



# What is Integral Human Development?

On 4 April 2017, Pope Francis instituted a new department (Vatican Ministry) for "at the service of Integral Human Development".

It brought together the major areas of:

- "Justice and Peace",
- "all the Charitable initiatives of the Catholic Church"
- "Care of Migrants and Refugees"
- Pastoral Care of Health Workers"
- ALL under his direct leadership.

## Pope Francis said the meaning of this is that:

- ✓ "The duty of solidarity requires us to seek fair ways of sharing,
- ✓ so that there is no longer that dramatic inequality between those who have too much and those who have nothing,
- ✓ between those who discard and those who are discarded.
- ✓ Only the path of integration between peoples can permit to humanity a future of peace and hope."

## The different systems:

\*the economy,

\*culture,

\*finance,

\*family life,

\*labour,

\*religion

Are, each in its own way,  
essential components of this growth.

None of them can be rendered absolute  
and none of them can be excluded from  
a concept of integral human development,

which takes into account that the human life is like an orchestra  
that sounds good if the different instruments  
are in accord and follow a score shared by all.

**The promise was that**  
when the glass was full, it would overflow  
**benefitting the poor**



But what happens instead is that when the glass is full  
**it magically gets bigger**  
nothing ever comes out for the poor.

— Pope Francis

A good economic policy, says Francis, creates jobs  
— it doesn't eliminate them.



**THE WORLD**

TELLS US TO SEEK  
SUCCESS,  
POWER  
AND MONEY;

**GOD**

TELLS US  
TO SEEK  
HUMILITY,  
SERVICE

AND

**LOVE.**

- Pope Francis

Photo of Pope Francis from <https://www.facebook.com/PopeFrancisPage>

Who is the example of the most fully integrated human?

"God has made Himself fully known in Jesus Christ:  
in Him, God and humans are not divided and separated.

God became man to make of human life,  
both personal and social, a concrete path to salvation.

So the manifestation of God in Christ - including his acts of:  
healing, liberation, and reconciliation

that today we are called to offer in turn to the many injured who lie by the roadside - shows the way and the form of service that the Church intends to offer to the world": Pope Francis on Integral Human Development

But how do we get to Know and Follow Jesus?

# Ignorance of Scripture...

*“The sacred Synod forcefully and specifically exhorts all the Christian faithful ... to learn the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ’ (Phil 3:8)*

*By*

*“Frequent reading of the divine Scriptures, for ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ”*

*(Dei Verbum, Vatican II).*

# Catholics and the bible in the Caribbean

The bible is by far the most popular book in the Caribbean

Yet it is also undeniable that among the 75% majority of Protestants, Evangelicals and Pentecostals, familiarity with Bible texts is much more common than among Roman Catholics

Why is this so?



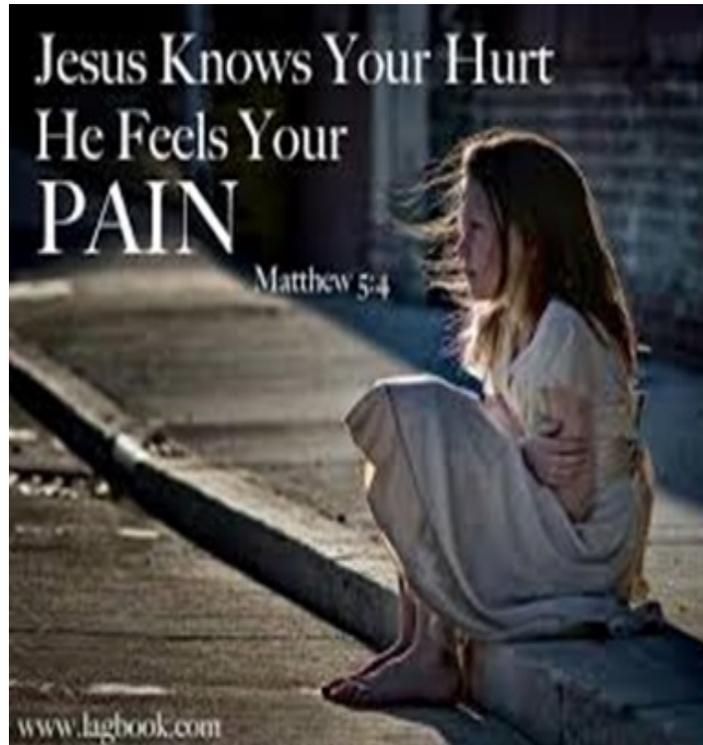
## Aparecida celam 2007

- ✓ *To know and follow Jesus, “we must train people to read and meditate on the word of God:*
- ✓ *this must become their staple diet, so that, through their own experience, the faithful will see that the words of Jesus are spirit and life (cf. Jn 6:63).*
- ✓ *Otherwise, how could they proclaim a message whose content and spirit they do not know thoroughly?*
- ✓ *We must build our missionary commitment and the whole of our lives on the rock of the word of God.*

*(Benedict XVI Opening Address)*

Aparecida Document AD 247

**GOD IS LOVE, GOD IS FORGIVENESS, NEVER FORGET IT.  
BELIEVE IN THIS GOSPEL OF GOOD NEWS**



# Images of mercy



**The Good Samaritan**



**The Prodigal Son**

*Mercy  
is the name  
of our  
**God**  
and  
without mercy  
we are  
lost.*

(Pope Francis)



***“Be merciful just as your Father  
is merciful.”***



- ▶ What is "SYNODALITY?":
- ▶ For Pope Francis means Walking Together
  - + in listening, communion, participation, and mission
- ▶ For a Synodal Church, "it is a process that allows bishops to consult with Catholics — from parishioners all the way up to priests — in a spirit of collaboration and openness.
- ▶ "In the one People of God, therefore, let us journey together, in order to experience a Church that receives and lives this gift of unity, and is open to the voice of the Spirit," Pope Francis said,
- ▶ stressing that the Synod is an "ecclesial moment", not a parliament or an investigation into opinions, but "an ecclesial moment" whose protagonist is the Holy Spirit. "Without the Spirit, there is no Synod,"
- ▶ Could Webinars become part of efforts by AEC to promote Synodality in the Caribbean Church?

- ***“Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.”***

