

*Accende lumen sensibus, / infunde amorem cordibus,  
infirmis nostri corporis, / virtute firmans perpeti.*

*Hostem repellas longius / pacemque dones protinus,  
ductore sic te praeviso / vitemus omne noxium.*

*Per te sciamus da Patrem / noscamus atque Filium,  
teque utriusque Spiritum / credamus omni tempore.*  
**Amen!**



### **PREGHIERA A MARIA**

**Vergine e Madre, Maria!** Noi vorremmo penetrare e partecipare, quanto possibile, alla pienezza dello Spirito Santo di cui fosti ricolma quando dicesti: Sì! al progetto di Dio Salvatore. Noi ti preghiamo: ottienici dallo stesso Santo Spirito l'umile docilità e disponibilità ad accogliere la divina Parola, a viverla con amore, a non impoverirla della sua forza creativa... a gloria della santissima Trinità per la fedeltà della Chiesa alla sua missione di pace e salvezza, per una nuova primavera del nostro Istituto, dedicato, da Maddalena, a far memoria dei tuoi dolori, o Madre della Carità sotto la Croce. **Amen!**

### **PREGHIERA A S. MADDALENA**

**Dio onnipotente ed eterno,** che hai posto nei tuoi Santi una grande luce e un forte sostegno all'umana debolezza, degnati di esaudire la nostra preghiera, avvalorata dall'intercessione di S. Maddalena di Canossa. Donaci la grazia di seguire Cristo umile e povero e di camminare nella fedeltà alla tua Parola, per giungere fino a Te e partecipare un giorno alla tua gloria insieme con tutti i Santi. Per Cristo nostro Signore. **Amen!**



## **OPENING PRAYER AND RITUAL**

### **XVII GENERAL CHAPTER**

**August 8, 2022**

### **GENERAL CURIA, ROME**



*\* Participants gather outside around a pre-arranged blazing fire ...*

**L. 1** Let us pause for a moment of silence to acknowledge the Lord's presence in our midst. Let us remember our Sisters back in our Provinces and communities whom we know are with us in spirit and prayers. Let us ask our Sisters who have passed on to the next life to intercede for us.

*\* Pause: Background music*

***"I come to set the world on fire, and I wish it were already burning."***

*Lk. 12:49*

We come, aware of the times we find ourselves touched by fire, fire that can burn, disfigure and destroy, fire that can purify and refine, fire that can transform and change, fire that can warm and comfort.

***In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

**L. 2** God, Source of Life, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit, we gather in your presence.

**Gr. 1** **You are the fire that never burns out; You consume in your heat all the soul's self-love.**

**Gr. 2** **You are the flame that drives away the cold.  
Give us your light that we may know all truth,  
clothe us with yourself, Eternal Truth,  
that we may spend these days in obedience to your will  
and in the light of your love.**

**L. 1** There is always a danger that we settle for the tame and the safe in our spiritual, communal and ministerial life. At the threshold of this significant event of our General Chapter, let us dare to pray this prayer believing that the Holy Spirit is a **Fire of renewal, a Fire that strips away and prepares us for what comes next.**

**All** **Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

**\* *Let us take a step forward near the fire and raise both hands over it.***

**L. 2** **May we learn** from our experiences with fire. May we have the courage to sit in the fire of diversity. May we have the endurance to stay centered in the heat of stirrings and challenges. May we have the fortitude to walk in the fire of conflict and tensions. May we know and respond to the seething fire of longing for the Kingdom of God and passion for His justice. May we, likewise, be soothed by the fire of love and devotion. And may we emerge from whatever fire has touched us during the Chapter: purified, re-formed, transformed.

**L. 1** **Guide us, O God,** to use the fire's intensity to change, the fire's light to see and understand, the fire's pillar as our guide, and the fire's heat to create and recreate renewal. May we be filled with the Spirit, the One who is Fire! **All: Amen.**

**G. 1** We are called by a God who is eternal newness. He impels us constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar, to the fringes and beyond. He takes us where humanity is most wounded, where men and women, beneath the appearance of a shallow conformity, continue to seek an answer to the question of life's meaning. (GE 135) We are constantly called to move forward, to walk with the changing time and respond to the present emerging needs.

• ***Let us walk towards the Chapter Hall singing "We are called"***

***Come! live in the light!***

*Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called to be light for the kingdom,  
to live in the freedom of the city of God!*

***Refrain: We are called to act with justice.***

***We are called to love tenderly.***

***We are called to serve one another,  
to walk humbly with God.***

***Come! Open your heart!***

*Show your mercy to all those in fear!  
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,  
so all hatred and blindness will be no more!*

***Sing! Sing a new song!***

*Sing of that great day when all will be one!  
God will reign and we'll walk with each other as sisters  
And brothers united in love!*

**\* *With the singing of **Veni Creator Spiritus**, let's accompany m. General as she enthrones the Bible in the Chapter Hall, while the Councillors, each carrying a candle, follows her in procession .***

***Veni, Creator Spiritus*** / *mentes tuorum visita,  
imple superna gratia, / quae tu creasti pectora.*

***Qui diceris Paraclitus,*** / *altissimi donum Dei,  
fons vivus, ignis, caritas / et spiritalis unctio.*

***Tu septiformis munere,*** / *digitus paternae dexterae  
tu rite promissum Patris / sermone ditans guttura.*

