

“Also at this time, in accord with the guidelines of the Constitutions and of previous General Chapters, there has been a deeper listening to and a growing appreciation for the Word of God. Sharing our journey with individuals and peoples, above all with the poorest, continues to be for us a great source of spiritual rejuvenation. Today, many Claretians, from all cultural origins, ages and mission contexts, show an intense desire to grow in the Spirit, joyfully cultivating, in the midst of the difficulties, their response to the call they have received.” (MFL, 9).

**Do you also feel an intense desire to grow in the Spirit?**

**Then  
the Forge Project  
is your  
opportunity.**



#### **O VIRGIN AND MOTHER OF GOD**

O Virgin and Mother of God,  
you well know that we are  
your sons and ministers  
formed by you yourself  
in the forge of your mercy and love.  
We are like an arrow  
placed in your powerful hand.  
Fling us, our Mother,  
against all that is opposed  
to the Kingdom of God.  
Trusting in your protection  
we undertake the announcement  
of the Gospel  
with no defense other than the Word,  
with no title other than that of  
Sons of your Immaculate Heart.  
Share with us the way  
and give us your joy and fidelity.  
Yours Mother, will be the victory.  
Amen.



“We will commit ourselves to live the ‘Forge Project in our daily lives’, in such a way that, with the accompaniment of the General Government, we as individuals, communities and Major Institutes relive the experience of Fire and grow in missionary zeal.”  
(MFL, 55.4)”



**A**t the beginning of my stay in Vich I was undergoing an experience not unlike what goes on in a blacksmith's shop. The smith thrusts an iron bar into the furnace, and when it is white-hot he draws it out, places it on the anvil, and begins to hammer it. His assistant joins in, and the two of them keep alternating hammer-blows in a sort of rhythmic dance until the iron takes the shape the smith had planned." (Aut, 342).



### **What is the "Forge Project in our daily life"?**

*It is a renewal project that aims to help us rekindle the fire of Claretian vocation and grow in missionary zeal.*

### **Why is it called the Forge?**

*Because the forge is an allegory used by St. Anthony Mary Claret in his Autobiography to describe his spiritual experience.*

### **For whom is this project?**

*For all Claretians in the world who have already made their perpetual profession.*

### **To what need does it intend to respond?**

*To the need of finding a new answer, both at personal and community level, to the question of our Claretian identity in the world today.*

### **How long will it last?**

*Four years: 2011-2014. The year 2010 will be a time of motivation and preparation.*

### **When will it begin?**

*Officially it will begin on November 28, 2010, on the first Sunday of Advent.*

### **Who will lead it?**

*The project depends on the General Government. The General Prefecture of Spirituality, in collaboration with an international team of Claretians, will prepare, encourage and coordinate its implementation.*

### **Is it a project for the whole Congregation?**

*Yes, but it will be adapted to the needs and characteristics of each place.*

### **What does it consist of?**

*It is to relive, over four years, the fundamental experiences of the Claretian vocation as articulated in the methodology of the Forge.*

### **What is needed to participate in it?**

*An attitude of open-mindedness and inquisitiveness and also a desire to grow in the life of the Spirit according to the Claretian charism.*