiences at the family level, work; church etc
b. Institutional works e.g. running of schools, preparing couples for marriage and training lay people as spiritual guides
c. International actions, e.g. the Dominican 4% campaign requiring the government to commit 4% GDP to education
d. Collaboration with Jesuits and others

He concluded that the biggest part of our mission lies in the level of ordinary activities and is mainly invisible but supports the whole body. All of CLC are called for the Magis.

There were twelve groups divide into the four thematic groups and sharing of challenges of living as an apostolic body discussed.

Looking back at the day, we cannot fail to see how privileged we are to be here in Lebanon, a country which is part of the history of the Holy Land. Some of these are;

i. The mention of Lebanon 80 times in the Holy Bible
ii. The Cedars of Lebanon were used by King Solomon to build the temple in Jerusalem.
iii. The Syro-Phoenician woman who displayed great persistence when she met our Lord Jesus and sought His intervention in her child’s illness was from a region in Lebanon.
iv. On several occasions in His teachings, Jesus Christ made reference to the Lebanon cities of Tyre and Sidon.

On Christian Life Community and Society of Jesus collaboration, we need to consider the following:

a. Collaboration in lay Ignatian spirituality
b. Collaboration in formation of CLC
c. Collaboration in formation of Jesuits
d. Collaboration in formation of Jesuit works at non-institutional level
e. Collaboration in formation of Jesuit works at institutional level
f. Collaboration in creating new CLC apostolic works
g. Collaborate with the three new secretariats created by Fr. General Nicholas

“There is no future for both CLC and the Society of Jesus without collaboration”.

To realize the fruits of these areas of collaboration, two important questions must be asked:

i. How can the SJ help CLC in its growth as a lay apostolic body?
ii. What other groups can CLC collaborate with?
The day ended with celebration of the holy mass facilitated by Latin America delegation and we were reminded of Moses encounter with the burning bush hence all entered the church barefoot.

Kenya delegation