

Sion Constitution (1984)

#6 - Our vocation is characterized
by the Word of God
which is central in our lives.
Through his Word,
God reveals his name and his will
for the redemption of the world.
The Spirit enables us to discover the link
between the concrete events of life and this Word:
events make the Scriptures come alive for us,
and the Scriptures reveal the significance
of events and of human existence.

We are called,
to keep this Word in our hearts,
to meditate on it,
to share it, and to act on it.

#8 - In the Eucharist,
we celebrate the paschal mystery of Christ,
present and active among us.
He gives us the strength
to love one another as he has loved us and
to follow him in giving our lives
for the reconciliation of the world to the Father
until "that Passover which will be accomplished
in the Kingdom of God." (Lk 22:16)

#11 - According to this inspiration,
every sister of Sion
is called to follow Jesus Christ
in a consecrated life
which is both contemplative and apostolic.

This fundamental obligation of our vocation
is also confirmed by the existence
in our apostolic Congregation
of a branch whose way of life
is wholly directed to contemplation.

#49 - In prayer
we find the inspiration and the strength
to love each other.
The Word of God
reflected on and shared together
calls us to conversion.
This Word enables us
to discern the presence and action of God
in persons and events.

Celebrating the Eucharist
strengthens our unity and
sends us forth into the world.

- #52 - God sustains us with his presence
at every moment of life.
The living God
who first called the people of Israel and
who is faithful,
invites us to respond to his love.

We are called
in the spirit of Jesus Christ
who enables us to say "*Abba, Father.*" (Rom 8:15)

- #53 - We constantly seek the face of God.
Sometimes he reveals himself to us
in the silence of contemplation
to which we give our time freely, open to receive.

At other times
our experience of God is intimately linked
to the encounter with, and the service of others;
we share their joys and sorrows.
Without cutting ourselves off from their struggles, (cf Ex 32:7-35)
we contemplate the saving love of God
in thanksgiving and blessing.

Thus action and contemplation
gradually become one in our life.

- #54 - Like the Jewish people in the course of its history,
we experience faith mingled with doubt and struggle.
Prayer helps us
to transcend our fears,
to take risks and
to have the courage to go forward into the unknown.
Caught up in the situations of our times and society,
we wrestle with God as Jacob did, (cf Gen 32:23-33)
and like Abraham and Moses we dare to question him. (cf Gen 18: 16-32; Ex 32:11-14)

- #55 - The Word of God is a living spring;
It is nourishment, support and the light of life.
Meditating on events and the Word of God,
Like Mary,
We become able to discover God's loving presence
Whether disconcerting or reassuring.

- #55.1 - The *Memorare*, which is linked to our origin, has a
special place in the tradition of the Congregation, as
have certain biblical texts which are particularly meaningful
for Sion's vocation. These are the canticles: the *Magnificat*,

the *Benedictus*, and the *Nunc Dimittis* which proclaim the faithful love of God for his people. Chapters nine to eleven of Romans recall the fidelity of God to the Jewish people and express the hope of universal redemption.

- #56 - In the Eucharist,
God gathers us together as his people
to renew his covenant of salvation.
We bless him and thank him for his mercy
which lasts from age to age.
- We celebrate the mystery of faith,
the remembrance of the Passover of the Lord.
We offer to the Father
our life and our world
to be transformed by the Spirit
through the death and resurrection of Jesus.
In receiving the body of Christ
we are given the pledge
of the full realization of that Kingdom
for which we long with all our being.
- #56.1 - In celebrating the sacrament of unity we are sensitive
to the painful reality of today: Christians are still separated.
- #56.2 - On Sunday we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord,
remembering that it is the eighth day, when "all things will
be made new." (Rev 21:5)
- #58 - In the frequent reception
of the sacrament of reconciliation,
we receive God's pardon in Jesus Christ,
the source of new life and
of our mutual forgiveness.
- #59 - Essential to our life are:
personal and community prayer;
annual and monthly days of retreat;
times of silence, reflection and reading;
liturgical and Sionian celebrations
which mark the significant events of our life.
- #60 - We pray together daily.
Whatever form our prayer in common takes,
it will always be biblical and
in keeping with the liturgical season.
It is based on the psalms;
through them we recall the marvels
that God has performed for his people and
we surrender to him
all that is in the human heart.

#61 - Our prayer is characterized
by simplicity and freedom
according to the wish of Fr. Theodore.
He said, "to pray is to love."
"It doesn't matter how we express our love
provided we do love."