

**Sister Patricia Harvat, OP**

**June 23, 2018**

**Jubilee Homily for Silver, Golden, and Diamond Jubilarians**

Isaiah 61:1-3

Ephesians 4:1-6

Mark 1:16-20

The Gospel we just heard reflects the living text of our lives.

Mark's gospel is the call each of the Jubilarians followed 25, 50, 60 years ago. The reading from Isaiah is what our lives have been about – the Dominican mission of preaching and enabling people to believe in themselves and in God. And Paul's letter reflects these years lived in community – living as sisters – taking care of one another because that's what we do.

La llamada de los apóstoles que hemos escuchado en el Evangelio es la llamada que nosotras habíamos oído hace 25, 50, 60 años.

La lectura de Isaías es lo que hemos hecho para todos estos años. La misión dominica, ayudando gente a creer en ellos mismos y en Dios.

La carta de San Pablo – nos habla de los años vividos en comunidad, cuidando unas a otras.

The living text of our book of life as Dominicans began with clean and empty margins. But as we gather today to celebrate this life, those margins of the text are filled with daily entries of our words and gestures of love, mercy, hope suffering, doubts and longing.

Our fidelity has to do not just with the vowed commitment we made and its final fulfillment but it has to do with what comes between. It's the betweenness (with its joys, doubts, sometimes hurts) that we celebrate today. And you all are a part of that betweenness!

Nuestra fidelidad – no es solo el compromiso – son los años “entre” la primera vez que habíamos dicho nuestros votos y el cumplimiento de los votos – incluso de las dudas, los gozos y los heridos. Y ustedes, nuestras familias y nuestras amistades son parte de estos años.

In the gospel we hear Jesus say to Simon and Andrew, “Come after me,” and they immediately abandon their life’s work and became his followers, along with others Jesus called.

Have you ever tried to follow someone in a car? It is not easy, especially when you as a follower have no idea where the lead driver is heading...no clue where the final destination is. As was the case when those of us missioned in New Orleans in 2008 evacuated with Hurricane Gustaf and Ike heading our way.

As I followed the car in front of me with the other two Sisters in, it I stayed very close to them. Any time merging cars tried to get between us I sped up and thought. “No way ... if I lose sight of them I am terribly lost, have no clue where I am nor what city I am in.” And of course, the sisters in the lead car constantly had me in their rear view mirror slowing down when crossing over four lanes of traffic in Atlanta to make sure I was right behind them ... and I was!

Eight hours later we arrived near Conyers, Georgia – not and with one another! We simply got out of our cars and looked at one another ... we had no words.

So we have travelled these years, following a call and trying our best to stay close to God and to one another, in the same spirit and the same hope as St. Paul wrote. Our eyes focused on the Beloved these many years, and there really are no adequate words to describe the ride ... what it meant to leave our homes and walk into the lives of hundred of peoples homes/lives in different cultures and global realities.

Las palabras “Sigame” podemos comparar con el hecho de seguir a un carro sin saber la destinación final:

- No queremos perder la vision del carro
- Esta pegado al carro al frente
- Esto fue mi experiencia en 2008 cuando tuvimos que evacuar la ciudad de Nueva Orlean

Llegabamos 8 horas despues.

Es como los anos de vivir nuestro compromiso

- Ojos en el Señor
- Salimos de nuestros hogares y entramos no solo una casa nueva pero las vidas de tanta gente de diferentes culturas.

El poeta John Keats escribio:

“De unas cosa solo estoy seguro, de la santidad de los afectos del corazón, y de la verdad de la imaginación.”

A seguir viviendo nuestros sueños de amar a Dios con una fe humilde, una esperanza dinámica y con un corazón sin fronteras.

John Keats wrote, "I am certain of nothing but of the holiness of the heart's affections and the truth of the imagination."

Truth, beauty, and expansiveness of our mind are the guiding stars of our Dominican life. There still is room in the margins of our text in the book of our lives to continue writing the call to live a dream and to love, following God with all the twists and turns life may present to us, loving God and this universe with humble faith, dynamic hope, and with a heart without boundaries.

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