

# CLC Commitment - Points for meditation

Saturday, July 20, 2024 VTL

[Trích CLC COMMITMENTS HANDBOOK, Formation Team CLC-Portugal]

## CLC: AN APOSTOLIC BODY

1. The Church – community of the followers of the Resurrected Jesus Christ – is the first and largest community to which we, as Christians, belong; it's our primordial community. Within the Church, many smaller communities have appeared, with their own identities, which, without overshadowing the whole, are an inexhaustible source of richness and diversity for the Church in its entirety. (p.6)
2. CLC fulfils those requirements: it has a history, its own style, a way of life and its own language and spiritual pedagogy. Beyond the limit of each small local community, there is a vibrant group of people journeying through their life guided by the same principles and rooted in the same fruitful stump of Ignatian spirituality. All over the world, there is a wide network of people partaking the same way of life and sharing the conviction that CLC is their vocation; people for whom CLC is their privileged place within the Church, where they respond to the Lord's call and from which they are sent in mission. (p.6)
3. We are united in this apostolic body by many affinities and things we share in common, but, fundamentally, one belongs and desires to belong to it because, at the beginning, before all else, there is a personal call from God to the person each one of us is, there is a personal challenge from God to each one of us: "I call you! Is it HERE that you want to serve me?" (p.6)
4. The very expression "apostolic body" contains in itself the perception of union, link, and bond, that is to say, "commitment". We are a "body" as long as we are, not only united, but above all committed by the same spirituality, by the same way of proceeding, by the same ideals and by a common mission. *"A body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body"* - 1 Cor 12,12 (p.5)

## VOCATION

5. [CLC Charism #4] *"The foundation of CLC formation and renewal is the value of each person and the conviction that each person has a divine vocation, which embraces all dimensions of that person's existence. God calls everyone. God takes the initiative, but respects our personal freedom. Each individual discovers this call when he/she listens to it and accepts God's wishes. This call of God is a personal vocation, which reveals itself in our deepest inclinations and our most authentic desires. Our free response to God's call is what gives meaning and dignity to our existence."*
6. [CLC Charism #164]: *"Membership of the Christian Life Community requires a personal vocation."*

When anyone feels a strong personal identification with this path and senses a personal call to be part of this body, then it would make no sense not to speak of CLC Commitment. (p.6)

7. And to discover a vocation is also to understand where one is called to be actively Christian, the mission one is called upon to accomplish in this world in order to collaborate in the building of the Kingdom as a follower of Jesus. The discovery of the vocation opens the way to the mission and it's in this binomial vocation/mission that the identity of each one as a Christian takes shape. (p.6)

#### MISSION and SERVICE (Specific Activities)

8. [CLC Charism #15]. *"Vocation is intimately linked to mission. When a Christian deepens his or her bonds of friendship with the Lord, He entrusts a mission to them. Vocation has its origin in the entering of God into their lives and needs time to transform their hearts, binding them totally to Christ. The mission entrusted to them by Christ is a deep, permanent and growing desire born out of this bond."*
9. [CLC Charism #98] *"The initial vocation to follow Jesus will unfold in specific activities. But, for these activities to become mission, it is necessary that the community assume the call, help to discern and, finally, send each one on mission. In this sense perhaps, it would be more correct to speak of personal involvement in the Church's mission."*

#### TEMPORARY/PERMANENT COMMITMENT

10. It's important to keep in mind always that the Commitments are not made with CLC. Those making them, when they do so, are making a commitment with God. CLC is just the ecclesial space of recognition of God's calling and the Community that mediates the support and the concrete realization of the response to that vocation. (p.10)
11. [CLC Charism, #177] *"Temporary Commitment is the **expression of a desire** to live according to the CLC way of life. This commitment implies a search for the vocation to which the Lord is calling the individual, and the discernment of this vocation."*

The Temporary Commitment is a commitment for a search for confirmation, but still an open search. It may be that what seems to be in the beginning, might not be, after all, and it may result in choosing a way other than CLC. It is, thus, playing with words, a Commitment "without commitment". [p.8]

12. [CLC Charism, #192] *"Permanent Commitment is the culmination of our vocational discernment in which we express our desire to discover God's will and fulfil it in our apostolic life, in answer to our specific call and our readiness to be sent on mission."*

The Permanent Commitment is an affirmation of full Christian maturity made by a disciple who recognizes him/herself called to be also an apostle. It is a public proclamation of someone who, in a clearly discerned and confirmed way, has discovered in CLC his/hers specific identity before God, and a personal way of being in the Church and in the World. [p.9]

In short, the Permanent Commitment is the public proclamation that the Christian Life Community is the apostolic body where we wish to live the charism to which the Spirit of the Lord is calling us, committing ourselves with its spirituality and its way of life, and becoming available to be sent and taking responsibility for the mission of the whole body.[p.9]



## GỢI Ý ĐỂ CHIA SẺ:

1. *"Như thế, ơn gọi là lời triệu gọi của Chúa được tỏ ra trong những ước ao sâu thẳm nhất và những khát vọng cao cả nhất nơi chúng ta. Việc chúng ta tự do đáp trả lời gọi của Chúa làm cho cuộc sống chúng ta có ý nghĩa và có phẩm giá."* ( DS #4)

**Tôi đã gặp gỡ Chúa và đã cảm nhận được Ngài đang ao ước những gì nơi tôi?**

2. *"Thành viên DH-CLC nhận ra ơn gọi của mình trong Giáo Hội qua hình thức đặc biệt này (CLC) của đời Ki-tô hữu."* (DS #16)

**Tôi đã khám phá ra ơn gọi CLC của tôi như thế nào?**

**Theo nhận thức của tôi, lối sống CLC có những đặc điểm độc đáo nào làm cho tôi đi đến quyết định đây là lối sống tôi lựa chọn ?**

3. **Tôi hiểu biết ra sao về lịch sử của CLC ? Và ĐỒNG HÀNH-CLC ?**

4. [ĐS #18] *Đoàn sủng và linh đạo của CLC có đặc tính I-nhã. Như thế, Linh Thao của thánh I-nhã vừa là nguồn gốc của đoàn sủng vừa là phương tiện đặc thù của linh đạo CLC*

**Tôi hiểu biết ra sao về Đoàn Sủng và những Nguyên Tắc Căn Bản của CLC?**

5. **Tôi đã có kinh nghiệm về Linh Thao như thế nào? Linh Thao đã giúp đời sống tâm linh của tôi ra sao?**
6. **Tôi đã áp dụng vào lối sống của tôi trong cả ba chiều kích căn bản là Tâm linh, Cộng đoàn và Sứ Mệnh như thế nào?**
7. **Trong đời sống phục vụ, tôi đã có những kinh nghiệm được Cộng đoàn/Nhóm giúp Nhận định, Sai đi, Trợ giúp và Thẩm định như thế nào? (Discern, Send, Support, Evaluation)**