**Teams GB Regional Gatherings Autumn 2021**

**The Christian Couple - the Leaven of Renewal for the Family and Society**

**Mixed Teams Meetings**

**Depending on time limitations you may choose to prioritise your prayer or discussion following sharing in your meeting. Don’t omit Sharing!**

**SHARING**

Each couple introduce themselves to the group, saying how long they have been married and how many years they have been members of Teams

Each person shares a high and a low from the last few months or say what has changed for them as a result of the Pandemic.

**PRAYER**

Mark 6 : 7-13

Then he summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And He instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals but, He added “Do not take a spare tunic.” And He said to them, “If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you, and if people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.” So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

**Reflection**

Pause for short reflection on the reading.

**Psalm 103**

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| Bless the Lord, my soul!Lord God, how great you are,How many are your works, O Lord!The earth is full of your riches.You take back your spirit, they die,Returning to the dust from which they came.You send forth your spirit, they are created;And you renew the face of the earth.May the glory of the Lord last forever!May the Lord rejoice in His works!May my thoughts be pleasing to Him!I find my joy in the Lord. | *Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.* |

**Intercessions**

We share our prayer intentions in order, as directed by the Responsible Couple.

**Concluding Prayer**

Lord, may your love in our lives bear fruit and be visible in what we do and say, giving glory to You and hope to others. Amen.

**DISCUSSION**

In the study theme for the year 2021-22, "*Christian Couple, a Renewing Leaven of Family and Society",* we are invited to reflect on the importance of God in our families. Not in the apologetic sense of the strict observance of God's Law, but by recognizing ourselves as children and seekers of God. From this recognition comes a transformation in man's relationship with the world around him. He is a being immersed in the wonder of God's creation \**whose gaze in this horizontal dimension sees and lives* *differently the nature\**, his spouse, his family, the society in which he moves.

At this time in human history, the care of the common home, spiritual and physical, demands *of the Christian\**, the coherance of an entire outlook, based on the word of God. We are called to carry out the will of God *on each one\** and our families..... The family, in God’s plan, is co-creator of the renewal of this common home.

In Laudato Si, Paragraph 205, Pope Francis says “ Yet all is not lost. Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start, despite their mental and social conditioning. We are able to take an honest look at ourselves, to acknowledge our deep dissatisfaction, and to embark on new paths to authentic freedom. No system can completely suppress our openness to what is good, true and beautiful, or our God-given ability to respond to his grace at work deep in our hearts. I appeal to everyone throughout the world not to forget this dignity which is ours. No one has the right to take it from us.

**Questions**

The following questions are just to generate discussion, to be used if helpful.

1. How can we help Teams to “build better” in line with the theme of “**Christian Couple, a Renovating Leaven of Family and Society”** and ensure strong and vibrant Teams for the future ?
2. How is spiritual renewal connected to lifestyle change? Does this have implications for Teams?

**The Magnificat (Lk 1: 46-56)**