

Divine Service



Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider

unedited

PENTECOST

Date	Sunday, June 6, 2022
Place / Country	Central church Buenos Aires, Argentina
District Apostle Area	District Apostle Minio
Bible text	1 Corinthians 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
Opening hymn	Honras, glorias, te damos gran Dios (International Hymnal 255)
Apostles	District Apostles: Michael Deppner, Michael Ehrich, Joseph Ekhuya, Edy Isnugroho, Leonard Kolb, Rüdiger Krause, John Kriel, Enrique Minio, Peter Schulte, Kububa Soko, Rainer Storck, Tshitshi Tshisekedi, Mark Woll, Jürg Zbinden District Apostle Helpers: David Devaraj, Frank Dzur, John Fendt, Arnold Mhango, João Misselo, Patrick Mkhwanazi, Helge Mutschler, Robert Nsamba Apostles: José Bonaite, Guillermo Canessa, Herman Ernst, Jorge Franco, Claudio González, Reinaldo Milczuk, Gerardo Zanotti
Called to serve	District Apostle Helper Helge Mutschler, District Apostle John Kriel
Ordination	Apostles Pablo Basso, Néstor Manzelli, Claudio Videla
Official acts	Holy Communion for the departed Retirement Apostles Guillermo Canessa, Gerardo Zanotti
Translation	English to Spanish, German and Portuguese
Transmission	Audio-visually to South and North America
Attendance	887 (central church) and 39.940 via transmission

Opening hymn

Opening prayer

In the name of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Almighty God, God of power, and God of glory. We bow deeply before You and we worship and adore You. We are aware that you are the Almighty One, that nothing is impossible for You. We have experienced that You are the God of love and mercy, whose love and mercy is much bigger than whatever we can imagine. We have experienced Your patience; we experience Your help in our daily life. And we thank You for all these experiences and this knowledge. It is so wonderful to know who You are really. We thank You have sent Your Holy Spirit on earth, and that You are always present in Your church through the Holy Spirit. This, too, we could experience many, many times. We thank You for the activity and the efficiency of the Holy Spirit. Now, knowing that You are our Father. We come to you with all our concerns, our questions, our sufferings. Dear Heavenly Father, take care of Your children. Help our brother, help our sister, who is suffering, comfort them; let them experience that You are always with them. And, as soon as you can change their situation, please do it. We pray for all men who are suffering because of war, of injustice, and for so many other reasons. Please, grant them your help, too. And now, allow all our beloved ones from the beyond to join us. And all together, bless us, strengthen us, grant us Your peace and Your grace. Hear us in Jesus' name.

Bible Text:

“Do you not know you are the temple of God and that the spirit of God dwells in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16)

Choir: Hoy es el día que Dios ha creado (regional Choir Hymnal 44)

Reading for Pentecost

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: you know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. Therefore, I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

Chief Apostle Schneider

Dear brothers and sisters, we are really grateful and thank our Heavenly Father that He answered your prayers, and our prayers, and that He has made it possible that we can celebrate the feast of Pentecost, here, in your midst. We were longing for it, and it is just wonderful to experience it. We are also very grateful that all the District Apostles and District Apostle Helpers could join us here. And I must say their presence means something special for me, and maybe for you too. For me, they represent all the children of God, all the New Apostolic

Christians worldwide. Together, they are in charge of the worldwide Church, and through them we can connect in Spirit with all the brothers and sisters worldwide. And when I think about the worldwide people of God, it strikes me how different they can be. What strikes is the huge diversity that exists among the people of God. First, they live in different countries; and you know, in some countries there is safety and peace, but in a number of countries there is high criminality and war. Some countries are very developed, some others are much less developed. Some countries are very wealthy, others are very poor. And that impacts the conditions of living for our brothers and sisters, and actually that is very different. There is also a huge diversity in our Church. In some countries, we have millions of members, and in some countries maybe just a dozen. There are children of God who belong to a huge congregation, and others that are just alone, isolated. And when you look at their personal, individual situation, then I think the diversity becomes even bigger. Some are very healthy; others have always been sick. There are poor ones, there are rich ones. Some live very long, and the direction of life of others is a very short one. Some have plenty of gifts, and skills, and potential; and others have got much less. Actually, a huge diversity. And, as human beings, we cannot explain it. And every attempt to try to explain it doesn't work. It is useless to think about it, you won't find an answer. All we know is that God wants to eliminate this injustice. He wants to lead all men to a new creation, where there is no injustice; where all men will be delivered from the evil, from death and sickness. That is all we know.

But on Pentecost, we celebrate, we commemorate, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. And that is the great thing in the story. When we consider all children of God, reborn out of water and the spirit, all of them, each of them has been given the same gift, exactly the same gift, the gift of the Holy Spirit. And thus, they have received the possibility to be transformed into the image of Christ. They have been given the possibility to enter the kingdom of God as firstlings. And each one who has been reborn out of water and the spirit has received exactly the same gift of the Holy Spirit. He has got exactly the same possibility, the same chance to enter the kingdom of God as firstlings. It doesn't matter the conditions he is living in. It doesn't matter if he is healthy or not, rich, or not, whether he is gifted or not gifted at all. It depends only on one point, his will. If he wants to be transformed into the image of Christ, if he is resolute to enter the kingdom of God as firstling, God will provide all he needs to do it. Whatever conditions he is living in, and that is the great comfort of Pentecost. Dear brothers and sisters, we have got the same gift, the same possibility. If you really want to be transformed into the image of Christ, if you do want to enter the kingdom of God as firstlings, you will do it because God will provide you with everything you need. It doesn't matter which congregation you belong to, what age you are, etc. Let us be resolute to enter the kingdom of God and to be transformed into the image of Christ. I tell you: you can do so.

On Pentecost, we also celebrate, and commemorate the birthday of the Church of Christ. The Church of Christ became visible on earth at Pentecost for the assembly of the believers who were sealed with the Holy Spirit. And Apostle Paul compares here the Church with a temple. He says the church is the temple of the New Covenant. And he adds that each believer is a stone incorporated by God into this building. You know what the temple meant for the people of Israel in the Old Covenant. In the Old Testament, the temple was the dwelling place of God on earth. The people of Israel came to the temple to meet God, to have an encounter with God. So, they gathered together in the temple to meet God, to praise Him, to give Him thanks. When they were attacked by their enemies, they came together to the temple, and they called on for His help: 'Please, deliver us from our enemies!'. They came also to ask God to forgive them. And to

be forgiven they brought their sacrifices. And they shouted to God, 'Please, be graceful!'. That was the Old Testament. So, Paul says the Church is the temple of God in the New Testament. We can say, actually, that the Church is the assembly of the believers who are baptised, who follow Christ. And we too, we come together in the divine service, in the fellowship of the children of God to meet God. And knowing that we meet God, in the divine service, when we gather together, we praise together His name, and we express our gratitude. We do so in our prayers, through the songs and the music, we bring our offerings to thank God, and we do good to our neighbour. That is also a way to express our gratitude to God: serving each other, doing good one another. Knowing that Jesus said: 'Whatever you do to my brother, to my sister, to the least of my brothers, to the least of my sisters, you do it to Me'. So, it is a great way to express our gratitude when we gather together in the fellowship of the children of God, and we do good to each other. We also gather together to call on the help of God. And, especially, we want Him to deliver us from our enemy. We know, when we come here and ask God to help us, He will do so! And for sure, we can come to our Heavenly Father, and tell Him all our concerns concerning our earthly life, and we trust Him, He is our Father, He knows what we need. **He will grant us what we need.** And when we pray for each other, He will listen to us.

But, for sure, our most important prayer is, 'deliver us from the evil one'; lead us into your kingdom, in the freedom. And God will answer this prayer. He is already working on it, to deliver us from the evil one. We also come and ask God to forgive our sins. And actually, when we pray together the Lord's Prayer, we confess our sins, and we pray together 'Forgive my sins, and forgive my brother, forgive my sister their sins'. And God also answers this prayer. And what is nice, we don't have to bring our sacrifices to obtain forgiveness. Because we know Jesus Christ, He has brought the sacrifice. He has brought it once, and that is enough. His sacrifice is eternally valid for all men. So, when we gather together, we don't have to bring any sacrifices to obtain forgiveness. When we gather together, we celebrate the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. And we praise the Lord for His sacrifice. And we do so when celebrating Holy Communion. We express our gratitude. The sacrifice has been brought by Jesus Christ; it is still valid; it will always be valid. So, we can understand when Paul said, the church is the temple of the New Covenant. We gather together to express our gratitude, and to praise God, to pray and to ask Him to help us and our neighbour, and we ask Him to forgive our sins and we celebrate the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

The temple had also another signification and another meaning in the Old Testament. In building a temple Salomon wanted to put a sign and make sure that all the Gentiles could see, 'Oh, the Almighty Lord is living on earth, in the midst of His people'. So, the temple was the sign of the presence of God in Israel, and thus, on earth. The Church of Christ is the temple of the New Covenant. So, the Church is also the sign that God is still present on earth and that He is active on earth. And remember that Paul said that every believer is a stone belonging to this temple. So, it makes sense to say that every member of the Church is a sign of the presence of God on earth. Or even, to be more precise, as it is the Church of Jesus Christ, every believer, every Christian, should be the sign that Jesus Christ is not just the figure of the history; He is the living One, He is present on earth, and He is at work. So, you and me, brothers and sisters, we are called to be a visible sign of the presence and of the activity of God. We can give evidence that God lives in our heart. He is not far away, in heaven, and we talk to Him from time to time. No! **He is the living One and He lives in my heart!** He is always with me. And so, **it is much more important for us to please God than to please man.**

Because God is with us, He lives in our heart, and we want to please God, and not to please man. It seems obvious; it isn't. When one sees how much energy people spend to please other men. They do everything just to be like the others, to conform the major opinion, to say exactly what they others say, to get 2500 likes. They want to be accepted by others. Or, to use the language of the Bible, they want to please man. What about God? We want to give evidence that God lives in our heart. And so, it will always be more important for us to please God than to please man. We should also be evidence that God is not only living in our heart, but that He is also working in the Church and in our heart. And that becomes visible through our spiritual evolution. I know, that is definitely nothing new. This has been preached already for decades and centuries. But I am not interested in history. I just ask myself, and seriously, what about your spiritual evolution? It is nice to hear, 'yes, we prepare ourselves for the return of Christ, we attend services, we bring our offerings'. The question is always the same: 'Did you change?'. Everybody can answer for himself. Please, don't think about your neighbour, think about yourself. I am absolutely honest: I am not happy with my answer. We have to work on it. There are so many things we should change, we could change, in our mind, in our way of living. We should trust God a little bit more in certain circumstances. We could, we should behave in a different manner with our neighbours. There is still a lot of work to do. Let us be the sign that God is working in His Church and in our heart. Remember, we are resolute to be transformed into the image of Christ. God does His part, but we have to do ours.

Another sign of the presence of God is the unity of God's people. Jesus Christ prayed for the unity of His people. Because for Him, the unity of the disciples reflected the unity of the Trinity. He wanted His people to be one, as He and His Father are One, to show the Trinity is at work here. So, the Church is the visible sign of the presence of God; that is why we are working on the unity of the people of God. Because that is one of the greatest signs of the presence of God. Where God is really present, as the unity of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, there is oneness and unity. All of us are called to contribute to the building of the Church, of the temple. In a certain manner, we are in charge of the future of this building of the Church. All of us are called to contribute with our gifts and our strength to make sure that in the future, too, the gospel will be proclaimed; so that also for next generations the return of Christ can be announced; so that also in the future, the Bride of Christ can be prepared; so that also in the future, the believes can have fellowship with each other and with God. Each baptised is called to contribute, sure with different gifts and skills; we even have different responsibilities. But everyone is needed, and each one can contribute. Let us serve the Lord together. And let us complement each other with our gifts. That is needed until the return of Christ.

For sure, we cannot build this Church, this temple, as in the human way. Because, if we build it in the human way, everyone will make sure, 'It must be comfortable for me. So, I want the church to be that way so that it is comfortable for me. I do not want to change my opinion. I want to be accepted as I am. I do not want to change my habits. So, that is comfortable'. Imagine a church built that way... It would be a mess. No, God says, 'Ok, you are in charge of the building of the temple, but according to My plan'. And His plan is quite a precise one. His plan is the gospel of Jesus Christ proclaimed by the Holy Spirit through the apostolate. That is the plan of God to build up His temple. Or, in other words, the doctrine of the Apostles, as it is mentioned and described in the Bible.

So, dear brothers and sisters, let us build this Church together for the future, but according to the plan of God, not our plan. And the plan of God is the gospel of Jesus Christ, the doctrine of

the Apostles, as written in the Bible. I know, I am talking about the Bible, there will many questions, because we live in a funny time. Many people refer to the Bible to strengthen their own opinion. And sometimes I am really astonished because the Bible is used for quite everything. And I used to hear that whatever your opinion may be, you can find in the Bible one word that confirms your opinion. You take the whole Bible; you want to kill somebody, and you can find a good reason to do so by reading the Bible. And you can say, 'In the book of..., in this chapter, word... it says and based on this, I can kill this one'. Maybe, I exaggerated a little bit, but I think you understand what I mean. We do not want to use the Bible in this manner. **We want to use the Bible in the light of the Holy Spirit.** The apostolate is in charge of interpreting the Bible in the light of the Holy Spirit. And all of us have received the gift of the Holy Spirit. Please, use the Holy Spirit, and not your own opinion, to read and interpret the Bible. And what happens when you read the Bible in the light of the Holy Spirit? Then, this reading inspires in you the love for God and for your neighbour. And then, reading the Bible becomes very useful. Because the message is the message of love for God and for the neighbour. And remember, it is more important to please God than to please man.

Let us contribute that way to the building, to the construction of the temple. Let us put our gifts, our skills, our strength, our energy together to make sure that also in the future the gospel can be proclaimed, the return of Christ announced, the Bride is prepared, and the children of God can have fellowship with one another. For sure, this temple is not yet achieved. It is still under construction. And when you look at a building that is under construction, you realize there is something missing, there is something wrong there... And the visible part of our Church, the living ones, the assembly of the living ones, is still imperfect. Please, don't get upset. It is just normal. It is under construction. What matters is not the number of imperfections that you can see, but the way we deal with them. The Church cannot be perfect as long as it is on earth. But with the help of God, and His guidance, and through the Holy Spirit, we can deal in a perfect manner with human imperfections. Again, let us be inspired by the Holy Spirit. He teaches us how to deal with these imperfections. And on the day of the return of Christ, He will take with Him the part of the Church that is prepared for His return. They won't be perfect, but He will make them perfect, through His grace and His merit. And only so, we can enter the kingdom of God. The temple will be definitely achieved in the New Creation, when all men who believe in Jesus Christ and have followed Him, all those who have been accepted by God will live in perfect and eternal fellowship with God in the New Creation. But what a grace! We do not have to wait so long. We wait for the return of Christ right now. Amen.

Choir: Como brisa es tu voz (regional Choir Hymnal 59)

District Apostle Helper Helge Mutschler

Beloved brothers and sisters, I am in Argentina for the first time in my life, and I am really moved and touched by this warmth, and your heart and your love. We could have wonderful days here, especially yesterday evening. And today it is a wonderful day together with our Chief Apostle. When Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the congregation in Corinth, there was a big danger for the congregation. There was the danger of being divided into different groups. Some said, 'I'll follow Paul', others said, 'I will follow Apollos'. Some said, 'I will follow Jesus', others said, 'I'll follow Cephas'. And we also know this danger today also in our times. There is always, the danger that we are divided into different groups. And because of this, we hear today this question: 'Do you not know that the Holy Spirit is in your midst? We are not divided. And when we see you, I must say that I cannot feel that here there anything under construction.

There is a wonderful feeling of unity amongst you. You are one stone in the temple of God. Perhaps, some would say, 'oh, I am nothing. I have no special gifts or talents. I cannot give anything to the congregation'. Brother, sister, do not speak so. You are one precious, one beloved stone in the temple of God. The Chief Apostle said it to us. Each of us is needed in this temple of God. God gave you special gifts, especially this one gift of the Holy Spirit that we received at the Holy Sacrament of the Sealing. And we heard in the Bible reading that there are a lot of various ways of contributing with something in the congregation. You can pray, you can teach, you can love, you can comfort, you can do good things. Please, do not think you are nobody. You are precious, you are a beloved stone in the temple of God. And all these stones are connected together by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In Revelations of John there is a small picture. 'Behold and let us see the mount Zion. On mount Zion, the lamb, and around his disciples, his people. And we can imagine it. There is this mountain, and around His people. One in the West, another in the East. One looks so (to the right), and one looks so (to the left). Different points of standing. But they are united in one thing: by the power of the Holy Spirit. All, wherever they are, look up to Jesus Christ. And this is the same here, as it is in Europe. We are longing for the return of Jesus, Christ and this unites us all. Amen.

Choir: Cuán dulces son tus palabras (regional Choir Hymnal 60)

District Apostle John Kriel

My dear brothers and sisters, I must really be honest I didn't know of my new status. I didn't know I am the oldest amongst the other guys. Maybe, I'll demand a little more respect from my colleagues. However, it doesn't matter. Chief Apostle told us where you are, how young, how old, how rich, how poor, it doesn't really matter. The Lord called us all and gave us a special gift, the gift of the Holy Spirit. And the greatest favour you can do to the Giver is to use the gift that He gave us. Not to put it in the background, somewhere. Some time, recently, I had to move house. And I had lived in the other house for 18 years. And when we moved, I found some gifts I received that I didn't even unwrap. And while the Chief Apostle served, I thought, 'Did I really unwrap the gift of the Holy Spirit that the Lord gave me?'. The benefit and all the elements make us that we are the temple of God.

The Apostle mentioned we all have gifts. We don't have the same gifts. All different gifts are needed to build the building. Let us admire the gifts in each other rather than envy the gifts that they have. You sing so beautifully. Sometimes I wish I could, but I cannot. But in the Church, they find a solution to that. If you can't sing too good then make you a preacher, you must preach. So, we use what we have. And then, maybe, just a final thought. The Apostle said we all are something. We are a brick in this building of God. But when the gift is used, when the brick is used for the building, and this building is complete, nobody says, 'oh, what a beautiful brick! Oh, what a beautiful wall!'. They admire the beauty of the building in its completed form. So, there is no place for our ego that 'I am so great and everybody else is much less'. We all form part of this complete building. 'Come, let us fit in, and help to complete this blessed building, of which we are all, but a small part. But we all add to the completion of that all'. Amen.

Chief Apostle Schneider

See, the power of the Holy Spirit was not dependent on the age. It works for the young one and for the less young one. This morning we also have another opportunity to experience the power of the Holy Spirit when we prepare ourselves for the forgiveness of sins and for the celebration of the Holy Communion. We will pray together, 'Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors'. Praying this together means we do not just pray for our sins; we also ask God to forgive the sins of our neighbour. And then, we commit ourselves to forgive our neighbour. They are two different things. One, we ask for forgiveness for our neighbour, and we want to forgive our neighbour too. I know that in some cases it is extremely difficult to forgive the neighbour when he has done something really awful. And then, some are anxious and say, 'Will God forgive me when I am not able to forgive? '.

Our Chief Apostle Leber often said, 'What is important is that you are at least willing, that you wish to forgive'. And don't worry if it takes time until you achieve it. God will consider your wish to forgive your neighbour. But then comes the other aspect. We pray and we ask God to forgive him. And that is different. Brother and sister, if you are not yet able to forgive your neighbour, please, do at first, the first step, at least: ask God to forgive him. Renounce the idea that God should punish him, that God should condemn him. That is a first step, 'Please, God, I cannot forgive, but you forgive him'. And I am convinced that is an important step, a decisive one, in the process of forgiving our neighbour. And with the power of the Holy Spirit, you can do this step. And then, we experience the power of the Holy Spirit in celebrating Holy Communion. Due to the power and the activity of the Holy Spirit, you can receive not only bread and wine, but also the body and blood of Jesus Christ. That is only possible through the activity and the power of the Holy Spirit. And because we receive the body and blood of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Communion strengthens our fellowship with Jesus. Jesus tells us, 'Take, that is me. See? I love you and I died for you. See? I'm here. I am with you. See? I want to lead you into My kingdom. I have not given up. I want you to be with me in eternity. Take, that's Me'. And that strengthens the fellowship with Jesus Christ. Receiving body and blood of Jesus, and so, His divine nature, we also receive the strength to overcome. And remember to change. Let us do one step further in our spiritual development. We'll get the strength to do it in celebrating Holy Communion. And, as one of the Apostles said, when celebrating Holy Communion, we are together around Christ, and this strengthens our fellowship, and our unity. For sure, we are very different, but we are together in Christ.

Hymn of Repentance: Desde que Cristo me dio su paz (international Hymnal 290)

Lord's Prayer

Absolution

Eucharistic prayer

Consecration and celebration of Holy Communion

Preparation for Holy Communion for the departed

Chief Apostle Schneider

Now, dear brothers and sisters, in every building there are stones you can see, and many others that you cannot see. But, quite often, they are the most important ones. It is the same in

the temple of God. There are stones that are visible; we, here, the living ones. And there are stones you cannot see, they are invisible. That is the Church in the yonder world; our brothers and sisters, who are already in the yonder world. Sadly enough, we cannot see them, but they are part of the temple. And they contribute to the solidity of the temple. They contribute to the beauty of the temple. And they are solidly incorporated into the temple. And we know, that even if we cannot see them, they are here, in our assembly. And they join us in giving thanks to the Lord; they join us in praying to be delivered for the evil one. They pray for you; they pray for me. And they want to celebrate with us the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. They want to be strengthened in their fellowship with Jesus, and with the brothers and sisters. And it is a great joy for us to be able to celebrate Holy Communion also with the invisible stones, part of the Church.

Holy Communion for the departed

Retirement of Apostles Canessa and Zanotti

My dear Apostles, dear friends, there are also special feelings when I retire such men of God, as you are. I didn't check exactly what I told you when I ordained you, and this doesn't matter actually. What I know is that you have fulfilled the mission that has been given to you. You are known as men, as servants, who fear God. When God calls you to do something, you do it. And you just trust Him; God is faithful, He will do it! And, actually, He did. You are known to be hardworking servants of God. And that is something everybody can confirm. And we have only seen a part of your work. We have seen how much time you spent in your activity. But God knows how hard you have been working to prepare each and every service. God, alone, knows with how much energy you came to do soul care; with what feelings you have prayed for and with your brothers and sisters. And we could continue with the list. Really, you have been hardworking servants of God. You have never stopped working for yourself, to sanctify you, asking God: 'Help me to love all of them, even those who do not love me'. And you did it, and we thank you for that. Thank you also for being wonderful team workers. It was always nice to see you working with your District Apostle. It was, and it is a really nice team; and it is such a nice feeling for me when I see this. Thanks for having supported your District Apostle and for working with your fellow Apostles. May God bless you in the future. He could bless your work because you have done it out of faith and love. And there is no doubt about that: He has blessed your work, and He will bless it. Now, you are going into retirement, and I wish you to enjoy your retirement in your congregation. And we thank your wife and your family. I will do it later on, but I want to say it officially. We thank them for their commitment and their support. Now, I ask the congregation to stand up.

(To Apostle Zanotti)

My dear Apostle, herewith I release you from your mandate as an active Apostle and place you into retirement. But you are and you remain our beloved Apostle. We thank you for your work, and we wish you much blessing and much joy in the future. Thank you for being what you are: our beloved brother. I wish you all the best.

(To Apostle Canessa)

My dear Apostle, you too, herewith I release you from your mandate as an active Apostle and place you into retirement. You will remain our Apostle Canessa, and that means a lot, for all the brothers and sisters, and also for us, the Apostles, who have been working with you. Thank you for your work. God bless you and God keep you. Thank you very much.

Ordination of Apostles Basso, Manzelli and Videla

Dear Bishops, dear District Evangelist, thanks for answering the call of Lord Jesus. It is not an organization or a man who has called you, it is Jesus Christ. And that always makes us very humble. Who are we to serve Jesus Christ and to represent Him? Follow the example of your Apostles. Oh, you don't have to do exactly the same, because you have to adapt to the conditions and circumstances. But remember their zeal, their love, and their God's fear. And work in the same manner as they did: with love, with God's fear, with faith. And God will bless you. Announce the Gospel of God, and it is very easy to summarize it: God loves you. He calls you. He wants to lead us into his kingdom. Transmit this message to all those who are called by God, and you will fulfil your mission. There's no problem. God wants you to support and to help your brothers. They are your co-workers, but they are the brothers of Jesus Christ. Treat them as you want to be treated. God will be with you. That doesn't mean that you will have no problems, and trials, and nothing. When I look into the circle of the Apostles, the active and the retired ones, it strikes me that whatever exists in the congregation, it also exists in the circle of the Apostles. They have no special treatment. But that is the will of God. Because our task is not only to teach them what to do, but also to be an example to them. And to show them: 'In this situation, that is the way we should behave'. In the good and in the bad days. With the power of the Holy Spirit. I'm sure you will be a wonderful example. And don't fear, God is with you. Now, I ask you in front of the congregation and before the Almighty God: Are you willing to serve the Lord as a true Apostle of Jesus Christ, to serve the congregation with love, and faith, and in humility? Are you willing to work together, in unity, with your District Apostle, the Chief Apostle and the Apostles? Are you willing to work according to the rules of the New Apostolic Church and to make sure that they are applied in your area? Then, confirm it, please, with your 'yes' word.

'Yes, dear Chief Apostle'.

Almighty God, you've heard this 'yes' word of the servants you have chosen. Now, please, provide them all the gifts and strength they need to fulfil this mission. Sanctify, me, your servant, so that through the laying on of my hands and my words they can receive the fullness of your gifts. Hear us in Jesus' name. Amen.

In the name of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Receive the Holy Ministry of an Apostle of Jesus Christ. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the authority and the mandate to proclaim forgiveness of sins with direct authority of Jesus Christ. Receive the authority and mandate to dispense the sacrament of the Holy Sealing. So that the living and faithful baptised can receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, and thus the possibility to enter the kingdom of God as firstlings. Receive the authority and the mandate to ordain those who are called by God in their ministry, according to the needs of the people of God, and in accordance with your District Apostle. God sanctifies you, so that as imperfect human beings you can dispense perfect sacraments and announce the Gospel in its purity and in its power. God promises you that He will be with you as long as you serve Him in faith and love. Once more, don't fear! Jesus Christ is with you! He will guide you; He will protect you; He will help you. The peace of the Risen One abide with you. And the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you. Amen.

Choir: Es tu promesa ¡oh Señor! (regional Choir Hymnal 112)

Final prayer

Choir: Cantaré, cantaré (regional Choir Hymnal 182)