**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

**January 2014**



***Exposition of Blessed Sacrament***

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| ***Hymn***  *Pange, lingua, gloriosi*  *corporis mysterium,*  *sanguinisque pretiosi,*  *quem in mundi pretium*  *fructus ventris generosi*  *rex effudit gentium.*  *Nobis datus, nobis natus*  *ex intacta Virgine,*  *et in mundo conversatus,*  *sparso verbi semine,*  *sui moras incolatus*  *miro clausit ordine.*  *In supremae nocte coenae*  *recumbens cum fratribus,*  *observata lege plene*  *cibis in legalibus,*  *cibum turbae duodenae*  *se dat suis manibus.*  *Verbum caro panem verum*  *verbo carnem efficit,*  *fitque sanguis Christi merum; et si sensus deficit,*  *ad firmandum cor sincerum*  *sola fides sufficit.* |

***Invocation***

*L.* † *In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

*R. Amen*

*Brothers and sisters, today we invite you to join our prayer as a Resurrectionist Community, begging our Good Shepherd Jesus for*

*new vocations for the Church, and in a special way for new religious vocations to our Congregation. The act of faith of every baptized individual can be readily understood by the metaphor of the journey. It is “walking” along the roads of the world, together, even to the farthest corners of the world. The witness of the faith of so many of our brothers and sisters who have responded to this call is a tangible sign of the constant commitment of the Church to the cause of the Kingdom. Let us now listen to the Word of God, that it might illumine this road we must follow.*

***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (10:1-9)***

(After this) the Lord appointed seventy-two others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come.   
And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, `Peace be to this house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages; do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you; heal the sick in it and say to them, `The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

*(Pause in silence)*

***Meditation***

The Gospel speaks to us about this: the fact that Jesus is not a lone missionary, he does not want to fulfil his mission alone, but involves his disciples. And we see that in addition to the twelve Apostles he calls another 72, and sends them to the villages, two by two, to proclaim that the Kingdom of God is close at hand. This is very beautiful! Jesus does not want to act alone, he came to bring the love of God into the world and he wants to spread it in the style of communion, in the style of brotherhood. That is why he immediately forms a community of disciples, which is a missionary community. He trains them straight away for the mission, to go forth.

But pay attention: their purpose is not to socialize, to spend time together, no, their purpose is to proclaim the Kingdom of God, and this is urgent! And it is still urgent today! There is no time to be lost in gossip, there is no need to wait for everyone's consensus, what is necessary is to go out and proclaim. To all people you bring the peace of Christ, and if they do not welcome it, you go ahead just the same. To the sick you bring healing, because God wants to heal man of every evil. How many missionaries do this, they sow life, health, comfort to the outskirts of the world. How beautiful it is! Do not live for yourselves, do not live for yourselves, but live to go forth and do good!

These 72 disciples, whom Jesus sent out ahead of him, who were they? Who do they represent? If the Twelve were the Apostles, and also thus represent the Bishops, their successors, these 72 could represent the other ordained ministries, priests and deacons; but more broadly we can think of the other ministries in the Church, of catechists, of the lay faithful who engage in parish missions, of those who work with the sick, with different kinds of disadvantaged and marginalized people; but always as missionaries of the Gospel, with the urgency of the Kingdom that is close at hand. Everyone must be a missionary, everyone can hear that call of Jesus and go forth and proclaim the Kingdom!

The Gospel says that those 72 came back from their mission full of joy ... Dear friends, be glad! Do not be afraid of being joyful! Don't be afraid of joy! That joy which the Lord gives us when we allow him to enter our life. Let us allow him to enter our lives and invite us to go out to the margins of life and proclaim the Gospel. Don't be afraid of joy. Have joy and courage! *(Pope Francis. Angelus. Sunday, July 7, 2013).*

*(Silence)*

***Vocational Song***

*I live no longer my own life, but Christ lives in me.*

*I live now by faith in the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who died for me.*

1. For Him I have suffered the loss of all things;  
   I count all as refuse for Christ.

Now nothing has value compared with the good  
of knowing Christ Jesus, my Lord.

1. No merit is mine from obedience to laws,  
   no honor in race, creed or name.  
   I long for true justice: to know Jesus Christ,  
   the power of his Resurrection.
2. My life is communion—to suffer with Christ,  
   conformed to his death on the cross;  
   if somehow I might, through the mercy of God,  
   share also the crown of his glory.
3. To know Him, to love Him remains yet my goal;  
   still long must I run for the prize--  
   the precious possession of Christ in my soul,  
   who once took possession of me!

***Prayer for vocations***

We beg you, O Lord,  
to continue to assist  
and enrich your Church  
with the gift of vocations.

To you we pray that many  
will desire to hear your voice  
and thus gladden your Church  
with the generosity and fidelity  
of their response.

We pray to you, O Lord,  
for your bishops,  
priests and deacons,  
and all the laity  
who serve in ministry  
in the Christian community.

We pray to you, O Lord,  
for those who are opening  
their hearts to your call:  
may your Word enlighten them,  
your example conquer them,  
your grace guide them.

Listen, O Lord,

to our prayer,  
and through the intercession of Mary,  
Mother of the Church,  
your Mother and ours,  
answer it in your love. Amen.

***We pray with the intentions of the Holy Father:***

* Our Father;
* Hail Mary (5 x);
* Glory be to the Father ...

***Hymn***

*Tantum ergo sacramentum*

*veneremur cernui,*

*et antiquum documentum*

*novo cedat ritui,*

*praestet fides supplementum*

*sensuum defectui.*

*Genitori Genitoque,*

*laus et iubilatio,*

*salus, honor, virtus quoque*

*sit et benedictio.*

*Procedenti ab utroque*

*compar sit laudatio*

*(Continue with the rite of adoration and the Benediction)*

***Sung antiphon***

*Laudate omnes gentes, laudate Dominum (x3)*

***Resurrection Prayer***

O Risen Lord, the Way, the Truth and the Life, make us faithful followers of the Spirit of your Resurrection. Grant that we may be inwardly renewed, dying to ourselves in order that you may live in us. May our lives serve as signs of the transforming power of your love. Use us as your instruments for the renewal of society, bringing your life and love to all, and leading them to your Church.  
This we ask of you, Lord Jesus, living and reigning with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever. Amen.

***Closing song:***

*Regina coeli, laetare, alleluia.*

*Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.*

*Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.*

*Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.*



***Collegium Resurrectionis Romae***