Day 7 – Monday August 5th

Theme: Touching new frontiers

Before breakfast, as usual, we could see many of our members in the Assembly Chapel and in other quiet places on the silent morning prayer.

The plenary session started with a common prayer which was based on Mark 3:31-35 opened our hearts for the topic of the day which was Family. The Process Guide highlighted how God had worked in us yesterday, guiding us through joyful consolations and sad consolations.

Presentations on today’s topic were given by Prof. Fernando Vidal, from the CLC of Spain, the Director of the University Institute of Family Studies, Madrid. He presented the report prepared by experts. The topics were:

- Reality of families today, the diversity of family models and relating problems
- Lights on the family mission particularly, using Ignatian Spirituality to build up family life, including recommendations’ of our Popes about the family (Benedict XVI and Francis).
- Proposal for actions that can be undertaken by CLC.

The second input was done by Malesabe Makgothi from South Africa, who shared her personal experience of her family life giving us a moving example of family problems of today and of how CLC can support people in their difficulties.

After individual prayer and reflection we met in small groups, the same as yesterday, sharing what enlightened, annoyed and disturbed us about the topic. We agreed recommendations, of how the CLC community could respond to the family dynamics.

On the afternoon our Assembly divided into three tourist groups with the choice of the ancient city of Byblos; Zouk, Harissa – the statue of the Virgin Mary; Bay 183 – a place to rest on a beach and to enjoy the sea.

As our delegation went to the second place, we share the picture with you.

There was an option in the evening to hear about the role of CLC as a NGO in the UN and other advocacy projects.