

A house built on the rock

Piarist Christian Community in Carora

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A Piarist Christian community is ...

"He who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice resembles a prudent man, who built his house on rock. The rain came, the crests came down, the winds were unleashed and hit the house; but it did not fall, for it was built on rock" (Mt 7:24-25). For me, this is the Piarist Christian community, the fruit of prudence, daring, perseverance and commitment of religious, lay members of the Piarist Fraternity and other people, who despite the personal challenges, the setbacks of the various communities and groups, the vicissitudes of each age, firm on the rock that is Christ,

they unite around a project, in tune with the Province, the Order and with our mother the Church in order to revive their faith, grow in calasanzian identity and trying to give life to the words of Jesus *"Because I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me to drink; I was an outsider, and you took me in; I was naked, and you clothed me; sick, and you visited me; in prison, and you came to see me"* (Mt 25:35-36), it is also the Piarist Christian community, one that educates, welcomes, heals, accompanies, comforts and nourishes.

Origin

I think it took his first steps with Fr. Alfonso Olazábal, who by the 80s, was parish priest and teacher at the secondary level of the school, ministries that allowed him greater openness and a more integrative vision of the presence, initiating with it, not only the formation of youth groups with the participation of young people from the parish and the school, to whom he would give the responsibility of carrying out the youth and children's ministry, but also opened himself to the incorporation of other lay groups that were twinned around the Sunday Eucharist. Part of this generation today remains in the presence encouraging and promoting the various works and platforms of Piarist mission.

Description

The Christian community of my presence is joyful, effective, diverse, committed, a community of men and women who, from their particular vocations, try to walk together, being witnesses of life for others, and who, despite their fragility, virtues, from the role and place they occupy, contribute their gifts and talents and put them at the service of others.

They are part of our community, teachers, volunteers, monitors and collaborators, families, students, alumni, shared mission teams, members of the Piarist Fraternity, the Itaka Foundation, the Calasanz Cultural Center, the Labor Training Center, and groups of the Calasanz Movement.

Each one, although with different dynamics, rhythms and itineraries that respond to their level of involvement within the presence, knows that they animate the same project aligned with the Province and the Order, they meet monthly in the Sunday Eucharist, in strong liturgical times through coexistence, retreats and in other formative and festive meetings, celebratory celebrations to strengthen communion and fraternity.

Importance in the presence project

The Piarist Christian community is the heart, there are the pastoral agents who guarantee the integral sustainability of the various works and projects of evangelization, without it, the pastoral project would be a dead letter, it would lack life and strength.



Difficulties. Challenges for the future.

To walk in a key of synodality, to strengthen the identity, to center the narrative in the Word, to take care of the encounters in common, especially the Eucharist, the accompaniment of the Piarist subject and to mark a common horizon through the project of presence.

Difficulties that become challenges, overcoming self-referentiality, fragmentation and individualism, the marked clericalism of a good part of the laity and some religious, the temptation of the religious and the laity to create dependence, and to go from being a very activist Christian community to a deeper one in prayer and interior life.

