



God's Spirit on the city

## Day 7

[23 May]

### Through the example of Mary... Learn to be part of the Body of the Church

What joy to hear this psalm sing of God's love for His people, for this city of God where people of every tribe, language, people and nation live united – the Church! God longs to bring us together into one family, united as children of the same Father. United in his Church, our mother, who gives us life, nourishes us, and sustains us through her sacraments.

What a family!

What diversity!

We come from everywhere, all of the continents, all conditions, and all sorts of different cultures. But that's exactly what Jesus wants: that we all be one, in God, through his Body that is the Church, by the breath of the Holy Spirit.

And for that, Jesus has given to all of us, his beloved disciples, his own mother, at the foot of the cross. Mary is our mother like the Church is our mother, to give us life that comes from God, to draw us together around her Son. Let's welcome, with

St. John, the gift of Mary, so that she will teach us how to let ourselves be unified by the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Father and of the Son, be in us the seed of the unity that is at the heart of the Trinity, so that we may form, with our brothers and sisters throughout the world, one body, the Body of Christ.

### THE WORD AS THE WAY

**Psalm 87** (© NRSVCE)

*On the holy mount stands the city he founded;*

*the LORD loves the gates of Zion  
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.*

*Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God.*

*Among those who know me  
I mention Rahab and Babylon;*

*Philistia too, and Tyre, with Ethiopia –*

*"This one was born there," they say.*

*And of Zion it shall be said,*

*"This one and that one were born in it";*

*for the Most High himself will establish it.*

*The LORD records, as he registers the peoples,*

*"This one was born there."*

*Singers and dancers alike say,*

*"All my springs are in you."*

### WORDS TO PRAY

Lord, by your Cross you wanted to save us and make us all part of one body, your Church. Help us to stay faithful to your teachings and to proclaim, together, the Good News to all the people of the world.

O Holy Spirit, breathe in us the spirit of unity, so that with all our brothers and sisters, we will share the fruits of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With Mary, mother of the Church, teach us to live in communion with our brothers and sisters and may we remain ever fervent and full of hope amongst the people with whom we share our days.