

Carlos Aguiar Gomes,
Magister



Dominus Vobiscum No 17

Newsletter January, 2017

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

**'that they may all be one, even as thou, Father, art in me,
and I in thee' (John 17,21)**

In January we celebrate the octave of prayer for Christian unity. May I invite you earnestly, brothers and sisters of the MSM, and our friends, to present that very same request of Jesus to God our heavenly Father, in a committed and convinced way: 'That they may all be one...'

Yes, divisiveness among Christians is a scandal, be it between the various traditions, or even within each community. . How often do we notice what divides us rather than what unites us. In spite of all this, we pray to the same Father ('Our Father who art in Heaven...'), we pray the same Profession of Faith (the Creed), we believe in and pray to the Most Holy Trinity, who is our model of unity in diversity. We are so little 'trinitised' ourselves that we will find it difficult to 'trinitise' the world. Nevertheless were we to meditate a little bit more on the richness that is the Most Holy Trinity and what it represents we should become more Christian, and as a result more united within the diversity of gifts and charisms that we all accept and respect.

The devil's part is to create the divisiveness which sows hatred and intolerance: evil. In this world which gives the impression of having been conquered by him, we need to pray for the gift of unity, keeping the demon - the great divider - at a distance. We need to pray for our families, our communities, our countries and the world., where everything appears to be divided by hatred, indifference, intolerance, selfishness and the scourge of consumerism - which is a form of idolatry...

Brothers, sisters, friends and readers, may I invite you to pray to the Father every day, and not just during this octave of prayer for Christian unity, for our Unity, using the very words that the Son has left us in such a forceful way:

**'that they may all be one, even as thou, Father, art in me,
and I in thee.'**

The Master and first servant of the MSM,

Carlos Aguiar Gomes
(Miles - pauper et peccator)

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18 to 25 January