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A. Prayers to the Heart of Jesus

A.1. By the Good Father

A.1.1. Prayer to the Sacred Heart

Lord Jesus Christ! Humble and contrite, we, the children of your Sacred Heart, come together in your presence. We are conscious of our own sin, and the flood of evil surges in the world, and so we come to ask your mercy. Accept us as true victims of your Divine Heart and be pleased by our presence.

Pierce our hearts with the dart of divine love. Burn them up as accepted offerings, so that, sheltered in your Sacred Heart and retracing your hidden life, we may be consumed with your zeal, and live, suffer and die with you. You are forever our life and our all.

(My Lord Jesus Christ, behold us, the Children of Thy Sacred Heart, humbly contrite at Thy feet. At the sight of our own sins and of the numberless iniquities which have flooded the whole world, we come to Thee to ask mercy. Vouchsafe to accept us true victims of Thy Divine Heart, and deign to look with pleasure upon us.

Pierce our hearts with the dart of divine love; immolate them as holocausts, so that concealed in Thy Most sacred Heart and retracing Thy Hidden Life, we may be consumed with Thy zeal, and live, suffer and die with Thee, who art forever our life and our all. Amen.

Translation in "The Religious of the ss.cc.")

A.1.2. Hymn to the Sacred Heart

Within a sweet and peaceful shelter, I came to live, never to depart.
Here, now, I taste a heavenly sweetness, and spend my life for Thy dear Heart.

***Oh Sacred Heart, our help unfailing, a guilty world shares Thy love divine
may all the just, all the sinners, come unto Thee, before thy shrine
may all the just, all the sinners, come unto Thee, before thy shrine***

Perhaps, my life to share you're longing;
then, come, make yours its blessings rare:
your friend, your Jesus, here is waiting
to grant you all his love and care.

Behold, his Heart is open wide
to be, for souls, a safe retreat
where faith and hope with love abide,
where graces flow in torrents sweet.

Oh! Flee the world and all its pleasure;
In virtue's dwelling e'er to live,
and to enjoy, in fullest measure,
the peace that God alone can give!

Accept, O Lord, my full surrender,
be Thou my King, my spouse divine;
with Thee I'm safe from ev'ry danger,
keep me, my Lord, forever Thine!

A.2. By Saint John Eudes

A.2.1. Prayer to the pierced Heart of Jesus

Oh my most loving and gentle Jesus, I desire with all the sentiments of my heart, that all creatures eternally praise, honor and glorify you for the holy wound of Your side. I place my heart and sentiments, thoughts, desires, intentions and all the faculties of my mind in the open wound of Your Heart. I pray through the precious blood and water brought forth from Your most precious Heart that You take entire possession of myself, and guide me in all things. Consume me in the burning fire of Your sacred Love, in order that I may be engrossed and transformed in You that I may be but one with You.

(From the book of St. John Eudes, The Sacred Heart of Jesus. This prayer is from Lansperigius, "Rosary of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus" in his work titled Pharetra divini amoris, book 1, part 5. Translated into Spanish and adapted by Father Jordi Rivero)

A.2.2. Prayer of union with the Heart of Jesus

Oh Heart of my Savior, worthy and giver of all love, be the Heart of my heart, the soul of my soul, the spirit of my spirit, the life of my life and the unique principle of all my thoughts, words and actions, of all the faculties of my soul and of my senses, both internal and external. Amen.

(From St. John Eudes, The Sacred Heart of Jesus, sixth meditation for the feast of the Sacred Heart, second point. Translated into Spanish by Father Jordi Rivero)

A.2.3. Prayer to the SS.CC. for mercy

Oh most benevolent and merciful Heart of Jesus,
engrave in our hearts
a perfect image of your great mercy,
in order that we might accomplish
the commandment you gave us:
"Be merciful as your heavenly Father is merciful."

Mother of mercy,
watch over so many misfortunes, so many poor,
so many captives, so many prisoners,
so many men and women who suffer persecution
at the hands of their brothers and sisters,
so many defenseless people,
so many afflicted souls,
so many restless hearts.

Mother of mercy,
open the eyes of your clemency
and contemplate our desolation.
Open the ears of your goodness
and listen to our supplication.

Most loving and powerful advocate,
show that you truly are
the Mother of Mercy.

A.2.4. Offering to the two Hearts

Oh Jesus, the Only Son of God,
the Only Son of Mary,
I offer the kindest Heart
of your Divine Mother,
who is for you, the most precious
and amiable of all.

Oh Mary, Mother of Jesus,
I offer you the most Sacred Heart
of your loving Son,
who is the life and the love of your Heart.

A.2.5. Greetings to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary

We greet you, holy Heart,
We greet you, gentle Heart,
We greet you, humble Heart,
We greet you, pure Heart,
We greet you, priestly Heart,
We greet you, prudent Heart,
We greet you, patient Heart,
We greet you, obedient Heart,
We greet you, Heart attentive to the will of the Father,
We greet you, faithful Heart,
We greet you, Heart source of happiness,
We greet you, merciful Heart,
We greet you, loving Heart.

We adore you,
We praise you,
We glorify you,
We give you thanks,
We love you
With all our heart,
With all our soul,
With all our strength,

We offer you our heart,
We give it to you,
We consecrate it to you,
Receive it and possess it totally.

Purify it,
Illuminate it,
Sanctify it,
And live and reign in it now and forever. AMEN.

Greetings to Mary
I greet you, Mary, Daughter of God the Father.
I greet. you, Mary, Mother of God's Son.
I greet you, Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit.
I greet you, Mary, Temple of Divinity.

I greet you, Mary, Virgin of virgins.
Of whom the King of the heavens desired to be born.
I greet you, Mary, Queen of martyrs.
I greet you, Mary, Queen of the world.
I greet you, Mary, Queen of my Heart.
I greet you, Mary, full of grace.

Blessed be the fruit of your womb, Jesus,
Blessed be your spouse, St. Joseph,
Blessed be your father, St. Joachim,
Blessed be your mother, St. Anne,
Blessed be you son, St. John,
Blessed be your angel, St. Gabriel,
Blessed be all those who love and bless you. Amen.

A.2.6. Magnificat to the two Hearts

Proclaim our souls the greatness of the love of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.
Rejoice our hearts for the great work that they have accomplish in us.
Jesus and Mary gave us their hearts, in order that we live always in their love,
and to make it known to the whole world.

Infinite thanks be given to the two Hearts for this ineffable gift!

They have done great things in our hearts,
from the maternal womb they made us their own.
From the abyss of our miseries they draw us
to the reign of their love and mercy.

Infinite thanks be given to the two Hearts for this ineffable gift!

They were forming, guiding, and molding us
through the thorns and roses, crosses and glories,
they were directing us along the path of life,
and preparing us to recognize ourselves at the moment in which
our hearts would meet.

Infinite thanks be given to the two Hearts for this ineffable gift!

With the strength of their love, they drew us to them,
Carving in the heart of one the divine call to the priesthood,
Carving in its interior the desire to offer self as a victim of
consolation and reparation to the Eucharistic and pierced Heart of Jesus.
This same love draws the other heart to religious life,
makes her a spouse and mother, an offering of oblation love to
their two Hearts transpierced in the Cross.

Infinite thanks be given to the two Hearts for this ineffable gift!

A.2.7. Ave, Cor!

We greet you, Heart most holy,
Heart most gentle,
Heart most humble.
We greet you, Heart most pure,

Heart most prayerful,
Heart most wise.
We greet you, Heart most patient,
Heart most obedient,
Heart most vigilant.
We greet you, Heart most faithful,
Heart most exultant,
Heart most merciful.
We greet you, Heart most loving
of Jesus and Mary.
We adore you, we praise you,
we glorify you,
we thank you with all our heart,
with all our soul and with all our strength.
We offer you our heart,
we give it,
we consecrate it,
we sacrifice it to you.
Receive it, possess it entirely,
Purify it, enlighten it, sanctify it.
Live and reign in it,
now, always and forever.
Amen.

A.3. Other traditional prayers

A.3.1. Soul of Christ

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from Christ's side, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within Thy wounds hide me
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee
From the malicious enemy defend me
In the hour of my death call me
And bid me come unto Thee
That I may praise Thee with Thy saints
and with Thy angels
Forever and ever
Amen

A.3.2. Act of consecration to the sacred Heart

Lord Jesus Christ, we consecrate ourselves today to your Sacred Heart.
We make this commitment in response to the love that fills your heart for us and for all people.
We acknowledge you as the centre of our hearts and our community.
We desire to live our lives in union with you and commit ourselves to sharing in your mission of bringing your father's love to all people.
Lord Jesus Christ, accept this consecration of our lives and our community.
Keep us always united to your most sacred heart. Amen.

A.3.3. Consecration to the Heart of Jesus

I surrender and consecrate to the Sacred Heart of Our Lord Jesus Christ, my personal life, actions, sorrows and suffering in order to use my body only to honor, love and glorify the Sacred Heart.

This is my intention, definitive and unique: to be all to Him and doing everything out of love for Him, and at the same time, to renounce with all my heart anything that does not please Him, also to take you, O Sacred Heart to be the only object of my love, the guardian of my life, my security of salvation, the remedy for my weaknesses and inconsistencies, the solution to the mistakes of my life and my secure refuge in the hour of death.

Be thus, Oh Heart of Goodness, my intercessor before God the Father, and deliver me of his just anger. Oh Heart of love, I put all my confidence in you, I fear my weaknesses and faults, but I hope in your Divinity and Goodness.

Take from me all that is wrong and all that prevents me from doing your holy will, allow your pure love to be engraved in the depths of my heart in order that I may never forget you and be separated from you.

May I receive from your bounty the grace of having my name written in Your heart, in order to place in you all my happiness and glory, to live and to die in your grace. Amen.

A.3.4. Litany of the Sacred Heart

- L. Lord, have mercy on us.
C. Christ, have mercy on us.
L. Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
C. Christ, graciously hear us.
L. God the Father of Heaven,
God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
God the Holy Spirit,
Holy Trinity, one God,
Heart of Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father,
Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Spirit in the Virgin Mother's womb,
Heart of Jesus, of infinite majesty,
Heart of Jesus, holy temple of God,
Heart of Jesus, tabernacle of the Most High,
Heart of Jesus, House of God and Gate of Heaven,
Heart of Jesus, glowing fire of love,
Heart of Jesus, vessel of justice and love,
Heart of Jesus, full of goodness and love,
Heart of Jesus, fullness of all virtues,
Heart of Jesus, worthy of all praise,
Heart of Jesus, King and center of all hearts,
Heart of Jesus, wherein are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,
Heart of Jesus, wherein dwells the fullness of divinity,
Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father is well pleased,
Heart of Jesus, of whose fullness we have all received,
Heart of Jesus, desire of the everlasting hills,
Heart of Jesus, patient and rich in mercy,
Heart of Jesus, rich to all who call upon you,
Heart of Jesus, fount of life and holiness,

C. Have mercy on us.

- Heart of Jesus, satisfaction for our sins,
 Heart of Jesus, overwhelmed with reproaches,
 Heart of Jesus, bruised for our iniquities,
 Heart of Jesus, obedient even unto death,
 Heart of Jesus, pierced with a lance,
 Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation,
 Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection,
 Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation,
 Heart of Jesus, victim for our sins,
 Heart of Jesus, salvation of those who hope in you,
 Heart of Jesus, hope of those who die in you,
 — Heart of Jesus, delight of all the saints,
 L. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
 C. Spare us, O Lord.
 L. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
 C. Graciously hear us, O Lord.
 L. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
 C. Have mercy on us.
 L. Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
 C. Make our hearts like yours.
 L. Let us pray.
 C. Eternal, all-powerful God! Look upon the Heart of the Son whom you love. See the praise and atonement he offers you in the name of sinners. Pardon all when we call on your mercy in his name: Jesus Christ, your Son; he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

A.3.5. Renewal of the Enthronement

(It has been customary to recite this prayer at a time such as after the evening meal, as a community renewal of the enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as Lord of the house and community. The community unites itself with all families in which the Sacred Heart has been enthroned).

Jesus, we come together in your presence. We renew the consecration of our family to your Sacred Heart. You are our only Lord forever. We have full and entire confidence in you. May your Spirit penetrate our thoughts, our desires, our words and our works. Bless our undertakings, share in our joys, in our trials and in our work. Help us to know you better, to love you more, to serve you without faltering.

By the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of Peace, establish your reign in our country. Enter closely into the midst of our families and make them your own through the enthronement of your Sacred Heart, so that soon one cry may resound from home to home: "May the victorious Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved, blessed and glorified forever!" To the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, honor and glory! Sacred Heart of Jesus, protect our families.

A.3.6. Consecration to the Sacred Heart by St. Margaret Mary

I, N..., give myself and consecrate to the Sacred Heart of Our Lord Jesus Christ, my person and my life, my actions, pains and sufferings, so that I may be unwilling to make use of any part of my being save to honor, love and glorify the Sacred Heart.

This is my unchanging purpose, namely, to be all His, and to do all things for the love of Him, at the same time renouncing with all my heart whatever is displeasing to Him.

I therefore take Thee, O Sacred Heart, to be the only object of my love, the guardian of my life, my assurance of salvation, the remedy of my weakness and inconstancy, the atonement for all the faults of my life, and my sure refuge at the hour of death.

Be then, O Heart of goodness, my justification before God the Father, and turn away from me the strokes of His righteous anger. O Heart of love, I put all my

confidence in Thee, for I fear everything from my own wickedness and frailty, but I hope for all things from Thy goodness and bounty.

Do Thou consume in me all that can displease Thee or resist Thy Holy Will; let Thy pure love imprint Thee so deeply upon my heart, that I shall nevermore be able to forget Thee or to be separated from Thee; may I obtain from all Thy loving kindness the grace of having my name written in Thee, for in Thee I desire to place all my happiness and all my glory, living and dying in very bondage to Thee.

A.4. Other prayers about the Heart of Jesus

A.4.1. Prayer to the Heart of Jesus

Lord Jesus,
in whose heart the fullness of the love abides,
teach us to have a redeeming heart like yours,
showing our love to the Father
in humble obedience to his will;
showing our love to our brothers and sisters
by the total commitment of our lives in your service.

Heart of Jesus, child from Bethlehem,
teach us to trust the Father
with the simplicity of children.
Heart of Jesus, worker at Nazareth,
transform our daily chores
into a continuous reparative adoration.

Heart of Jesus, who preached our salvation,
put your Good News on our lips
to bring men and women a message of hope and encouragement.
Heart of Jesus, man of suffering
make up in our flesh what is lacking in your passion
let us take on ourselves the suffering of your Church.

The prayer of this community ascends today like incense in your presence:
with it rise our struggles and joys,
our plans, yearnings and hopes.

Carried by Mary's hands this prayer
arrives pure and simple to your throne.
She gives us her docility and abandonment,
she makes us recognize all the great things you have done for us and makes us happy
in our simplicity and poverty.

We ask you to bless us with your mercy.
And since we have "believed in your love"
make us penetrate your Heart forever
and we will reign with you for the glory of the Father. Amen.

(Pablo Fontaine ss.cc.)

A.4.2. Source of inexhaustible love

Jesus, Savior of the world,
at the hour of death,
under the thrust of the lance,

blood and water flowed out
that all men
drawn to your Heart,
might be filled with joy
at the sources of Salvation.

The Church, your Spouse,
born from your transpierced side
cries to You.

Give to her in abundance
the living Water of the Spirit
and the Blood of sacrifice,
so that she may be able in the heart of
the World, to give witness
to the living and transforming power
of the Heart of God

John Paul II
Paray-le-Monial
05.10.1986

A.4.3. Prayer of Reparation to the Sacred Heart

O Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Humbly prostrate before you
We come to renew our consecration
Resolved to repair,
With greater love and greater fidelity towards you,
All the outrages to which the world causes you to submit.
We commit ourselves

The more your mysteries are blasphemed,
the more we will believe in you,
O Sacred Heart of Jesus !
The more impiety tries to smother our hope in eternity,
the more will we place our confidence in your Heart,
the unique hope of mortals.

The greater the number of hearts that resist your divine love,
the more we will love you,
O infinitely amiable Heart of Jesus.

The more your divinity is attacked, the more we will adore You,
O Divine Heart of Jesus.

The more your divine laws are forgotten and transgressed,
the more we will observe them,
O very holy Heart of Jesus!

The more your sacraments are misunderstood and abandoned,
the more we will frequent them with love and respect,
O merciful Heart of Jesus!

The more your adorable virtues are forgotten,
the more we will try to put them into practice,
O Heart, model of all virtue!

The more pride and sensuality
tends to destroy the spirit of abnegation and love of duty,
the more we will try to conquer ourselves, O Heart of Jesus!

The more the holy law of marriage is neglected and violated,
The more we will follow you with love and fidelity,
O Sacred Heart of Jesus!

The more the demon persists in destroying
The life of prayer and purity of consecrated souls,
The more we will try to live purity, chastity, and virginity,
O Sacred Heart of Jesus!

The more mothers destroy
The presence of the image of God by abortion,
The more we will save these infants still to be born
By seeing that they are adopted,
O Sacred Heart of Jesus!

O Sacred Heart,
give us a grace that is so strong and powerful,
that it permit us to become your apostles at the heart of the world,
and your crown in eternity.

Amen!

(Attributed to Mother Teresa of Calcutta)

A.4.4. Prayer of youth to the Heart of Jesus

Heart of Jesus,
You who are all love,
I offer you m y heart
with its joys, its difficulties,
its fears, and its hopes,
so that it become like unto Yours.

Increase my desire
to draw from You
tenderness and strength.

Grant that I may love like You.

Render me available
For your service in order that the world
open up to your light.

Heart of Jesus,
I confide to you
this day and my future.
From this moment, I say thank You
because I know that You love me
and that You love all my brothers.

Prayer composed by youth.

A.4.5. Litany of the Heart of Jesus to receive his joy

Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary, renew in us the joy of the Visitation: the happiness of your coming, the joy to hear your Word.

Heart of Jesus, burning furnace of charity, joyous Light of our day, eternal splendor of the Father, transfigure us according to your image, to reflect your glory by the action of the Spirit.

Heart of Jesus, abounding with love and goodness, recall to us your of self abasement in St. Paul: "There is more joy in living than in receiving" and we will work for help the weak.

Heart of Jesus, king and center of all hearts, grant the encounter in you of those whom you love, so that we might love one another according to the new commandment and show us as your luminous disciples.

Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father has placed all his love, grant that we may exult also in the joy of the Holy Spirit: we remember your Father's goodness that you revealed to us.

Heart of Jesus, patient and most merciful, may we always sing of your mercy and fidelity and announce it from age to age.

Heart of Jesus, wounded for our sins, You the suffering servant, intercede for us, sinners, and for the multitude.

Heart of Jesus, transpierced by the lance, allow us to draw near to your Heart and pray: "My Lord and my God", happy to believe in you without seeing you.

Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation, lead us to draw of your joy at the source of your open heart, from which the Consoler, Spirit, springs.

Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation, breathe your Spirit upon your Church, bearer of pardon, justice and peace to the people of the entire world.

Heart of Jesus, joy and delight of all the saints, chant in our hearts the praise of your Father and our Father, in the communion of the saints, from here below in the Eucharist.

Amen.

A.4.6. Prayers to the Heart of Jesus (Liturgical Seasons)

God, our Father,
 You have revealed your mercy to us
 in the transpierced Heart of your beloved Son.
Grant, that renewed by your Spirit,
 we might be the sign of your love in the world,
Through Jesus, the Christ, our Lord. Amen/

Eternal and all powerful God,
 to reveal salvation to us
 You chose the Cross of Christ.

Deign, that in contemplating Him whom we have transpierced,
and whose wounds have cured us,
we might be on fire with your zeal and certain of the Resurrection,
Through Jesus, the Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Passion, Lent)

Lord, look upon the transpierced Heart of Jesus,
Your beloved Son
and remember that he delivered himself for the Salvation of all;
In Him who glorified you even unto offering his life
make yourself known as the God of Love,
from one end of the earth to the other:
That all the peoples of the earth
may raise up to you the thanksgiving
of Jesus-Christ, our Savior.
He who lives and reigns with You forever and ever. Amen.

(Mission, Evangelization)

Merciful Father,
i the transpierced Heart of Christ,
You reveal to us the exigency of love.
We who wish to be the disciples of your Son,
pray to you:
Give us the grace to listen to his calls
and the courage to follow him
along the paths of life.
Because, in Him, you form an alliance with men,
Now and forever. Amen!

(Religious Life, commitment)

God, our Father,
in the Heart of your Son, Jesus,
You offer us the only true riches
capable of fulfilling our heart
beyond all measure.
Grant that we may recognize him,
present on the shores of men,
and to risk our life for his Word.
You who reign forever and ever. Amen!

(Commitment, vocation, mission...)

God and Father of all,
You for whom each of your children is unique
and have a right to bread and tenderness;
Open our hearts, like that of your beloved Son,
to the misery of your People,
and we will be able to hear the cry of our brothers,
and to serve them with love.
Thus, we will live according to the image of Jesus
who realized your Will
and who is living with You,
forever and every. Amen!

Lord, our God,
by the Heart of your Son pierced by the lance,
blood and water flowed

to transmit Life to the whole Body of the Church.
Deign that we may be faithful to our Baptism,
Celebrate and adore the Eucharist
with a fervor and gratitude always new.
Grant this through the Love of Jesus the Christ, our Lord. Amen!

(Thursday, Blessed Sacrament, Renovation of Vows...)

God of tenderness and of love:
Your offer us Bread for the journey
and thus you give us audacity
to desire to be disciples of your beloved Son.
Renew in us the liberty
to prefer nothing to his Love
in order to follow him to the end.
He, the Christ, our Lord,
Who lives in your Glory forever and ever. Amen!

Jesus, King crucified and crowned with thorns,
You have no other power
than that of Love.
Grant us, in your following,
to choose Love as the only force
of humble service for your unique grander.
And you will welcome us into the joy of your Kingdom
forever and ever. Amen!

(Friday, Christ the King, Passion)

Father all holy,
blood and water flowed
from the Side of your crucified Son.
On the day when you shower us with your Spirit
help us to discover the extent of His love for us,
and give us the courage to follow him on the road
that He will open up towards You.
Gracious God forever and ever. Amen!

(Pentecost)

God our Father,
the Risen Jesus, your beloved Son,
is no longer among us
that we might turn our eyes toward his transpierced Side.
We thank you
because you have given us his Presence
in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.
Preserve us in the breath of his Spirit
and we will be devout at the breaking of the Bread,
attentive to the teachings of the Apostles,
as One heart, one soul,
solidly rooted in your love.
Through Jesus, the Christ, Our Lord. Amen!

(Easter, Sunday)

God our Father,
in Jesus, your beloved Son,
You sent us a Shepherd according to your Heart,
who gathers your People,

of all nations, races and languages.
Grant that we listen today to his voice
and follow his path of love and of service.
He who empowers us to pass from death to life
today and forever and ever. Amen!

God of all the earth,
You have made brilliant the power of your eternal Love
in the transpierced Heart of your beloved Son.
We pray to you:
renew the youth of your Church
so that they may proclaim among the people,
Your Name of tenderness and pardon.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

God our Father,
it is in taking on the way of the Servant
that Jesus, your Son, reveals in his transpierced Heart
the folly of your Love.
Grant that
we may faithfully place our footsteps in his footsteps,
and announce to our brothers
with what Love you love them.

Lord our God,,
in Jesus, your Son, gentle and humble of Heart,
You reveal to us
that your grandeur is in the service of Love.
Transform our heart and our spirit
So that in our lives may reign
the desire to follow you in his humility,
He who lives now in your light
Now and forever. Amen!

Venerable God, at the misery of your People,
we have recognized the marvels of your tenderness
in the transpierced Heart of Jesus, you beloved Son.
In him who risked to the end
the adventure of our human life,
rescue us from the land of slavery and of fear,
and lead us toward the eternal promise of liberty
Today and forever and ever. Amen!

A.4.7. You have invited me to place my confidence in you

Lord Jesus,
I come to you, just as I am,
with all my pains and joys,
with what comforts me
and that which makes me despair,
with my shadows and my lights.

My wounds cry to You,
but your Heart is the Source of Life.
You invite me to confidence:
The superabundance of your mercy

liberates me from my fears
and my agonies.
You open for me a « future » in You.

I come to You
with my brothers who struggle.
Look upon all whom I love:
You, You love them much more
And better than I!

You draw us to You
lead us together,
to Draw at the Source of your Heart.
Place in us confidence and peace;
fill us with patience and joy.

Père Jean Leclerc

A.4.8. From your open arms

From your open arms,
from your life that is now ebbing away
blood and water wells up alive Jesus,
Recreating what has died.

That innocent blood,
that from Abel cries out to you in the heavens,
and is red with the death of the people
flows, alive and urgent.

And that fertile water,
That gave birth through your voice to creation,
And in the river called you the Loved one,
runs, clear and deep.

In the early afternoon,
sheltered in silence and sadness,
shouts and remains quiet and waits for the soil
to germinate your wounds.

Your victory was clear
The blood and water had already watered
The seeds that you sowed
In the whole of history

O selfless Jesus
Heart of immense frontiers,
may your Love that nourishes and recreates
renew creation.

(Guillermo Rosas ss.cc.)

A.4.9. Give us a heart

Jesus give us a heart,

Like the one that was rocked in the manger,
A Heart entrusted to the hands of others,
The Heart of a child, a joyful Heart.

Lord, give us a Heart
Like that of your work as a craftsman:
That made the world a great house
Where all live together as brothers and sisters.
A Heart that ploughs new life
into the furrows of time without rest.

Give us Jesus a heart
Like the one that preached along the roads,
A heart that cries from the rooftops,
A missionary and pilgrim heart.

Lord, give us a heart
That welcomes the small and suffering ones,
That causes life to spring forth in each face,
And that snatches the poor from death.
An open heart without frontiers,
Close and generous, faithful and valiant.

Give us, Jesus, a heart,
Like the one that was rocked by Mary,
A heart entrusted to the end
into the hands of the Father of Life.

(Guillermo Rosas ss.cc.)

A.4.10. A prayer of consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Sacred Heart of Jesus, today you have united us in your presence. You have chosen us to be yours. We consecrate ourselves to you and we commit ourselves with the help of your grace to participate fully in your redemptive work.

You came to this earth to redeem the human race. Many people still do not know you; awaken in us a missionary spirit so that we might be able to share the gift of your love that we have experienced.

There are many who have separated themselves from you. Be the Lord of your prodigal sons who return to you. Make of us true disciples that approach them as faithful witnesses of your love. Some have rejected you. Be the Lord of those who seek you in the truth. Have mercy on all of us and lead us to the fountain of your love so that, in it, we may renew our fervor and fidelity.

Lord, grant to your Church, and to your chosen People, the security of living free from all harm; grant peace to all nations; that from one end of the earth to the other may resound a single cry: Praise to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, to them glory and honor for ever! Amen.

A.4.11. Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Fr. Jean of the Heart of Jesus D'Elbée

My life is a passion for you, Jesus, for your Heart which is you, fool of love!
I have a passion for you, Jesus. I love you; I love you with all the passion of my heart,
my soul, my intelligence...
I am impassioned with love for you, by night and by day, for you, son of Mary, Jesus of
Nazareth, the Word made flesh, the agonized at Gethsemane, the Soul of Bethany, the
king of Calvary.
My first thought is for you, at night, in the morning and a hundred times each day I offer
you all each of my heartbeats.
Yes, I have lost my head through the folly of my love for you, Jesus, son of Mary,
Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus of Paray, of Lisieux, of Louvain, of Masnuy. Jesus of my
Mass, Jesus of the Altar, Jesus of my heart !
O Jesus, even those whom you love the most do not love you enough !

A.4.12. Prayer of the young hearts to the Heart of Jesus

Lord, Jesus,
whose Heart is always attentive
to the desires of those who confide in You:
we want to ask you for the grace
to be witnesses of your love
capable of living joyfully for you
living like You,
capable of welcoming the love with which you gift us
communicating it faithfully to others,
capable of making of our words and works
the most eloquent sign that we only want to serve.

May we be able to love as You love,
understand as You understand,
welcome as You welcome,
accept us as You pardon us,
surrender ourselves as You have.

Your Heart will then be the one
That will love through ours.
Your words will be
Those that well up truth from our lips.
Your welcome will be
That which we will give abundantly
To all brothers and sisters.

That encouraged of the Heart of the Virgin
We may be faithful to the vocation you give us
For your glory and praise. Amen.

A.4.13. Prayer (John Paul II)

Jesus, Savior of the world, at the hour of Your death,
From the thrust of the lance, Water and Blood gushed forth
so that all men, drawn to Your Heart may drink with joy from the fountain of Salvation.

The Church Your Spouse, born from Your pierced Heart cries to You. Give it in abundance the living water of the Spirit and the blood of the sacrifice so that in the heart of the world it may give witness to the life giving and transforming power of the Heart of God.

A.4.14. I came to contemplate your heart

Lord, I come to gaze on You, I come to contemplate Your Heart which we have pierced, from where there flows blood and water; Your Heart is pierced because we did not recognize in You the face of God our Father.

I come to gaze on You, Lord, I come to contemplate Your open Heart, like a tireless fountain which flows abundantly; the clear water of love and forgiveness; the fresh water capable of calming the fever of our resentments; the healing water capable of washing the sores of our wounds; the pure water capable of purifying our spirits tormented by doubt; the living water capable of reviving our worn out lives.

I come to gaze on You, Lord, I come to contemplate Your open Heart as a tireless fountain which flows abundantly.

The blood which tells me that I am valuable before Your eyes.

The blood that reveals to me the depth of Your love for me.

The blood that frees me from all my fears;

The blood that makes life spring forth from death;

The blood that brings me into communion with Your life.

Lord, by Your open heart, You pour into our hearts Your Spirit of joy and peace.

O Jesus, tireless fountain of love!

May You be blessed for coming down continually into our hearts!

A.4.15. Heart of Jesus, thanks (Bro. Rafael Arnáiz OCSO)

Heart of Christ, thanks
because You have given us everything,
and You have given Yourself totally,
to redeem the world.

May the giving of myself to You be in Your way.

And may I live happy, very happy supported by Your love for me.

As it is an eternal, infinite love it will never fail me,
and I can count on it always and in every moment.

So my life will be happy and joyful
because it depends on You, on Your love.

(Saint Rafael Arnáiz OCSO)

A.4.16. Act of consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I consecrate myself to your most Sacred Heart.

Take possession of my whole being; transform me into yourself.

Make my hands your hands; my feet your feet, my heart your heart.

Let me see with your eyes, listen with your ears, speak with your lips, love with your heart, understand with your mind, serve you with your will, and be dedicated with my whole being.

Make me your other self. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, send me your Holy Spirit to teach me to love you, to live through you, with you, in you and you.

Come Holy Spirit, make my body your temple.
Come and abide with me for ever. Give me the deepest love for the Sacred Heart of Jesus in order to serve him with my whole heart, soul, mind and strength.
Take possession of all my faculties. Regulate all my passions, feelings and emotions.
Take possession of my intellect, understanding and will, my memory and imagination.
O Holy Spirit of love, give an abundance of your efficacious graces.
Give me the fullness of all virtues, enrich my faith, strengthen my hope, increase my trust and inflame my love.
Give me the fullness of your sevenfold gifts, fruits and beatitudes.
Most Holy Trinity, make my soul your sanctuary.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

A.4.17. Act of consecration of the youth to the S. Heart (WYD)

At the end of the Eucharistic Adoration in the prayer vigil the evening of Saturday August 20, 2011 at Cuatro Vientos (Madrid), the Holy Father Benedict XVI consecrated the young people to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This is the text that the Pope prayed:

Lord Jesus Christ,
Brother, Friend, and Redeemer of mankind,
Look with love upon the youth gathered here
And open for them the eternal fountain of your mercy
which flows from your open Heart on the Cross.

They have come to be with you and adore you.
With ardent prayer
I consecrate them to your Heart
so that, rooted and built up in you;
they will always be yours, in life and in death.

May they never turn away from you!
Give them hearts like yours,
meek and humble,
so that they may always listen to your voice and your commands,
do your will,
and be praise to you throughout the world,
so that mankind, contemplating their works,
may give glory to the Father with whom you live,
in everlasting happiness,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
forever and ever.
Amen

A.4.18. I want to speak of an infinite love

I want to speak of an infinite love,
that becomes a fragile child;
the love of man humiliated.
I want to speak of a passionate love.

He bears our sins in sorrow,
being king, he becomes a slave;
fire of powerful love,
savior, humble, silent, faithful.

**Love that opens its arms in welcome;
I want to speak of the way to life.
Patient heart, burning love;
I want to speak of the one who conquers death.**

I want to speak of a generous love,
that acts and says nothing, love for all;
always looking for us,
awaiting the response, the encounter.

I want to speak of a different love,
mysterious, uncompromising;
love that is victorious on the cross
I want to speak of the Heart of Jesus.

(Cristóbal Fones, s.j. Chile)

A.5. Ejaculatory prayers

L. Vivat Cor Jesu Sacratissimum, L. Live the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
C. Per infinita saecula seculorum! C. Forever and ever!

There has been a custom to use the following as a greeting and at the beginning of correspondence and other writing:

L. Vivat Cor Jesu Sacratissimum! (V.C.J.S.) L. Live the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus!
C. Vivat Cor Mariae Immaculatum! (V.C.M.I.) C. Live the Immaculate Heart of Mary!

L. To the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary! C. Honor and glory!

L. Blessed be the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. c. Forever and ever. Amen.

B. Prayers to Mary

B.1. Prayers to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

B.1.1. Mary, mother of our Congregation

Mary, look with the tenderness of your Immaculate Heart,
on this religious family,
that has been yours since its foundation.

You are associated in a singular way
with the mystery of God made man.
Your heart is always united to Jesus.

You precede and accompany us
on the path of life
so that we might enter more fully into the heart of your Son.

You are our model of faith in love
showing us how to follow Christ radically,
in chastity poverty, and obedience.
You teach us to live the mystery of the Eucharist;
you make your own the thoughts and sentiments of your Son
whom you bore within you and accompanied to the Cross.

We present to you
our entire congregation.

Help us to live our vocation faithfully
as those consecrated to God's love
entering with Jesus, as you did,
into the Father's design to save the world by love.

May the love of your heart and that of your Son
reign in our communities
so that we might humbly proclaim
the greatness of devotion to the Sacred Hearts.

Help us to be grateful for one another,
to accept and love each one as they are,
to trust each other,
to forgive one another without resentment.

Watch over our young brothers and sisters,
sustain the elderly,
console our sick,
be with those who feel alone,
give wisdom and strength to our superiors.

Our Founders,
Blessed Damian and Eustaquio,
and the many brothers and sisters who have gone before us,
are outstanding models
for living our vocation.

Through your intercession,
Immaculate Mother,
may the whole Church
glorify God through them
and enjoy their example and protection.

Protect also our families and friends.
Pray for all those with whom we share the mission each day;
for the little ones and for those who suffer,
and also for those who do us wrong and hamper our mission.

Pray with us
that the Lord send us brothers and sisters
to follow your Son in the Congregation.
With them may we contemplate, live and proclaim
redemptive love.

Mary, Queen of Peace,
may we live every day of our lives
united in the love of God,
so extraordinarily manifested
in your Son's heart and your heart.

**To them we consecrate ourselves:
in whose service we wish to live and die.**

B.1.2. Prayer to acquire the Heart of Mary

Lord, You have chosen the Virgin Mary
as Mother of the Redeemer and our mother.

We pray that you make her present in our life,
That in her silence, we may listen to your Word ;
That in her faith we may receive your Gospel ;
That with her humility we may recognize your power,
That with her poverty we may encounter your joy.

Grant that through her purity
We may contemplate your face.
And in her simplicity
We confide ourselves to your Mercy.

Give us the strength
To follow your Son to the Cross,
And your help to live profoundly
The Mystery of the Church.

I ask this through Jesus, our Lord. Amen

(Pablo Fontaine ss.cc.)

B.1.3. From whence Springs life?

From whence springs this strength,
so valiant and generous,
without selfishness, without duplicity,
when God turns your plans upside down Mary?

And from whence wells up this joy,
in the cold and miserable manger,
when the hour arrives
to bring to light, the Light created by the Father?

From whence flows this temple,
this fragile fortress
that in the hour of the agonizing cross
perseveres in your unrelenting pain.

From your Heart, Virgin Mary,
from your unquenchable passion,
from your youthful faith, so free and pure.

From your Heart, Mary Spouse,
from you who places no conditions,
on your love that is available to all.

From your Heart, Mother Mary,
from your fidelity that knows no discomfort,
from your illuminated lamp.

(Guillermo Rosas ss.cc.)

B.1.4. Prayer to the Virgen of our school

*Oh beautiful Virgin Mary
Glory of the heavens, and Queen of all people
In the mystery of your Immaculate Conception
Receive, among the incense and the fragrance of my prayers,
The fervent prayer of the school where I learned to love you.*

*I know Oh Mother Mine,
Dawn always beautiful
In the clear horizons of my childish heart.
That your beauty fills my eyes with light
That your beauty fills my lips with the honey of your name
That your beauty fills my heart with the flower of your love.*

*Put within me the breath of your holiness.
Be the lighthouse of my struggles in the sea of the years of my youth
And do not allow the poor conquered sailboat
To forget the port of your Hear as Mother.*

*Today, I consecrate, Immaculate Virgin,
My childhood heart, my youthful dreams, my life of the future
So that you will always be Queen of my soul.
From the dawn until the sunset of my life
That in this journey your hand will lead me,
your light guide me, and your heart will support me.
Oh, Immaculate Virgin Mary,
Let it be so.*

Prayer from the Brothers' schools in Spain.

B.1.5. Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (by Fr.Mateo ss.cc.)

(This prayer of the Community to its Patroness was composed by Fr. Mateo at the request of the General Chapter).

Immaculate Heart of Mary, look with tender eyes on our Congregation, which from the cradle has belonged to you. We come humbly before you, to pray for your help. May the spirit of our special vocation stay strong among us. Obtain for us the blessing we need to grow into true saints.

As you build up our interior life, send us more sons and daughters to share it. Queen of the Cenacle, send us new recruits whom you yourself have chosen, brothers and sisters who will be true saints and apostles. Have a watchful care for the well-being of those whose difficult responsibilities take them far away from home.

Mother of Fair Love, crown your favors by sending down a halo of glory upon the names and graves of our founders, missionaries and martyrs. Pray that they, raised one day by the Church to her altars, may be recognized at your side as the heavenly protectors of our Institute.

Immaculate and sorrowful Heart of Mary, show yourself the Mother of the merciful Heart of Jesus and the gentle sovereign of our Congregation; teach us to live, work, suffer and die true to our motto: To the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, honor and glory!

B.1.6. Prayer of a teacher to the Heart of Mary

Heart and strength of Mary,
Mother of our fidelity
At the beginning of this new day
We trust in You.

We want to live
As intensely as You
The will of the Father,
To be faithful as you were you
In working out our commitment
To live in love

Give us a heart that is not aggrieved
by ingratitude, who knows how to love everyone
Without distinction.

Teach us to give to our work
Life and enthusiasm
So that we may work with joy
Building the Kingdom of God,
Helping others to grow,
Being constant in our self giving,
And living from faith, hope and love.

Olga Mardones ss.cc.

B.2. Prayers to Our Lady of Peace

B.2.1. Prayer to Our Lady of Peace

Virgin and Queen of Peace
Mother of the poor and simple
Hope of those who suffer from loneliness
Our Lady of Love and of the Covenant,

You gave us Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
He gifted us with the Eucharist
and consecrated us by his redeeming Love.

Teach us to live the demands of the Gospel
in simplicity
to serve all our brothers and sisters with joy,
to be serene before the Cross
and faithful to our spirit as adorers.

Give us your spirit of generosity,
poverty and humility.
Give us your love for work, for justice, for truth.

Grant that we may be messengers of peace
in our community, in our family and in our country
To be able to show the world our participation
in the mission of redemptive Love,
daughters and sons of Jesus' Sacred Heart
and of your Immaculate Heart.

Today, in your Heart,
poor, silent and available,
protect the members of your family,
who want to be artisans of peace,
joy and love in your Church. Amen.

María Olga Mardones ss.cc.

B.2.2. Prayer to Our Lady of Peace

Lord, You chose the Virgin Mary
As Mother of the Redeemer and our mother

We pray that you make her present in our life
That in her silence, we may listen to your Word
That in her faith we may receive the Gospel
That with her humility we may recognize your power
That with her poverty we may find your joy

Through her purity
May we contemplate your face
And in her simplicity
We trust in your mercy.

Give us her strength
To follow your Son on the Cross,
And her help to live deeply
The Mystery of your Church.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen
Pablo Fonatine ss.cc.

B.2.3. Prayer to Our Lady of Peace

Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus,
in your gentle heart justice and peace kissed,
mercy and truth embraced.
May your risen Son give us the peace
that the world can not give:

Peace that renews our covenant with the Father
and reconciles us with our very selves,
Peace that is a communion of faith-filled hearts,
building community,

Peace that leads us to love
the poorest of the poor,
Peace that radiates as hope
for all people,

Peace that brings the Good News of mercy
and justice, of love and truth,
of joy and freedom to the whole world,
Peace that fills us with
zeal to proclaim the Father's love,
Praise be Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

(Esteban Gumucio, ss.cc. Chile)

B.2.4. Prayer to Our Lady of Peace

Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Peace,
you have come to us
to bring us the Peace of God, Jesus, your Son.

With all who have preceded us
and who invoke you in trial or helplessness,
or before rushing toward distant shores,
we come to you with confidence
because you are our Mother.

Rejoice, humble Servant of the Lord.
through you, God establishes his home among us.
In the Heart of Jesus your Son,
He reveals his tenderness and his mercy.

At the foot of the Cross,
you welcome the pardon and peace
that he obtains for us.
Lead us to the source of living water of his Heart.

Pray for us, pray with us, Holy Mother of God,
that we be artisans of reconciliation
and of servants of peace.

We will know then the peace of heart
promised to those who walk, with you,
in the way of the Gospel
so that the world might have life
and that it have it in abundance.

Amen!

B.2.5. Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Peace

I come to you with confidence.
I do not know how to pray,
I do not know what to say.
I do not have much time.
You, our Mother, you know how to find the words
That will touch the Heart of your Son, Jesus.

May this little flame which burns before you
be the sign of my good will and my love!
it is fragile, like them, almost nothing will extinguish it.
May it be burning like the cries of this world
which is hungry for bread and tenderness, for justice and peace...
(*I can name, here, a particular person, group or situation,
a particular country for whom I wish to pray*)...

May it be ardent, like the love
with which we are loved by the Father
in Jesus your son and our elder brother.

May my faltering faith in this love regain strength
And be the source of interior peace.

In your Mother's Heart, Mary,
you whom I wish to name, here, Our Lady of Peace,
I place the stammering of my prayer,
the surge of my faith
and of my love for Jesus
and for humanity which he came to save.

I only pass to you
this little flame to tell you that my heart remains near you,
and that, in leaving for my habitual activities
I continue to pray with You, O my Mother!

AMEN!

B.2.6. To Mary for peace

Help us, dear Virgin Mary, help us to pray:
that our poor world be at Peace.

You who were greeted by the Spirit of Peace,
obtain peace for us.
You who received in your womb the Word of Peace,
obtain peace for us.
You who give us the Holy Infant of peace,
obtain peace for us.

You who help Him who reconciles all,
you who always says yes to Him who pardons,
vowed to his eternal mercy,
obtain peace for us.
Compassionate star in the violent night of the peoples,
we desire peace.
Dove of gentleness among the vultures of the peoples,
we aspire to peace.
Olive branch springing up in the dry forests of their hearts,
we yearn for peace.

So that the prisoners be finally delivered,
so that the exiles return to their countries,
so that all the wounds be finally healed,
obtain peace for us.

For the anguish of men,
we ask for peace.
For the little children sleeping in their cradles,
we ask for peace.
For the elderly who desire to die at home,
we ask for peace.

You, the mother of those without support ; you, enemy of the hearts of stone,
brilliant Star in the night of helplessness,
we ask for peace.

Gertrude von le Fort (1876-1971)
Excerpts from « Hymnes à l'Église »

B.2.7. Sequence in honour to Our Lady Queen of Peace

Hail, glorious Queen of Peace, thou who dost en strife and appease angry minds!

Hail, thou who dost subdue the worst of enemies, full of hatred and wrath in their fury!

In thee, piety abideth; through thee, meekness reigheth; from thee, virtue springeth.

True Daughter of Sion, thou art the faithful guardian of the Church; thou keepest peace within its fold.

O Mediatrix of the world, grant that a bond of love may unite all men to God.

Is there a heart that would not love thee, o Mother? is there one who would not find in Thee the sweet blessing of lasting peace?

No one can ever sufficiently love or praise thee, o Ark of the New Covenant!

Thou reparaest our faults; thou givest to our souls true rest and liberty.

Hasten to cure all ills, to settle all disputes, to repress all wars.

Suppress the assaults of hell so that a perfect concord may establish all souls in peace.

O Co-redemptrix of the human race, thou who arte ever solicitous of our welfare, assist us in all our trials.

O Sovereign, full of grace and charm, resplendent with beauty, crowned wit a royal diadem, give peace to thy subjects.

Look down kindly upon Holy Mother Church; protect our beloved country; smile with love upon us.

At the close of our lives, lead us from this vale of tears unto the blissful mansions of Eternal Peace. Amen

(From the Office and Mass granted by the Sacred Congregation of Rites to the Congregation of the ss.cc., 1912)

(Modern English)

Hail, glorious Queen of Peace, you who in strife appease angry minds!

Hail, you who subdue the worst of enemies, full of hatred and wrath in their fury!

In you piety abides, through you meekness reigns; from you strength springs.

True Daughter of Sion, you are the faithful guardian of the Church; you keep peace within its fold.

O Mediatrix of the world, grant that a bond of love may unite all men to God.

Is there a heart that would not love thee, O Mother? Is there one who would not find in you the sweet blessing of lasting peace?

No one can ever sufficiently love or praise you, O Ark of the New Covenant!

You repair our faults; you give true rest and liberty to our souls.

Hasten to cure all ills, to settle all disputes, to repress all wars.

Suppress the assaults of hell so that a perfect concord may establish all souls in peace.

O Co-redemptrix of the human race, you who are ever solicitous of our welfare, assist us in all our trials.

O Sovereign, full of grace and charm, resplendent with beauty, crowned with a royal diadem, give peace to your subjects.

Look down kindly upon Holy Mother Church; protect our beloved country; smile with love upon us.

At the close of our lives, lead us from this vale of tears unto the blissful mansions of Eternal Peace. Amen

(From the Office and Mass granted by the Sacred Congregation of Rites to the Congregation of the SS.CC., 1912)

B.2.8. Hymn to Our Lady of Peace

Mary, Virgin of virgins, of whom was born the Redeemer of all, O very worthy Queen, cast a favorable glance on the world.

Take away deadly struggles, end all disagreements, and crush the haughty head of the implacable serpent.

Protect our country, watch over our Mother, the Church, and give health to our bodies and peace to our souls.

Deign to open to all, the celestial home of peace, where all will sing with you the eternal canticle of peace.

Glory to you, O Jesus, who was born of the Virgin, glory to the Father, glory to the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen!

(Text of Biagio Verghetti, from the Office and Mass granted by the Sacred Congregation of Rites to the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts, 1912))

B.2.9. Mass to Our lady of Peace

Because of her close personal connection with her Son, the “Prince of Peace”, our Lady has been increasingly venerated as “Queen of Peace”: in the calendars of particular Churches and some religious institutes there is a memorial of her as “Queen of Peace.” It is worth recalling that Benedict XV in 1917, while a terrible war was raging, ordered that the invocation “Queen of Peace” should be added to the Litany of Loreto.

This Mass commemorates the cooperation of our Lady in the reconciliation or “peace” between God and the human family brought about by Christ:

- In the *mystery of the incarnation*: the lowly handmaid of the Lord receives God’s word from the angel Gabriel and conceives in her virginal womb the Prince of Peace, who “has restored our peace, reconciling in himself earth with heaven” (Com Ant)

- In the *mystery of the passion*: the faithful mother stands “fearless beside the cross, as her Son sheds his blood for our salvation and reconciles all things to himself in peace” (Pref)

- In the *mystery of Pentecost*: our Lady, the daughter of peace, joins “in prayer with the apostles as she awaits... the Spirit of unity and peace, of love and joy” (Pref)

In celebrating the memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace, the assembly of the faithful begs God that through her intercession he will grant to the Church and to the human family these favours:

- *The spirit of love*: “that we may live in peace as one family, united in love for one another” (OP); “fill us with the spirit of love” (PAC)

- *The gifts of unity and peace*: “bestow on your family the gifts of unity and peace” (POG); “that we may live in peace as one family” (OP); that “we may build up in our world the peace which Christ himself left to us” (PAC)

- *Tranquility in our times*: “hear our earnest prayer: grant that our times may be tranquil (OP)

The texts of this Mass, except for the preface, are taken from the booklet *Propio delle messe per le diocesi di Savona e Noli*, Tipografia Priamar, SAVONA, 1978, p. 17

POSSIBLE READINGS

First Reading: **Is 9: 1-4,6**
Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 85: 8-9, 10-11, 12-13**
Gospel: **Luke 1: 26-38**

Entrance Antiphon

A Child is born for us, a son is given to us, and he shall be called “Prince of Peace” (cf Is 9,6)

OPENING PRAYER

Lord our God,
You sent your only Son
To bring peace to our world.

Through the intercession
Of Blessed Mary, ever virgin,
Hear our earnest prayer;
Grant that our times may be tranquil,
So that we may live in peace as one family,
United in love for one another.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord,
As we lovingly venerate
Blessed Mary, ever virgin, as queen of peace,
We offer you the sacrifice of reconciliation;
Be pleased with our offering
And bestow on your family
The gifts of unity and peace

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

A Virgin has given birth to one who is truly God and truly human: God has restored our peace, reconciling in himself earth with heaven

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord our God,
On this memorial of our Lady, queen of peace,
Fill us with the spirit of love,
So that, refreshed by the body and blood
Of your only Son,
We may build up in our world
The peace that Christ left with us

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: MARY, QUEEN OF PEACE

THE MOTHER OF CHRIST IS DAUGHTER AND QUEEN OF PEACE

Priest: The Lord be with you
People: And also with you

Priest: Lift up your hearts
People: We lift them up to the Lord

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
We do well always and everywhere to give you thanks and,
As we honour the memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
To proclaim with fitting praise
The greatness of your name.

She is your lowly handmaid,
Receiving your word from the angel Gabriel
And conceiving in her virginal womb
The Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ,
Your Son, our Lord.

She is the faithful mother,
standing fearless beside the cross
as her Son sheds his blood for our salvation

and reconciles all things to himself in peace.

She is the disciple of Christ and daughter of peace,
Joining in prayer with the apostles
As she awaits your promised Gift,
The Spirit of unity and peace, of love and joy.

Now, with the saints and all the angels
We praise you for ever:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

B.2.10. Novena to Our Lady Queen of Peace

FIRST DAY: JUNE 30

O God, from whom proceed all holy desires, all right counsels and just works, grant us Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be devoted to Your service and then, being delivered from the fear of our enemies, we may spend our time in peace under Your protection. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Our Father...
Hail Mary. . .

V. Our Lady of Peace
R. Pray for us, protect us, and save us.

SECOND DAY: JULY 1

O God, through Your only-begotten Son, You have in Your mercy given us peace;. Grant that, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, we may enjoy constantly on earth the blessings of peace, and that we may enter into the joy of everlasting peace in heaven. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Our Father...
Hail Mary. . .

V. Our Lady of Peace
R. Pray for us, protect us, and save us.

THIRD DAY: JULY 2

Hail, most sublime Queen of Peace, most holy Mother of God,
with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, your Son, the Prince of Peace,
reign in our hearts.

Remember, most loving Virgin Mary,
never was it heard that anyone who turned to you for help
was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, though burdened by our sins,
we run to your protection for you are our mother.

Mother of the Word of God,
do not despise our words of pleading

but be merciful and hear our prayer. Amen.

Our Father...

Hail Mary. . .

V. Our Lady of Peace

R. Pray for us, protect us, and save us.

FOURTH DAY: JULY 3

O great Queen of Peace

It is through the love of your blessed Heart
that the God of love and peace was given to us;

It is through you that all schisms and heresies
which divide us are suppressed;

it is through you that peace fills the hearts
of those who renounce themselves

to live according to the law of God.

Oh make this sweet peace reign

in the Church of Christ and in our souls. Amen

Our Father...

Hail Mary. . .

V. Our Lady of Peace

R. Pray for us, protect us, and save us.

FIFTH DAY: JULY 4

Glorious and incomparable Virgin,
Queen of Peace and Mother of Mercy,
present us to your Son, the Prince of Peace
and our loving redeemer;

we pray that He may grant us in this life,

not only relief in our affliction,

but also a universal peace;

and after this life, the eternal peace of heaven. Amen

Our Father...

Hail Mary. . .

V. Our Lady of Peace

R. Pray for us, protect us, and save us.

SIXTH DAY: JULY 5

O glorious Mother of the great Prince of Peace,
of Him who came down from heaven
to bring peace to the world,
obtain for us through your intercession
a universal peace.

We beg you, fill our hearts with love
of our holy religion,

and make all nations enjoy a perfect tranquility,
serving your Son

in the perfection of a truly Christian life. Amen.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Our Lady of Peace...

SEVENTH DAY: JULY 6

How much praise do we not owe you, O Mary,
through you the barrier between heaven
and earth has been removed;
through your admirable maternity, O glorious Queen,
more resplendent than the stars,
you have revoked the curse which has weighed upon us
since the fall of Eve.

Hail, then, O Virgin, cause of our joy;
hail, Mother, who gave birth to Peace.
Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you,
He who is before you, of you and with you.
to Him, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
be praise now and forever. Amen

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Our Lady of Peace...

Pray for us, protect us, and save us!

EIGHTH DAY: JULY 7

We rejoice with you, O Mary,
on account of all your virtues,
but we rejoice especially because of your mercy,
since it is through mercy
that you are Queen of Peace.
Truly in your mercy you shared in your Son's
redemption of the world
and the salvation of all people.
In our weakness we appeal to your mercy,
to lead us safely to your Son. Amen.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Our Lady of Peace...

Pray for us, protect us, and save us!

NINTH DAY: JULY 8

Most holy Virgin Mary, august Queen of Peace,
full of confidence in your goodness,
and animated with a lively desire to serve you,
we consecrate ourselves entirely to you
now and forever,
and we promise to do all we can
to make you known, loved and honored.
Deign to receive us among your loved children;
deign to watch over us and to protect us.
Pray, we beg you, that the Church, our country,
ourselves and those dear to us
may be granted the gift of peace
flowing from the Heart of your Beloved Son.

Our Father...
Hail Mary...
Our Lady of Peace...
Pray for us, protect us, and save us!

B.2.11. On the feast of Our Lady of Peace

Almighty God, through a Virgin-mother,
You have given Your Son, Jesus,
in whom are all Your treasures and delights.
We offer You His Sacred Heart
through the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
as the most precious gift we can select
in token of gratitude for peace,
and for all the other graces
which we constantly receive
from Your merciful bounty.

Glorious Queen of Peace,
we come to renew at your feet the promise
of our humble devotion and faithfulness until death.
If you will receive us as your children,
our only prayer will be to ask God,
through your love,
the graces of peace of soul,
freedom from sin,
wisdom and understanding,
protection from evil,
and knowledge of your Son.

As you are our Mother,
may He who willed to be your child
hear our prayers
and enfold us in His love.

O holy Virgin, full of grace,
may we be truly repentant
so that our life may end with a happy death,
and that we, dying in the embrace of the Lord,
may be with you for all eternity. Amen.

V. Our Lady of Peace,
R. Pray for us, protect us, and save us.

B.3. Other prayers to Mary

B.3.1. Prayer found in Good Mother's office

Holy Virgin:
You are my good Mother
and the Mother par excellence
of Beautiful (Magnificent) Love.
You have obtained many graces for me
all through my life.

Deign, my good Mother, to grant me
a new grace,
that will crown all the others:
it is the grace to love God.
To love him ardently,
To love him without reserve,
To love him constantly,
To love him as much as possible here on earth,
so that I may have the joy
to love Him eternally with you in heaven.

B.3.2. Good Father's prayer to Our Lady of Foy

Queen of Faith, holy Mother of God! We come to you with hearts broken by grief; in your Heart we shed our abundant tears. Our sufferings and troubles can seem at times too much for us and we can feel ourselves surrounded by the shadows of death. How justly we can be punished for our sins, but how blessed we are, holy Virgin, that in you we have a powerful Mother who can calm the just anger of heaven.

Mary, compassionate Mother, speak for us in the courts of heaven. You are the beloved daughter of God the Father, the tender Mother of God the Son, and the spotless spouse of God the Holy Spirit. Take the part of your unhappy children and obtain our forgiveness.

Holy Virgin, we know that we cannot perish if we kneel at your altars and shed our tears of repentance in your shrines. Tender Mother, our refuge and our hope, console us in our pain. Look with pity on this sad world which seems to have reached the full measure of evil and where irreligion and impiety, having full sway, seem at times to triumph even in the very heart of Christianity.

Mary, your children ask your help. By the power of your Heart, stronghold of faith, pray your Son to renew the face of the earth. May he send apostles to the nations that are still without the word of his Gospel; may he give the light of truth and unity to all separated Christians who claim his name; may he draw all unbelievers to the family of his Church and, above all, restore Christianity to its primitive fervor. With the protection of a Mother's Heart, shield this our beloved country, which has been consecrated to you. Through your powerful prayer, rekindle in the hearts of all the faithful, zeal, faith, and true morality. Revive in us those Christian virtues which, in the early days of the Church, were the true characteristics of the children of God and of Mary.

B.3.3. How do I call her?

Mother of the weary,
Empress of the nappies
Queen of the pots
Lady of the brooms,
Sister of all the poor.
Door of the people
Weaver of all courage
Friend of the heartbroken
Counsellor of those who struggle
Humble and brave mother
Mother of the strong arms
Virgin of those who walk
Companion on the way,
Example to those who seek
Hope of the unemployed
Believer, full of faith
Tenderness of God in maternal flesh,
Educator of Christ
Protector of John
Messenger of peace in hard times

Godmother of the poor
Companion of the sorrowful
Friend of single mothers
Singer of joy
Wisdom of the humble
Guardian of the cradle
Clever Mother
Mother who seeks
Mother with the smell of milk
Mother of the exiled
Mother discreet sovereignty of Cana
Mother, pilgrim in the footsteps of the Son
Heart of all she guards
Heart that ponders the Son in silence
Mother who allows growth
Who grows with him, who listens to and follows him
Woman of the difficult ascents to Jerusalem
Woman of daily chores,
Woman who does not give up in the face of power
Woman who bows down only before God
Mary, Mother of Jesus.

Esteban Gumucio ss.cc.

C. To Saint Joseph

C.1. Prayer to Saint Joseph

Hail, Joseph, most faithful foster-father of Jesus,
most chaste spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
our most dear and powerful protector!

St. Joseph, enriched with delights by the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
pray for us, thy trustful servants,
now and the hour of our death. Amen.

(Prayer approved by the Holy See for the Congregation of the ss.cc.)

C.2. Prayer to St. Joseph composed by Fr. Eustaquio

St. Joseph, selfless husband of Mary, affectionate adopted father of the Child Jesus,
protector and refuge of the Holy Family, through your intercession together with Jesus and
Mary, give me the grace that I so ardently wish for myself and mine.

I put myself entirely under your powerful protection with Jesus and Mary, who fled and
returned safely.

St. Joseph, if there is anything in my conduct that displeases Jesus or his Mother, help me to
remove it, because I would like to be holy as Jesus and Mary are holy. I want to live with
them under one roof and do not want to hold onto anything that could displease them.

Oh St. Joseph, I ask for light for my spirit, light for my eyes, courage for my heart and a
greater fear of sin

Oh St. Joseph I ask for peace in the midst of so many who hate and persecute. Peace in our
hearts, peace in the home, peace in all countries. Oh, St. Joseph, make the world a new holy
family, where both the bloodthirsty lion and the gentle lamb also find peace.

Yes, I acknowledge that I am a sinner, a great sinner and do not deserve to raise my eyes
towards you.

Ask God to have mercy on me, ask Mary for her powerful intercession. I am afraid to die and

appear before the tribunal of God, if you St. Joseph and Mary, were not my advocates.
 I am confident, oh great saint, that your support and that of Mary will not fail me.
 St. Joseph, if I cannot talk when my last moment arrives, intercede for me. I need it very
 much, if not I will not be able to save myself.
 St. Joseph, take care of all who trust in You. You know what I want for myself and for mine.
 Like St. Teresa I trust that my prayers will not be in vain, but will be met and taken to the feet
 of Jesus and Mary.
 If, however, it is God's will that I have to endure suffering, then ask for strength for me, the
 great strength not to succumb under the weight of my cross.
 St. Joseph listen to me. I am in front of the door of the Holy Family. I do not want to leave
 without being heard.
 St. Joseph, help me to bear suffering. Help me to forgive, help me to trust, help me to save.
 Amen.
 St. Joseph, consolation of the afflicted, pray for me
 St. Joseph, hope of the sick, pray for me.
 St. Joseph, patron of the dying, pray for me.

C.3. Prayer to St. Joseph for the Congregation

Saint Joseph,
 we want to place our religious family of the Sacred Hearts
 under your protection,
 so that each one of us may live in fidelity to the Spirit,
 in listening to and fulfilling the Word of God.
 You who are a model of selfless love, intercede for us
 to seek first the happiness of others, not ours;
 to be always willing to give up our own plans to follow God's;
 to be attentive to the needs of the brothers, accompanying them in their joys and pains.
 Teach us to be humble to bloom wherever God has planted us,
 and may we have the grace to live, as you did,
 always giving glory to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

D. About the Founders

D.1. Good Father

D.1.1. Prayer for the beatification of the Good Father

God, our Father,
 you called your servant, Mary-Joseph Coudrin,
 to found a new religious Congregation in the Church
 that would spread everywhere
 the infinite riches of Your Love manifested in the Heart of Jesus, Your Son,
 and the Heart of Mary, His Mother.

Grant that the Church, by the Beatification of your servant,
 might propose him as an authentic witness of your Gospel,
 so that his ardent zeal and his confident prayer
 might stimulate us to follow Jesus in our world today.

Let us burn with the same zeal
 to contemplate your love active at the heart of our lives
 and to announce your love always and everywhere.
 In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

D.1.2. Prayer with the Good Father

God of Mercy,
We want to give you thanks
For the life and heritage
Of our Founder
The Good Father,
Who made the Bread of Life
From love and the Eucharist,
The centre of his generous self-giving

In your Son, Jesus Christ, he found everything,
He entered into the sentiments of his Heart
And discovered that nothing is compared
To the desire to love You.

With burning zeal for the mission,
He transmitted the Good News
To those who suffer, and to the weak.
In the image of the Good Shepherd.
He was always open
To the needs of the Church
Discerned in the light of the Spirit.
Adapting to the most diverse circumstances
He listened to your voice.

Together with the Good Mother, our Foundress,
He created a family
Formed through union and concord
Humility and simplicity,
With the consolation of the hope
of those who feel how much you love them.

He did not know the malice of violence,
On the contrary, united to the Cross of your Son
He became one with the men and women,
The victims of hate and injustice.
Lord, may we,
Follow in the footsteps of the Good Father,
Sisters, brothers and laity.
May we be faithful to your will.
Infuse us with your Spirit
So that we may extend
your Reign of peace and reconciliation to the world.
We ask this with Mary,
Model of faith in Love,
Our companion on the way.
Amen.

D.1.3. Prayer on the anniversary of Good Father's priestly ordination

Good Father
on this anniversary of your ordination,
we want to praise the Lord
for giving you to the Congregation.

Lord, we want to praise and thank you:
for the courage and boldness of the Good Father in presenting himself for ordination at
a time when so many others were abandoning the ministry.

For his long hours of adoration at the Motte d'Usseau,
for his experience of intimacy with his Lord,
for his awareness of the depth of
the mystery of Christ's death and Resurrection.

For being tireless in proclaiming the Gospel
without counting the cost,
and under the constant threat of death.

For his great mercy and goodness
towards the weak and suffering,
in imitation of the Good Shepherd
who leaves everything to go to those in need.

We pray you, Lord,
by the virtues and merits of your servant,
send us new vocations,
inspired by the spirit of the Beatitudes, who will be one with you in our community and in
our Church.
Amen.

D.1.4. Novena to the Good Father

For every day

Opening Payer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Begin with Psalm 62, that the Servant of God, Pierre Coudrin, recommended that we pray daily.)

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh longs for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,
when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.

My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Then pray the prayer proposed for each day...)

Conclusion

(After the "Our Father" pray the prayer for the beatification of the Servant of God).

God, our Father, you called your servant, Marie-Joseph Coudrin, to found a new religious Congregation in the Church that would spread everywhere the infinite riches of your love manifested in the Heart of Jesus, your Son and the Heart of Mary, his Mother.

Grant that the Church, by the beatification of your servant, might propose him as an authentic witness of your Gospel, so that his ardent zeal and his confident prayer might stimulate us to follow Jesus in our world today.

Let us burn with the same zeal to contemplate your love active at the heart of our lives and to announce your love always and everywhere.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen!

(Conclude with the following invocations)

Sacred Heart of Jesus burning with love for us,
- Enflame our hearts with love for you.
Our Lady of Peace
- Pray for us.
Saint Joseph
- Pray for us
Saint Damien de Veuster, apostle of the lepers,
- Pray for us.
Blessed Father Eustaquio, missionary of health and peace,
- Pray for us
Live the Sacred Heart of Jesus for ever and ever.
-Amen.

1st Day

To Remember

Meditation

*The examples of piety given to me by my saintly and virtuous mother touched me more than anything I've seen and heard in the different places in which Providence has since placed me.
(Pierre Coudrin)*

We praise and bless you, Lord,

For the faith your Servant Pierre Coudrin received from his family.

Their life, illumined by confidence in your goodness and nourished by prayer, gave way to charity and forgiveness. Their word and example sowed a lively faith in his heart and prepared him to welcome your call.

Word of God

Jesus spoke in a parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path;... But as for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance." (Lk.8 / 4 ... 15)

(Silent prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

Father who alone know what is good for your children and are the source of every gift, with the Virgin Mary, our Mother, we ask that you guide families and educators through your Holy Spirit so that they may strive to live according to your Gospel and bear witness to it with their faith and teaching.

As you prepared the heart of the young Pierre Coudrin, prepare the hearts of children so that they may be the rich soil that bears fruit to your Word.

With confidence, we pray with him that ... *(mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made)* ... through Christ our Lord. AMEN

Our Father

2nd Day

To Choose

Meditation

Almighty God, you who choose the weakest instruments to bring about the greatest wonders, deign to bless the first efforts of my zeal; deign to affirm my faltering steps along the way that you destine me to travel. (Pierre Coudrin. 1st Homily. 1790)

We praise and bless Thee, Lord,

For the vocation of your servant, Pierre Coudrin.

From his earliest years, he heard your call to consecrate himself to you. During his youth, in prayer, study and witness, he matured his decision to respond with confidence and audacity to this call.

The Word of God

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain. (Jn.15/16)

Or

The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them "Come and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. (John 1/35-39)

(Silent Prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

Father, in your wonderful design of love, you call all the baptized to follow Jesus, your beloved Son, according to his grace, in the priesthood, religious life or as laity.

With the Virgin Mary, the humble handmaid of the Lord, we pray you to grant everyone the light of your Holy Spirit to clarify their vocation. As you gave your servant, Pierre Coudrin, the grace to respond to your call with passion from his youth, awaken in many young people the confidence and joy of receiving with an open heart, the call of Him who has chosen them. With confidence, we ask with him that... *(mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made)* ... through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father ...

3rd Day

To Love

Meditation

I live only to confirm, if necessary at a high price, the work of the Heart of this kind Master who fills me with his favours; if I am ungrateful, he loves me still and I sense in my heart that he will love me always. Love him without measure and I assure you that nothing will separate you from him (Pierre Coudrin-letter of August 4 1804.)

We praise and bless you, Lord,

for the faith of your servant, Pierre Coudrin, nourished in the contemplation of your incarnate Love in the transpierced Heart of Jesus and lived by Mary your humble servant.

This love impelled him to “consecrate himself to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary”, to give his life without reserve that the Gospel might be announced to all.

The Word of God

As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love....I have told you this that my joy might be in you and your joy might be complete....No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. (John 15 / 9, 11.13)

Standing by the cross of Jesus was his mother....Jesus had just died.... [the soldiers] came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out. An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true; he knows that he is speaking the truth, so that you also may [come to] believe. (John 19 / 25.35)

(Silent prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

Father of tenderness and mercy, you have revealed your love for us in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. With the Virgin Mary, our Mother, we pray that the Holy Spirit unite our hearts, like hers, to your Son Jesus, in whom we find everything. You, who willed to raise up a confident and ardent love in your servant, Pierre Coudrin, root our lives in love and service. With confidence, we pray with him ... *(mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made)* ... Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father ...

4th Day

To be seized by pity

Meditation

Everywhere we meet tepid or lax Christians. Even expressions which lead to religious sentiments are banished from society. Society no longer knows what the love of God means. In such circumstances, we desire to remind men of the confidence and love of Jesus Christ. (Pierre Coudrin, Memoir to the Holy See. 1816)

We praise and bless you, Lord,
for the compassion of your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, toward his people and his effort to give a new impetus to your Church. His heart was touched by the sufferings and spiritual distress of his contemporaries caused by the Revolution. Despite the risks, he decided to take up the challenge of a new evangelization.

Word of God

When [Jesus] disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. (Mk. 6:34).

Or

Jesus went around all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness. At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest. ("Mt. 9/35-38).

(Silent Prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

Father, shepherd of your people, you never abandon your flock, and when they are tested you raise up shepherds after your heart. With the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, we pray that you fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit so that we may never be indifferent to the suffering and distress of our brothers.

You are the source of the reparative spirit that impelled your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, to action. Make us active witnesses of compassion and pioneers of the Gospel for your people and for those who do not know you. With confidence, we pray with him for... *(mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made)* ... Through Jesus Christ our Lord ... AMEN

Our Father ...

5th Day

To Found

Meditation

After celebrating the Mass, I knelt before the corporal on which I believed the Blessed Sacrament was always present. I saw what we are now. It seemed to me that we were many gathered together, forming a great group of missionaries called to spread the Gospel everywhere. At the same time, the idea of a society of women came to mind but not a community as it exists now because I had never seen religious women. I said to myself: we will have neither money nor income; we will be devoured by lice, and as far as I can remember, because I cannot assure it for fear of lying, I said to myself: there will be a society of pious women who will take care of our affairs while we are in mission. (Pierre Coudrin - Vision of the Granary)

We praise and bless you, Lord,

because you chose your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, and his collaborator, Henriette Aymer de la Chevalerie, as Founders of a new religious Congregation in the Church.

It was born of the Adoration of a young priest, alone and pursued. Of this fragile seed you have made a great tree that bears the fruit of the Gospel and love throughout the world.

The Word of God

[Jesus] went up the mountain and summoned those whom he wanted and they came to him. He appointed twelve [whom he also named apostles] that they might be with him and he might send them forth to preach. (Mk. 3:13-14)

Or

Jesus said: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light." (Matt. 11/28-30)

(Silent Prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

Father, you do not cease to gather your people to be, in the heart of this world, the sign of your love in Jesus Christ. With the Virgin Mary, model of the Church, we ask that you send your Holy Spirit upon the family of your disciples in order that it may draw a new missionary dynamism from the Eucharist. As you chose your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, to found a new religious family, raise up and fructify new initiatives to live and proclaim the Gospel to all and everywhere.

With confidence, we pray with him ... (*mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made*) ... Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father ...

6th Day

To Trust

Meditation

Prodigies of divine goodness have been necessary to sustain us amid the storms. The Lord has not ceased to shower miracles of His Providence upon us. He has led us, as it were, by the hand. (Pierre Coudrin - Letter to the Congregation 1817)

We praise and bless you, Lord,

for the confidence of your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, in your paternal goodness and his concern for the education of poor children.

In adversity and trials, secure in Him in whom he put his faith, he persevered well with simplicity and the meekness of a child.

The Word of God

So do not worry and say, 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom [of God] and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow, tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for the day is its own evil. (Mt. 6/31-34)

Or

He called a little child over, placed it in their midst, and said, "Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. (Mt.18/1-4)

(Silent prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

Father who cares for children and desires that none should perish, with the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Child Jesus, we ask that you give us your Holy Spirit, so that he change our hearts, and make us grow in confidence, simplicity and the sweetness of a child. As you inspired your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, grant parents and educators respect for children and concern for their growth in faith. With confidence, we pray to you with him ... *(mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made)* ... Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father ...

7th Day

To Pray

Meditation

You must adore with Jesus Christ and through Jesus Christ, and present yourselves before God with ardor, as Jesus Christ before the Father. Do not be afraid to speak about your miseries, your fears, those whom you love, of your projects ... Do it with confidence and an open heart ... Ask for the conversion of sinners, the spread of the faith, pray for the Church ... but above all give yourselves entirely to the Heart of Jesus (Pierre Coudrin).

We praise and bless you, Lord

for the confident prayer of your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, and his fidelity to Adoration. He drew comfort, peace and joy in the intimacy of each instant with you and the Virgin Mary. From the Eucharist, Bread of Life and presence of love, he received his mission and the strength to accomplish it.

The Word of God

“And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. What father among you would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish? Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the holy Spirit to those who ask him?” (Lk.11/9-13).

Or

“...When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you. In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them. Your Father knows what you need before you ask him. This is how you should pray; Our Father in heaven... (Mt.6/5-9)

(Silent prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

God of love and tenderness, with the Virgin Mary, in the Cenacle in prayer with the Apostles, we pray that you give us your Holy Spirit so that we may learn from Jesus to call you, "Our Father."

In the same way that you gave this grace to your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, grant us the grace to remain in your presence of love. May your Word and your Bread of Life be the nourishment of our love for you and for our brothers and sisters. With confidence, we pray with him ... (*mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made*) ... Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father...

8th Day

To Evangelize

Meditation

They will fail at their most essential vow the moment they want to live only for themselves rather than work for the salvation of their brothers and sisters ... their vocation is to be full of zeal, and a zeal enflamed. (Pierre Coudrin –Memoir to the Holy See 1816)

We praise and bless you, Lord,
for the missionary zeal of your Servant, Pierre Coudrin.
He gave himself fully, without counting the cost, to announce the Gospel in preaching that touched hearts, in education and above all in the organization of missions in France and abroad.

The Word of God

Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Mt.28/18-20)

Or

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit." (Jn.20/19-22)

(Silent Prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

Father, you who want the Good News of your love to be proclaimed from one end of the earth to the other, with the Virgin Mary, Queen of the Apostles, we pray that your Holy Spirit be upon us to impel us to preach the Gospel through your Word and our own lives. As you manifested to your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, the immensity of the harvest, reveal to us the horizons of the mission today and raise up many laborers for the harvest. With confidence, we pray with him for ... (*mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made*) ... Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father ...

9th Day

To Carry the Cross

Meditation

You cannot walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ except by carrying the cross. You can not be his disciple except by renouncing the habits of the "old man". In my greatest affliction I throw myself into the arms of Jesus Christ, I press my heart against his Heart. Open these torments that devour you to a source of living water welling up to eternal life. (Pierre Coudrin, Sermon - 1791)

We praise and bless you, Lord,
for your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, who willed to live as "a child of the Cross".

His concern for the salvation of all compelled him to renounce everything for the service of the Gospel and his brothers. He lived the trials of suffering and of adversity in communion with Christ crucified.

The Word of God

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." (Mk. 8/34-35)

Or

Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat, but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me." (John 12/24-26)

(Silent prayer)

Hail Mary ...

Prayer

Father, you willed that Christ crucified be a living source of salvation for all, with the Virgin Mary, standing at the foot of the Cross, we ask that you give us your Spirit of fortitude and love that we may learn to carry the cross by renouncing ourselves for the love of others. As you gave the love of the Cross to your Servant, Pierre Coudrin, may all those who bear the weight of suffering discover its fruitfulness for the life of the world. ... (*mention the intention or purpose for which the novena is being made*) ... Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father ...

D.2. Good Mother

D.2.1. Prayer for the beatification of the Good Mother

Heaven Father,
in your great goodness and mercy,
you called Henriette to be a witness of your Love revealed in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.
In adoration before the Blessed Sacrament,
she realized the need to Contemplate, Live and Proclaim Your Love to a world broken by violence and division.
Together with Pierre Coudrin, she founded the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and of Perpetual Adoration to continue this work in every time and place.
Through her intercession, grant the favor we ask (name the favor). In your kindness, grant that the Church may soon recognize in her an authentic witness of the Gospel.
We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

D.2.2. Prayer in praise of the Good Mother

Father, we praise you

For that great woman, our Good Mother,
For her human qualities,
The wealth of her soul
And her great heart full of love for all.

We praise you for her fidelity to your call,
Her generous self-giving
For her heroic renunciation,
For her strength before the cross
Her boundless love of the Eucharist
And her long hours of Adoration before the Tabernacle.

We thank you
For the message of love
That you left us through the Good Mother's life
For her enthusiasm to bring the Good News
of your gospel everywhere.

To show the strength of your Love,
In a society wounded by sin,
And oppressed by injustice and violence,
Father, raise up among us, women valiant
like the Good Mother,
committed radically to your gospel
so that we can be signs
of your redeeming Love in today's world.

Recreate in us her spirit of unity,
so that as a single body,
with a single spirit,
and a single hope in our vocation,
we may be "one" by the bonds of grace and truth
of faith and Love. Amen.

D.2.3. Psalm of the Good Mother

I love you, Lord, my strength,
You are my rock and my stronghold;
my liberator and my God
my fortress, my rock of safety.

Besieged and anguished, I cried out to the Lord,
I clamored to the Good God.
From on high, his hand took hold of me
And he freed me from the prison,
He released me from enemies much stronger than I.

My life clings to cables of strength ;
The Lord changed my life
And led me to **contemplate** his eternal presence.

The Lord taught me that to **Live** in love of the **Cross**
Can and must sustain us.
This is my joy, for it is not I who carry it,
but the Cross that carries me.

The Lord reveals to me the secrets of his heart
Therefore I have power to **proclaim**
The graces that he puts into my being,
Though I feel small and unworthy of them.

My heart has one desire:
To be consumed like a candle
Giving you my life, Lord,
As a continual holocaust of all my being.

Lord remember that you have looked with mercy upon us.
I ask, Lord, for each sister, peace of soul, love of self-giving
And the joy of the Holy Spirit.

You give me strength in uncertainty
In silence I seek your will;
Thank you for giving me brothers and sisters to build community,
And to praise your name forever. Amen.

D.2.4. A Redding from the book of our history

There was a woman sent from God
whose name was Henriette.
She was not the light,
but she knew how to receive it and to make it shine.
Tested as gold in the furnace,
she was found worthy of a mission
and God entrusted her with founding the ss.cc. Congregation
in times of deep changes.
Under her shepherdess' crook,
the group that walked in darkness
saw dawning of a new day.
In the desert the way was prepared
and in the arid land springs of water flowed.
The bolted doors, guardians of the fear that paralyzes, burst open
and gave way to the breath of the Spirit
who recreates and makes all things new.
The poor found a home among us
and men and women,
recognized each other as brothers and sisters
called to live the same vocation and mission.
Night came and morning followed
and God saw how good it was.
And we who have also seen it,
we give testimony of it with grateful hearts to God,
who has done marvelous things for us through our history
and to Henriette who knew how to enlighten the Congregation,
and to sustain it all the days of her life without growing weary
convinced that it was a necessity
for the heart of God.

Given by a witness in Rome in Advent 1999

Rosa María Ferreiro, ss.cc.

E. About Fr. Damien

E.1. Prayer to Blessed Damien of Molokai

Blessed Damien,
you let yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit
as a son obedient to the will of the Father.

By your life and your mission
you manifest the tenderness and mercy of Christ,
who reveals to us the beauty of the inner person
that no sickness, no deformity, no weakness
can completely disfigure.

By your work and your preaching
you remind us that Jesus took upon himself
the poverty and suffering of every person,
and by doing so he revealed its mysterious value.

Intercede with Christ,
healer of bodies and souls,
for our sick brothers and sisters,
so that, in their anguish and pain,
they may not feel abandoned
but united to the risen Lord and his church.

May they see that the Holy Spirit has come to visit them and
thus may they experience the consolation
promised to the sorrowful. Amen.

(Prayer read by John Paul II at the end of the homily for the Beatification, June 4, 1995)

E.2. Prayer to Blessed Damien of Molokai for the Congregation and vocations.

☞ Blessed Damien of Molokai,
you left all
to respond to the Lord's call
who, without ceasing, sends workers into the harvest.
You allow yourself to be guided by the Holy Spirit
who made of you a witness
of the tenderness and mercy of Christ
for all men.

☞ Like Mary, humble servant of the Lord,
in the Heart of Christ
you discovered the love of the Father from which nothing can separate us,
In the ardor of Love,
you became the servant of the poorest of the poor
and, for them, you gave you life until the very end.

☞ Damien, our brother, listen to our prayer.
Present it to the Lord
So that He match over our Religious Family
That you loved so much.
May He cause it to increase in number
And grow in fidelity to its vocation.

☞ Damien, pray for us.

May we live our religious consecration joyously
in the Church and for the life of the world,
and may the bonds of our fraternal communion be strengthen.

✠Damien, pray for us.

May we know how to welcome, love and form
All whom the Lord sends us
To contemplate, live and announce his Love, with us.

✠Damien, pray for us.

May we, like you, give our lives joyously
in the following of Jesus, the friend of little ones and the poor.

✠That, through Him, with Him and in Him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all Love and all glory be rendered to the Father
forever and ever. AMEN!

E.3. Thanksgiving by Cardinal Danneels

God, our Father
You have shown your love in your Son Jesus,
Who came to serve and give his life.
We give thanks for the marvels you have worked
In the life of Blessed Damien of Molokai

He listened to the call of Jesus
And imitating him, gave his life
For the very poor, those sick with leprosy
He gave them back the self-respect of being human beings.

Encouraged by his example and trusting in his intercession,
We draw near to You.
With our sufferings and grief
And our hope.

May the Holy Spirit open our hearts
To the misery of the world;
So that, like Damien,
We can discover You in the marginalized
And so show your love for all people.

Godfried Cardinal Danneels, archevêque de Malines-Bruxelles

E.4. Prayer of thanksgiving for Damian

God, our Father,
We thank You for having given us Father Damien.
In him, we have seen to what point You love the poor.
By his life and death,
he has shown that You neglect no one,
and that to your eyes there are no hopeless cases.
The one who walks in the footsteps of Jesus,
can believe and hope for everything,
never,
must he lose courage.

Grant us
To hope against all hope.
Console our sisters and brothers
Who have little or no hope of healing.
And give Your strength to those who,
like Damien,
Wish to live and die in their service.
Amen.

E.5. Gratitude of the Congregation for Damien

United to Mary in her Magnificat,
our Sacred Hearts family
is filled with gratitude
towards You, Lord.
You rejoice us by Your works.
Thou meek and humble of heart.
In You we find everything...
You do great things for us.
You have given us in Damien of Molokai
A brother whom your people
can henceforth call Blessed.
You enlighten the eyes of our heart
You, the most beautiful of the children of men!
You crown us with love and tenderness,
With a tenderness that knows no bounds.
You make your dwelling in us.
You are, Lord, our only wealth
When You call us to your banquet
With the lepers of our earth.
Only for You, filled with confidence,
Damien took the last place with You.
You have made him the happiest missionary in the world
In the enduring secret of his hidden joy.

We give You thanks
Because on the roads of our Evangelical life,
Damien our brother precedes us and shows us
how to give flesh to Your love for the world.

Jeanne Cadiou, ss.cc.

E.6. Prayer for Damien

God our Father,
Inspired by the teachings and deeds of your son Jesus,
Father Damien gave himself without reserve
to his given vocation:
to announce your infinite and merciful love for mankind.
Therefore he sought to identify with those
who were most vulnerable and most rejected.
He spent himself ministering to all who were in his care;
he carried their sufferings in his heart,
in his own body,
bringing love to the unloved giving hope
to those without hope.

He opened their hearts to the understanding
that You are Father to all
and that You never abandon your children.
We honour Damien as a beacon
along the road to your Kingdom.
We thank You for his life, faith,
courage and self-giving.
Teach us to live as he did,
by the power of your Son,
Jesus-Christ, Saviour.
Amen.

E.7. Hymn to Damien of Molokai

Blessed are you, Lord, through the witnesses
Of your love without question or measure,
Those who by the roadside
Stop to cure your wounds.

As Damien, your servant and friend,
Who did not turn his face away from the horror
Of your suffering and wounded body,
From the bitter wounds, from your weeping.

Lord, you were a leper and they hunted you
As the pests in the woodland,
and in a distant hell they threw you
to forget your face and your stench

.
Damien, the good samaritan,
looked straight ahead without fear your leprosy,
and kissing your wounds as a brother
found his own cross in this self giving.

Lord, you are at the roadside,
waiting for a compassionate hand,
that today we know in each of our brothers and sisters
heals your solitude and your wounds.

In Damien, grain of fertile wheat,
in Molokai sowed and crushed,
the good Father, the Son and the Spirit
may you always be blessed and praised.
Amen.

Guillermo Rosas ss.cc.

E.8. Praising God for Damien

Almighty Father, we praise thy name for thy servant Damien, missionary to the lepers, and for all those who, following in the footsteps of thy beloved Son, have preached the good news of salvation to the despised and rejected of the earth, not counting the cost to themselves; and we pray that thy love for us may enkindle in our hearts an answering love for thee and our neighbors, and that thy grace may give us wisdom to see the opportunities thou givest us to serve thee, and the courage to grasp

them; that in all things we may be made conformable unto the image of the same thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, who now liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever

E.9. Homage to the mother of Saint Damien

I can see you, Damien, young and strong,
the earth you cultivate;
I can see you sowing the seed
praying and dreaming.
I can see your face illuminated
by the dim lamp of the altar
where you kneel before
the source of love to contemplate.

Jesus hidden in the tabernacle seizes
your dreams, your truth,
and in loving dialogue you tell him
your desire to love.
You want to be a priest, a missionary,
you cannot remain
a farmer, a peasant,
with earth to furrow.
You want to cross the seas, to go far away
and to Him your life you offer;
to take the Gospel everywhere,
to pass it on.

I know where your yearning was born
I can guess it:
it was your mother, Damien.
She inspired you to give yourself to others,
to surrender yourself to serve totally
without looking for options, strategies or ways,
to give yourself, nothing else.

It was your mother, Damien, who in your soul
sowed boundlessness
And the love of the Sacred Hearts
and faith and piety.

It was because of her, Damien, that you arrived
on the island of Molokai,
because she taught you as a little boy
to love without counting the cost
and from her lips the first prayers you could enjoy.
Because of her you decided in life
to bury your body
among those excluded brothers and sisters.
God did the rest.

You were contaminated by another leprosy
long before arriving
to that island of horrors and of death;
allow me to think
that your mother who loved God so much,
could be contagious.

You did not get sick by going there.

You were already sick.
Do you think that those poor people made you sick?
Oh, no, brother Damien!
You cannot accuse those you loved.
You cannot accuse them.
You who went there ended up contaminating them
with love and eternity.
By chance, is there a stronger virus,
that spreads faster,
than the virus of love that increases
your immense thirst?

As soon as you arrived and you brought them
the desire to pray.
Your deep love for the Eucharist
lifted them up.

You convinced them that in all the wounds
of their mortal bodies,
they represented Christ's passion in a radical way;
and amid shadows and death
they intoned again
a hymn of joy and praise
to the goodness of God.
The same as you learned in the past,
you taught them to cultivate the earth.
They learned in their despair
dreams to sow;
resurrections were their seeds
of hope and of peace,
a hope that you never lost
Damien of Molokai!

Allow me to interpret: What you said
when preaching one day:
"We lepers..." was it not maybe
that you finally noticed
that your illness of love had been
communicated already?
Your illness from the heavens, your hope,
your desire of eternity?

That before the leprosy began
your body to devastate,
your singular soul had already been broken
in more than a thousand pieces
and your leprous love had succeeded
the souls to contaminate?
Let me interpret, my brother,
without fear to err,
that it was your holy mother
who now has you on the altar.

Heriberto Bravo Bravo ss.cc.

E.10. Universal prayer of the World Day for those cast off by leprosy

Christ has called us to be fishers of men; let us not forget any man

in the prayer which we are going to offer the Father.

Intentions:

Saint Damien said:

"When one serves God, he is happy everywhere!"

Raoul Follereau said:

"Lord, I would want so much to help others to live."

Such was my adolescent prayer.

I believe that I have been faithful to it all my life."

Lord, we pray to for priests and religious, for missionaries,
for the young whom You call, for all who work for peace throughout the world.

Saint Damien said:

"My greatest happiness is to serve the Lord
in his poor sick children,
repulsed by other men"

Raoul Follereau said:

"Happiness is the only thing that one is certain to have
when one has given it away."

Lord, we pray for the builders of love who live in solidarity with those
who are excluded, whether temporarily or for all the days of their lives.

Saint Damien said:

"I make myself a leper with the lepers.

When I preach, this is my opening:

"We lepers."

Raoul Follereau said:

"Good is more contagious,
and more radiant than evil.

Let us organize an epidemic of charity."

Lord, we pray for the sick and for those who care for them, for the
lonely and for those who comfort them, for all those, who like You, give
themselves at the risk of their own lives.

Leprosy of the heart is even more destructive of human dignity than that
which attacks the body. Pray then, for all those engaged in the struggle
against this leprosy that corrupts our society.

So today in our prayers we carry especially the guides and scouts of France united for
their "sessions of the Faith" at Jambville,
the participants at the Economic Forum of take place in New York beginning
on January 31,
the Christian entrepreneurs and directors of France who meet this week for their annual
Congress.

May the spirit of the Gospel inspire them and may they be artisans of a more united and
responsible world where the human person is sacred and holds a first place.

Closing Prayer

God, Father of Mercy,

You have given us in Saint Damien a marvelous witness of love for the poor and the
forsaken.

Grant us, through his intercession, the grace to put ourselves at the service of the needy
and the forsaken as faithful witnesses of the Heart of Your Son,
Who lives and reigns with You and the holy Spirit...

E.11. Prayer for ss.cc. religious

God, our Father,
we give you thanks for Damien our brother,
Following Jesus, your Son,
he joined the lepers of Molokai,
he became one of the forsaken until his death.
he showed them that You loved them:
he restored their human dignity
and hope for the future.

Also, we beg You:
That your Spirit will raise us up
to walk in the footsteps of Damien
animated with the same faith that was his.
Open our eyes, open our heart
to join those who are rejected, unrecognized, forgotten;
grant that through us they will discover who You are.
Raise up men and women
ready to take the road that he followed.

Such is the prayer that we address to You,
Father, full of tenderness and love,
You our God forever and ever.
Amen .

Prayer of the ss.cc. brothers and sisters

E.12. The response of Damien

Damien, you heard the call
and, like Christ,
you gave your life
for the poor
and the most abandoned of your brothers.

Open our heart to the misery of the world
that after your example,
we may be able to welcome
all those who are today's outcasts,
that they may be able to discover something
of the love
of the One who is their Father
and our Father
for ever and ever.

Damien, you were one among us
until the day where , through the events,
you heard the call of Jesus:
to love Him to the end
in the person of your leprous brothers and sisters.

Help us to grow
until the day when, we too,
the call reverberates...
Teach us to discern it
among the other noises of the world...
Teach us above all

to draw deeply,
elsewhere as well as within ourselves,
of the love
that goes as far as kissing the lepers
that the Lord Jesus
makes us encounter.

E.13. From Tremelo to Molokai

Lord, one day You knocked
at the door of the Herat of a strong, young man of Tremeloo.
His response was not long in coming;
He left all, his family, his companions, his future...
He left even his name: from Joseph, he would become Damien.

In following You, Lord,
Damien was not seeking an escape,
he would become a man, capable of discovering with You
the dignity and grandeur of every person.
Filled with Your presence,
having put his steps in yours,
Damien arrived on the island of Molokai
To love and to serve.

Lord, we beg You:
manifest Your generosity,
raise up workers for all the Molokais of our earth.
Show them your Gospel way (au gout de sel).
Send them to free their brothers
by loving them with him and like him.

It is through this same Jesus
that we offer this prayer,
Through Him who is Living
For ages without end. Amen.

E.14. Novena to Blessed Damien of Molokai

1. Saint Damien
God gave you the grace
of a lively faith.
Your parents educated you in the faith.
Your religious community helped you
to deepen and strengthen that faith.
Your faith has spoken to you
through all the vicissitudes of your life,
it had been your support
on that particular island
that you described as the "island of death".

We ask you:

Intercede for us with God.
That He grant us a lively faith
that animates and orients each of our days;
that permits us to make a just decision
in each circumstance;
and which renders us sufficiently generous
to love God above all
and our neighbor as ourselves.

2. Saint Damien,
confident in the grace of God,
you left as a missionary
to share your life with the lepers,
torn from their families,
to be "isolated" on Molokai.
You became a rejected one among the others.
Thus you showed them
how much God loves all men.
You accomplished a miracle:
that of restoring their confidence
and human dignity.

We ask you:
turn our eyes and our hearts
towards all those left uncounted,
towards all those who are pointed at,
towards all those who are not spoken about,
towards the forsaken and the ignored.
Make us discover the presence of God
in the man who suffers at our sides.

3. Saint Damien,
your faith was so delicate
that you were able to recognize the call of God
in the circumstances of your life.
Following the visit to your brother religious,
you immediately decided
to engage yourself in the consecrated life.
At the sickness of this same brother
you were able to discern the invitation of God
to depart for the missions.
The concern of the Bishop
for the lepers of Molokai
served you as a signal
to offer yourself as a volunteer in their service.

We ask you
to teach us to recognize the voice of God
in the events of each day
and in each experience of our life,
and to have a sufficiently vibrant faith
to respond to this call.

4. Saint Damien,
As soon as you heard the call of God,
you set yourself on the route.
Nothing could hold you back
nor make you reverse your path.

You left
to live in the midst of hundreds of lepers
who had nothing to look forward to but death:
You descended into "the hell of Molokai"
and you persevered there.

We ask you:
obtain for us the strength to remain faithful to our commitments
and to persevere in the following of Jesus Christ.
Grant us the blessed happiness of
perseverance and of fidelity.

5. Saint Damien,
You have said like the apostle Paul:
"I am dead and henceforth my life is
hidden with Christ in God. (Col. 3:3)
With the passing of years,
You became more and more conformed to Jesus
Christ.
On your death bed,
you were like Jesus
who dies on the cross.
You offered yourself entirely
as He did.

We ask you:
make our love toward Jesus grow to such a point
that we follow Him
in detachments and privations
in our state as servants.
Make us follow Him
unto the cross and unto death
to be, one day,
glorified with Him.

6. Saint Damien,
in going to live among the lepers,
in building a community with them,
in becoming a leper yourself,
you attained Christian maturity.
You became tolerant
and open to other conceptions of life.
In dying a leper among the lepers,
you have awakened the conscience of the world.
Even the perspective of death
did not alter
your interior peace and serenity.

We ask you:
make us foresee
that suffering is not necessarily a failure;
remind us of the words of Jesus:
"Unless the grain of wheat die
it cannot bear fruit." (John 12,24)

7. Saint Damien,
In the extreme dereliction of the cross,
Jesus prayed:
"God, my God,

why have You abandoned me?" (Mk. 15,34)
You have known, you also,
the night of misunderstanding and loneliness,
"worse than the leprosy" you sighed in your suffering.
Nevertheless, you did not let it crush you.
Your faith made you transcend the suffering
and it purified you.

We ask you:
Help us in the dark days of life,
to lose neither faith nor courage.
Teach us to maintain the conviction
that God is very close to us, always,
and that He helps us in our hour of trial.

8. Saint Damien,
you lived for sixteen years
among hundreds of deformed lepers,
destined for death.
You had to bear many misunderstandings and contradictions.
however, to the end of your life you witnessed that you were
"the happiest missionary in the world."
Thus you confirmed
what Jesus proclaimed in His sermon on the mount:
"Happy those who weep
for they will be consoled.
Happy are the merciful
for mercy shall be theirs.
Happy the pure of heart,
For they shall see God." (Mt. 5,4-7-8)

We ask you:
teach us to desire this beatitude
and to submit everything to it.

9. Saint Damien,
We read in one of your letters
"that without the continual presence
of the Divine Master on the altar,
you would never have been able to persevere."
You loved to pray.
Even the cemetery,
where so many of your parishioners were buried,
served you as a privileged place for meditation.
It was thus that you could accomplish your mission
in all peace and serenity,
and that you were able to endure
physical and spiritual suffering.

We ask you:
make us discover how prayer
can influence our life...
how prayer can help us to persevere
in all the circumstances of our lives...
make us understand
that it is God who leads us
through all the joys and pains of existence...

E.15. Prayer to Our Lady of Montaigu

Mother of God and our mother,
we come to you
in all confidence:
give us a little of your faith,
and make us serviceable to others.

Help our sick
and all whose hearts are wounded.

Grant that happiness and love
reign in our homes.

Bless all whom we love
and keep me under your protection.

E.16. Prayers for a Damien week

1-Damien, the Missionary

GUIDE- Damien volunteered to go to the Sandwich Islands as a missionary. He eagerly engaged in pastoral work on the Big Island and on the Island of Molokai where he saw the opportunity to bring Christ to those who were most isolated and neglected.

Saint Damien, may your example inspire us to be zealous for bringing the Good News of Redemption to whomever we can by our words or helpful deeds.

ALL: Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, We love you, We desire to do Your Will.
Immaculate Heart of Mary, our Mother, We place our trust in You.
Saint Damien, Servant of God, Servant of Humanity, pray for us.

2- Damien, the builder

GUIDE- Damien, the carpenter, engineer, builder of churches and houses, and maker of coffins, did not stint in giving his time, his strength and his talents to serve in whatever way was needed by his flock.

Saint Damien, pray that we may develop a like generosity in giving our time and talents, no matter how small, to serve the needs of others as they come to our attention.

ALL- Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we love you, we desire to do Your Will.
Immaculate Heart of Mary, our Mother, we place our trust in You.
Saint Damien, Servant of God, Servant of Humanity, pray for us.

3-Damien, the Alone, who spread joy to all

GUIDE- Damien begged repeatedly that he be granted a priest companion in Kalaupapa. He made no complaint to his flock about his feelings of isolation. To his leper friends he made a point of always smiling, eating and talking with them, often telling a joke to bring them cheer. He showed no preference on the basis of age, state of illness, gender or which religion they professed. He grew to love all of them and rejoiced to be one of them. He wanted to be buried with them.

ALL- Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we love you, we desire to do your will.
Immaculate Heart of Mary, our Mother, we place our trust in You.

Saint Damien, Servant of God, Servant of Humanity, pray for us.

4- Damien, obedient to God, to the Church, and to his Congregation

GUIDE- When something needed to be done, Damien took the lead, even a stubborn lead when necessary, to get medicines and commodities for his lepers and for the orphaned leper children, but he was also an obedient son, accepting losses and failures with humility.

Saint Damien, model of virtue, pray that we may be docile to legitimate authority and to the workings of Divine Providence, yet never lacking in leadership and effort to do God's will.

ALL: Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, We love You. We desire to do Your Will.
Immaculate Heart of Mary, our mother. We place our trust in you.
Saint Damien, Servant of God, Servant of Humanity, pray for us.

5- Damien who suffered illness and pain

GUIDE- Damien had the physical strength of the "farm boy" that he was, but even Damien who walked miles to serve his flock in Hohala and Kalawao, and often scaled the pali cliffs to reach "top side", knew the feeling of tired feet. His leprosy-afflicted body gradually weakened him to the point of dying before he was old. For Damien, tiredness and pain were no excuse for failing to serve others.

Saint Damien pray that we may bear our aches, pains and other discomforts without inflicting them on others or shirking our duties.

ALL- Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, We love you. We desire to do your will.
Immaculate Heart of Mary, our mother, we place our trust on you .
Saint Damien, Servant of God, Servant of Humanity, pray for us.

6- Damien the leper

GUIDE- In Damien's day, and in some places still today, contracting leprosy meant becoming an outcast from society. Damien was unwelcome to visit Honolulu, even for consultations or obtaining supplies; some people said publicly that his leprosy was caused by immoral living. Damien knew what it is to be shunned, to be marginalized, to be looked down on. I did not make him bitter. He did not seek justification or revenge. He did not reduce his services to all who needed him.

Saint Damien, help us to put aside hurtful relationships and to respond with a calm heart and loving service to everyone.

ALL- Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we love you. We desire to do your Will
Immaculate Heart of Mary, our mother, We place our trust in you.
Saint Damien, Servant of God, Servant of Humanity, pray for us.

E.17. Prayer with Damien for families

Lord, I thank you for the life of Damien.
He gave his life for his friends,
the poorest of the poor.
And You, Lord,

You gave him the necessary strength,
the courage and the perseverance
to offer to the world a sign which tells them
not to close their eyes,
not to cross their arms
before those who cry out in their misery,
before those who suffer injustice.

It is today as in the times of Damien.
That is why, Lord,
with Damien,
I pray for all those families that no longer exist,
for all the children
whose parents no longer exist except on paper,
for the children
who grow up in war, in hatred, and in violence.

Give me, also, Lord,
the strength and perseverance of Damien
to work with and in families.
Do not let me be discouraged
before the immensity of needs.
Grant me, Lord, the grace
to count only on You, to do your will
with joy in my heart,
where ever You send me.

E.18. Prayer to Damien afflicted with leprosy

If you turn your glance from the leper,
the leper is not he –
the leper is you.

If you do not extend your hand,
the leper is not he –
the leper is you.

The real leprosy is not to love.
You know it, Damien.
You have lived it; you have proved it --
Apostle of charity!

At the depth of each egoistic heart
festers the virus of leprosy
which eats away, dries up and brings death.

At the depth of each loving heart,
the virus of leprosy dies --
love, life can germinate.

Leprosy continues its ravages,
it takes on many faces:
the marginalized, the poor, the unemployed.

It made you a sign—

turn away your face,
close your hands, your arms,
do not open your heart?

The true leper is one who does not love,
you know that, Damien.
You died a leper
because you were not such a leper —
You, martyr of charity!

E.19. Prayers of the Mass in honour of Saint Damien

Collect

Father of mercy,
in your priest saint Damien
you have given us a shining witness of love
for the poorest and most abandoned.
Grant that, by his intercession,
as faithful witnesses of the heart of your Son Jesus,
we too may be servants of the most needy and rejected.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O Lord, the offerings of your people,
and grant that we, who celebrate
your Son's work of boundless charity,
may, by the example of blessed Damien,
be confirmed in love of you and of our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Make us, who have been nourished
by this sacred meal, almighty God,
always follow the example of blessed Damien
in serving you with constant devotion
and assisting all with untiring charity.

Preface of Saint Damien ¹

V. The Lord be with you.
R And with your Spirit

V. Let us lift up our hearts
R We have lifted them up to the Lord.
V. Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God
R It is just and right

In truth it is just and right,

¹ Preface not officially approved

to offer our thanks, to bless you
and to praise you without ceasing,
Faithful God, Father of mercy,
on this day, in which we celebrate our brother
Saint Damien of Molokai

Following your well beloved Son
who came to serve and give his life for many,
You called him to die in the service of those with leprosy.

Strengthened by the Bread of Life in the Eucharist,
he shared in the whole of his existence to the point of dying of leprosy?
A witness to the strength of your love,
which he embraced with the misery of humanity.
so as to open up to life in its fullness.
His example and his prayer draw us up,
into the ardor of love, to give our life
So that the Good News may be proclaimed
to your special ones, the poor and afflicted.
For this, with all the angels and all the saints,
we proclaim your glory, saying, (singing)

Holy, holy, holy

E.20. Petitions during the Eucharist

The compassion of Damien for the poor and the oppressed
led him to look for justice
for those who were weak
so that they could speak for themselves
and in that way gave voice to those who had no voice.

Let us pray,
That we may have the courage to look for justice and peace,
and be constant in our efforts
to make changes in the social structures
that oppress and degrade people.

Damien opened his heart to all those in need,
without taking into account their race nor their religion,
putting his energy into service
and cooperating with all those who wanted to help his marginalized.
He was ahead of his time in the spirit of ecumenism.

Let us pray
that we may also know how to follow his example
of openness to our brothers and sisters of other creeds,
so that in our search
and in our work
with others, we know how to give testimony to the love of God
and so build together the Kingdom of God.

Celebration of the Beatification, Brussels, 4 June 1995.

E.21. To Damien

Damien,
we know your story,
how you became a missionary
to bring the joyful message
of Jesus to Hawaii.

Damien,
you went to Molokai
to share your destiny with the
most abandoned people, the lepers.
You went especially to care for each one
of these frightened people.
Above all the children found in you
a father and a protector.
Damien,
For us your immense love
For the children with leprosy is your best prayer,
and so we could help each other mutually
and not reject anyone.
In this way we can extend our hands
to build a world
where tolerance overcomes hate,
where justice triumphs over injustice,
where the strong help to lift up the weak,
a world where all people
are close to one another
as carriers of happiness and peace.

Paul Maken ss.cc.

E.22. Prayer to Damien

God, our Father,
you have shown your love
in your Son Jesus
who came to serve and to give his life.
We give you thanks for the marvels he did
In the life of saint Damien of Molokai

He listened to the call of Jesus
And, in imitation of him, gave his life
For the very poor, the lepers,
He restored their dignity as human beings

Encouraged by his example,
And trusting in his intercession,
We come to You,
With our sufferings and pain
And our hope.

May the Holy Spirit open our hearts
To the misery of the world, as Damien did,
So that we may find you in the marginalized
And so show your love for all people.

Blessed are you
Father, full of tenderness and love
You are our God for always
And for eternity.

Amen.

Parish of the Sacred Hearts - Madrid

E.23. Novena to the SS.CC. in honour of Fr. Damien

Prayer for Every Day

O Sacred Heart of Jesus! I feel an immense joy and unlimited confidence in contemplating the numerous favors which you grant to those who, with faith and humility, have recourse to you through the mediation of your beloved servant, Father Damien, who for love of you overcame the repugnance of his senses and gave himself up, body and soul, to the care of the poor lepers of Molokai.

Impelled by confidence in his power inspired by his ardent charity for all Immaculate Heart of Mary I offer you, wit capable, this novena of praise and petition which I ask, if it be for your greater glory, beg for the grace to resign myself entirely request which I commend to you. Amen.

First Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, through the GENEROSITY with which Father Damien responded to your divine call, always seeing in everything with great faith the Holy Will of God, I earnestly beg you through the Immaculate Heart of Mary that in addition to the particular favor I ask in this novena, you grant me the grace of being always faithful to your will, so that the faith I received at Baptism may grow and deepen unceasingly in my soul. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

Second Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, remembering the UNDAUNTED HOPE which sustained Father Damien during all his life and confiding trustingly in your paternal providence, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary I humbly beg you that in addition to the particular grace I ask in this novena, you grant me the favor of never becoming discouraged in the adversities of this life, and furthermore of being so strongly encouraged by heavenly hope that I might always live confidently in your merciful love. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

Third Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, through that ARDENT CHARITY which Father Damien from childhood felt for the needy poor, I beg you, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, to grant me in addition to the particular grace of this novena, the grace of having my heart inflamed more and more every day with that divine love with which you are inflamed and with which you desire to enkindle the hearts of all people. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

Fourth Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, through that PROFOUND HUMILITY which adorned the soul of Father Damien, leading him to obey constantly the orders of his superiors, and which made him consider it a most natural thing to isolate himself forever with the lepers of Molokai, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary I humbly beg you that in addition to the particular grace I ask in this novena, I may not allow myself to be governed in my thoughts, words, or deeds by the passion of pride which offends you so much and brings so much evil to the world and to whoever follows its maxims. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

Fifth Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, through that UNQUENCHABLE ZEAL for the temporal and spiritual good of his beloved lepers which consumed the heart of Father Damien, even to the point of causing him to give his life for them, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary I humbly beseech you that in addition to the particular grace I ask in this novena, you grant me the grace of being more truly concerned with my spiritual welfare and the salvation of others. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

Sixth Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, through that LOVE FOR WORK which from childhood characterized Father Damien in all his occupations, no matter how ordinary and tiresome they were, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary I humbly beg you that in addition to the particular grace I ask in this novena, you grant me a great spirit of faith to see the graces of the present moment as the most efficacious means to procure the glory of God, the salvation of souls, and my own sanctification. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

Seventh Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, through the CONSTANCY AND ADMIRABLE FORTITUDE with which Father Damien suffered first in others, then in his own body, the painful disease of leprosy, uniting his pain to the pain of solitude and helplessness to remedy the need around him, I humbly beg you through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, that in addition to the particular favor I ask in this novena, you grant me the grace of accepting always with resignation the unavoidable sufferings and tribulations of this life. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

Eighth Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, through the TENDER DEVOTION WHICH FATHER DAMIEN ALWAYS HAD FOR THE BLESSED VIRGIN, I ardently pray you, through her Immaculate Heart, that in addition to the particular favor I ask in this novena, you grant me the grace of acting always as your loving child, so that I may merit one day the happiness of being presented by her before your tribunal to enjoy your company in heaven forever. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

Ninth Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, through that IMMENSE LOVE WHICH FATHER DAMIEN HAD FOR THE DIVINE EUCHARIST, as food for his soul in his Masses and Communion, and as his consolation in his fervent adorations before the Tabernacle, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary I ardently beg you that in addition to the particular grace I ask in this novena, you grant me an increase of devotion to the Eucharist, and that each day I may prepare my heart more worthily and more fervently to receive you in Holy Communion. Amen.

Petition

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, etc.

E.24. A week of prayer with “Damien a man for others”

Monday: A happy family

This week in our prayers we are going to look at some episodes in the life of Father Damien. Damien was the son of a very large and religious family. Several of his brothers and sisters also entered religious life. His infancy and adolescence were spent in the same way as any ordinary and happy boy of his time. Damien was devoted to the needs of his family. His parents were country people and needed hands to do work in the fields. Damien was strong and that was obvious when he was at work. On feast days and when resting from his work, he enjoyed himself skating on the frozen river or being part of the celebrations that were organized.

We ask the Lord today that we may be happy with our studies and that we may give our parents a hand with the household tasks. With this intention, let us pray the **Our Father**

Tuesday: Damien, a religious of the ss.cc.

Damien's parents sent him to a city to study French and it was there that he discovered that he wanted to be a religious of the Sacred Hearts. His brother Pamfiel, who was a religious, encouraged and helped him. Damien who was more used to manual work than books, applied himself totally to his studies. On October 7, 1860 he made profession. His desire was to serve God and people.

Let us ask for all today. For those who like to study and for those who do not like it so much. Damien saw that study was important, and although he preferred physical work, he took his formation very seriously. Let us not waste opportunities and get on our toes to finish the year with dignity. Let us pray the **Our Father**.

Wednesday : the visit of a missionary.

The visit of a missionary, Bishop Janssen, who was working in Tahiti , impressed Damien in a special way. As a result of this visit, he decided to ask to be sent as a missionary to the Hawaiian Islands , in the place of his brother Pamfiel who had become ill. Young and strong he began his work. The Hawaiian Islands were a paradise in the middle of the Pacific Ocean , but there was an infirmity deep within its heart: that of leprosy. Those with leprosy could not live with their families nor with other people, so they were taken to an island which they could never leave. This island was Molokai , an infernal island.

Let us ask the Lord today for all sick people, and especially, for those who are alone and do not have anyone to encourage or help them. May the example of Damien encourage good people to give a hand to others. Let us pray for this by saying the **Our Father**.

Thursday: Damien in Molokai

Damien arrived in Molokai on May 10. Going to Molokai meant living on an island in seclusion for life. There was no possibility of leaving. The person would be infected by the illness. The work, he carried out was the admiration of the world. As well as giving himself totally as a priest, he preached, heard confessions, prayed, built churches, carried out an impressive humanitarian task: he organized schools, formed a band, visited the sick, fought with the authorities of Hawaii, cared for the sick

We can say that Damien is an impassioned man, who gave himself totally to those in need. Let us pray today that we may be infected with Damien's passion. May we be boys and girls who want to do something and not just to stand with our arms crossed. Let us pray the **Our Father**.

Friday : The strength of Damien

Damien drew strength to work from two sources : One was the Eucharist, the Body of Jesus that nourished him, accompanied him, encouraged and sustained him. And the other source was the Virgin Mary. Mary who, with the Heart of a Mother, watched over Damien and his lepers. Let us pray in this month of May and on this day in which we celebrate the liturgical feast of Saint Damien of Molokai, the prayer to the Virgin of the School.

E.25. Novena to Fr. Damien

FIRST DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life .Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth.

DAMIEN'S LIFE

When he was 23 years of age, Damien de Veuster left Belgium , his country, to go as a missionary to the Hawaiian Islands (North Pacific). Ten years later he voluntarily went to the Island of Molokai , where the government had segregated those with leprosy. He organized a social life for them, and gave them back a feeling of dignity and transmitted his faith and hope to them. He died of leprosy on April 15, 1889.

MEDITATION

Damien is not superman. He is an ordinary human being, aware of his limits.

- If God withdrew his grace from me for a moment, I would find myself immersed in the same vices out of which I want to take others.

His heroism is not his own, it is loaned. All that is needed is to draw near daily to the source of infinite love Jesus, who, when we were his enemies, reconciled us to himself by his death.

Damien's secret was his intimacy with God.

As long as you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; but apart from me you can do nothing.

This was Damien's secret: drawing daily from this spiritual well that is the Heart of Christ, the living waters of salvation. Damien continually knew how to benefit from the offer that Jesus made to the Samaritan woman.

-If you only knew the gift of God. If you knew who it is that asks you for a drink, you yourself would have asked me and I would have given you living water.

Damien did this. Let us do the same.

SILENCE

Prayer

Lord, Jesus make me, like Damien, an instrument of your love
Where there is hate, let me sow love,
Where there is offence, let me sow forgiveness,
Where there is disagreement, let me sow union,
Where there is falsehood, let me sow truth
Where there is doubt, let me sow faith,
Where there is despair, let me sow hope,
Where there is darkness, let me sow light,
Where there is sadness, let me sow joy.
Lord Jesus, make me like Damien, an instrument of your love.

SECOND DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life. Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth.

DAMIEN'S LIFE , Childhood and religious vocation

Joseph De Veuster, the future Father Damien, was born in 1840 in Belgium , into a profoundly Christian family. When he was very young, he showed a great love for God and the poor. When he was 13 years old, he had to leave school to work on the farm. Later when he was 18 years old, his father, with plans for him to become a great merchant, sent him away to study French. It was there that he discovered his vocation. He wrote to his parents:

- I want to be a priest

Without much delay he persuaded them to allow him to enter the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts. This community, born during the French Revolution, had as its aim to bring the love of the Heart of Christ to the world and in that way to renew it.

MEDITATION

In the living cemetery of Molokai , the heavy cross of each day, the nearness of death, and the hope of heaven, were freeing Damien from any sectarian spirit. He was intransigent and inflexible in the defense of those with leprosy;

Denouncing, protesting, demanding, but in other things he learned to show openness and tolerance. He came to understand and to discover the richness in others.

For him, everyone, whoever they might be, was a brother or a sister. Down with barriers, borders, prejudices! Like the good Samaritan in the parable, who on his journey helped the wounded man who was not of his nation...

Damien's neighbor is not the one who shares his culture, the color of his skin or his religion, but the person who is in need! Open and free, Damien is available to all.

SILENCE

Prayer

Lord Jesus, make me, like Damien, an instrument of your love.
Oh divine Master, grant that I may not want so much
To be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love
Because it is in giving that we receive;
In pardoning that we are pardoned,
In forgetting ourselves, that we find ourselves,
In dying that we are born to eternal life.
Lord Jesus, make me, like Damien, an instrument of your love.

THIRD DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life. Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth.

DAMIEN'S LIFE . Missionary vocation

Four years later, in 1863, his older brother, a religious in the same community and recently ordained a priest, was designed to go as a missionary to the Hawaiian Islands .

But, having fallen seriously ill, he could not go.

With the determination that characterized him, Damien wrote to the Superior General of his Congregation

- I want to go in my brother's place.

Although he had not finished his studies, his offer was accepted.

MEDITATION

Damien felt alone, because for years he was the only healthy person in the midst of a multitude who had leprosy

He was alone because he came from another world.

He was also alone at the religious level, because not even half the population are catholic. Alone, because he has to be leader, pastor and guide.

Alone and abandoned by his own. His superiors accused him of being excessive in his defense of those with leprosy

But at the same time he experienced the joy of the company of God.

Having our Lord by my side, I am always happy and content.

He also experienced the joy of the company of his new family, those with leprosy.

My greatest happiness is to serve the Lord in these poor sick children, rejected by others

Abandoned on an island in the middle of the ocean, he became a lighthouse, a light at world level. He would be described as “ apostle of the lepers”, “hero and martyr of charity” . Lost in the Northern Pacific, he would become the guide of a multitude of “young people, and not so young, seduced by his self giving.

There is nothing hidden that light cannot shine through – Jesus said. There is no secret that cannot be disclosed.

SILENCE

Prayer “Lord, Jesus, make me “

FOURTH DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life. Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth

DAMIEN'S LIFE The accursed Island

Ordained a priest in Honolulu at 24 years of age, the young missionary immediately took charge of the extensive and difficult missionary territory that the Bishop had entrusted to him.

Shortly afterwards, the government of Honolulu , in order to stop the leprosy epidemic, decided isolate the sick with force, putting them onto a rocky peninsula on the Island of Molokai . In 1873, the bishop confided to his priests his anguish regarding the hell that these isolated people were experiencing. Damien exclaimed:

Here I am. I am ready to bury myself alive with these poor unfortunates.

He was 33 years old, Christ's age when he died. The following week, without anything other than the clothes he was wearing, he disembarked on the island from which only death would free him 16 years later.

MEDITATION

Damien felt like a prisoner on Molokai , isolated among the hills that were cut vertically like walls, and the sea. Young and healthy, still strong, he dreamed of escaping. Condemned to death in life, sharing the destiny of the lepers, knowing that outside of death, there was no hope of liberation.

Damien was also a prisoner of daily work.

We, poor missionaries, can never rest in this life.

Finally he became a prisoner in the clutches of this terrible sickness, as Christ nailed to the wood of the cross.

The terrible sickness progresses rapidly and dreadfully. It threatens to make it difficult, almost impossible, to celebrate holy Mass.

A prisoner materially and physically, even psychologically, he felt, however, free interiorly.

I am very happy here even though there is much poverty and misery. The kind hearted God has deigned to give me consolation, which I never expected.

SILENCE

Prayer “ Lord Jesus, make me”

FIFTH DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life. Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth.

DAMIEN'S LIFE Heaven comes to Molokai

He immediately set to work, armed solely with the power of the cross, without any resources other than the love of God and his own generosity. Overcoming little by little, the revulsion caused by the horrible stench from the rotting flesh, he became a nurse. He was also an architect, engineer and, above all else, a laborer.

He procured drinking water, built lovely houses painted white, pioneered the cultivation of the land and organized their social life. He erected an orphanage to avoid the children being exploited. He built a cemetery because the bodies of those with leprosy lay wherever the dead person happened to be at the time.

He identified with his poor sick people and so gave them back a feeling of dignity:

We, lepers, are the friends of God, one day we will have the joy of having a new body

The secret of his self-giving and unfailing energy was Jesus whom he found in the Eucharist.

Without the continual presence of our divine Master on the altar of our poor chapels- he wrote – I would not have been able to stay here for even a day.

Gradually, thanks to his action, the cross of Christ produced the greatest of miracles: the hell of Molokai became a paradise, the threshold of heaven.

MEDITATION

After a hard day of work, when night had fallen, when those with leprosy were resting, and the children in the orphanage were sleeping, Damien found himself alone with God. He walked through the cemetery where the greater part of his people were, as the dead were more numerous than the living.

There were more than 200 deaths in the year.

He prayed as he went over the activities of the day. In the distance the waves sparkled in the light of the moon and the stars. He entrusted everyone, living and dead, to the mercy of God. He prayed for the physical health of those who had been visited and cared for during the dawn above all for their eternal salvation. He knew we are only passing through this world:

We do not have a lasting city here.

Let us imitate Damien in his role as intercessor.

But also, now that he is in glory with God, let us pray to him. Throughout his ministry he interceded for those with leprosy, and asked prayers for his mission, will he not intercede for us now?

SILENCE

Prayer "Lord Jesus, make me"

SIXTH DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life. Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth.

DAMIEN'S LIFE A leper with the lepers

Nine years after his arrival on Molokai , the first signs of leprosy appeared on his feet. In 1884 a medical examination confirmed the presence of the terrible illness. The following year his face was attacked; he had four years to live. God willed that Damien, the good shepherd, would become one with his sheep, sharing in their same infirmity. Like Jesus, who became one with us, taking on the flesh of a sinful humanity, Damien became one more person with leprosy. The strange thing was, he felt as happy as ever:

- My eyelids are beginning to drop, my face will soon be disfigured. I am calm and resigned to the point of being happy in the midst of my people

MDITATION

In Molokai everything had to be done. In spite of insurmountable obstacles and innumerable failures, Damien worked with his companions in captivity, connecting water, putting in sewerage systems, and building houses. Even looking for physical healing for this terrible infirmity.

Only the hope put in God, allowed him to live and struggle without being discouraged. Only it would give us the energy to keep going when we cannot see the results, when the harvest is lost, when the catch of fish is fruitless.

There are three supernatural virtues that God gives to the believer: on Molokai the first and the third- faith and love – was not enough, the second, hope, was indispensable. Whoever lacked hope became depressed and abandoned the fight. Or used the more native ways, for example violence, in order to get what they wanted.. On the contrary, whoever hoped in God's help here and now, whoever hoped trustingly in having their dreams realized in the next world, were not discouraged in their relentless struggle because they knew they were not alone and that victory is at the end of this road.

SILENCE

Prayer "Lord Jesus, make me an instrument"

SEVENTH DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life. Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth.

DAMIEN'S LIFE Death and its repercussions

During the last weeks of his life, he could not go out to visit the sick; it is now they who come to him, full of despondency, wanting to see him for the last time. On April 15 , 1889, Monday of Holy Week, he died at 49 years of age, in the midst of the cries of those who looked on him as a father. The news of his death spread throughout the whole world... And since then, his example continues to be an incentive in the fight against all the "lepers", and it never fails to arouse within the young and not so young, the desire to give oneself totally to those in need.

MEDITATION

In Molokai there were no healings or miracles... But a greater miracle was given, the miracle of the love of God manifested in Damien.

- Here I am, in the midst of my beloved lepers. They are terrible to look at, but they have a redeemed soul paid by the precious blood of our divine Savior.

He lived entirely for others, without complications, without pretence, without recuperation, without plans, without benefit. He gave and asked for nothing in return. For him, to serve was more important than health, more than life.

- There is no greater love than to give one's life for one's friends

Even though we must search for material progress, the values of the spirit should always be a priority. Even though Damien could not satisfy all the material needs of those with leprosy, especially physical healing, he tried to be, in his humble status of disciple, bread of life for the excluded and a living offering for those in need.

SILENCE

Prayer Lord, Jesus, make me

EIGHT DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life. Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth.

DAMIEN'S LIFE Damien's first five beliefs

- 1 To struggle unceasingly and without discouragement because I believe that God is always with me and gives me a hand.
2. I strive relentlessly and without rest, to build the Kingdom of God on earth, but I dream continuously of a radically new world that God has promised us in heaven.
3. I always try to give priority to those who are weakest, abandoned and marginalized.
4. I want to be a voice for those who have no voice.
5. I do not discover beauty in the exterior of the person, but in what is inside

MEDITATION

Damien is a man of God, to whom he gives first place in his life.

What I ask for is the courage to accomplish everywhere and always his holy will; our whole life is in this

This same priority caused him also, still young and healthy, to take the decision to go and serve those with leprosy on Molokai .

Here I am, soon to bury myself alive with these poor unfortunates.

By renouncing with this decision his freedom, well being and health, as well as the hope of a long life,

Damien confirmed his loyalty to greater values: that of confinement and infirmity until death for the love of God and neighbor, were of more value than fleeting riches. There is greater richness and freedom in serving God and others than in possessing the riches of this world. This does not mean negating the search for material progress nor personal fulfillment, since the word of God speaks to us of development and growth.

Increase, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it.

Damien showed this with his work to provide those with leprosy with fitting conditions of life. It is about affirming that worldly riches are only means, not an end, nor the secret of a full life. Joy, love and peace are achieved through the giving of oneself.

SILENCE

Prayer “Lord, Jesus, make me “

NINTH DAY

AVE DAMIEN (3 times)

Blessed are you, Damien, who loved the lepers to the point of sacrificing your own life. Saint Damien, continue inviting to song and to hope, all those who are suffering on earth.

DAMIEN'S LIFE Damien's other 5 beliefs

6. Do not judge or condemn or exclude anyone, tether, I try to understand and welcome all.
7. like Jesus, I want to serve in a totally disinterested way, because he who loses his life for his neighbor will find it.
8. To find the strength to love the excluded ones, I unite myself daily to Jesus, searching in his Heart the ardent source of divine love.
9. What I fear in life is not poverty, nor infirmity but the lack of faith, love and hope.
10. Even though the work is hard and exhausting, even though the infirmity is invading my body, I feel the happiest man in the world.

MEDITATION

Damien is a brother in solidarity:

Even though I do not have leprosy yet, I am a leper with the lepers. When I preach, I use the expression, “We lepers”.

Damien is a close companion:

He was not satisfied with supporting from a distance, in the nicest possible way. He shared the work; he lived with them daily, conversed with those with leprosy. He even ate with them when he was invited to their humble dwellings. He helped in the kitchen together with his hosts with ulcerated hands.

But Damien was not just a companion on the way. A companion, yes, but also a guide and pastor. He was not satisfied with sharing: he organized, motivated, led.

Before the authorities who gave help reluctantly, Damien was an advocate for his sheep, with the risk of being thought of as bad, being criticized and at times scorned.

There were not only accusations. Initiatives and commitments started coming: companions from his Congregation joined him, doctors took turns, material help arrived from all over the world, finally some religious came...

As the good shepherd, he faced the wolf that was hiding within the flock. He built orphanages to take in children who were exploited and violated.

Let us follow Damien. With him, let us learn to follow Jesus, the one and only true good shepherd.

SILENCE

Prayer "Lord Jesus, make me."

E.26. My God, because you are infallible truth

My God, because you are infallible truth,
I firmly believe, like the Saint Damien,
The apostle of the lepers, everything that you have revealed
and the beliefs that the Church puts before us.
I want to live forever according to this faith!

My God, like Saint Damien, the apostle of the lepers,
I hope in your kindness, in your promises
and in the merits of Jesus Christ, our savior,
eternal life and the grace necessary to merit it
with the good works I want and must do.
Lord, may I be happy with you forever !

My God, like Saint Damien, the apostle of lepers,
I love you with my poor heart and above all things,
because you are infinitely good and our eternal happiness.
and for love of you, like Damien, a martyr for charity,
I love my neighbor as myself, and I forgive all offences.
Lord, may I love you more and more !

E.27. Prayer for those who suffer

Oh Jesus Christ, our Savior, who said:
Anything you do to those in need, you do to me
Deign to turn your compassionate eyes towards Your servant, Saint Damien.

Remember how, renouncing all comforts, he generously offered himself to serve the
lepers of Molokai ,
cutting himself off from the world with them.
Remember how he dedicated himself entirely to heal their wounds,
so that they would know your consolation
and love you with all their hearts.
Remember too, how as a victim of a ardent zeal,
He experienced in his own flesh leprosy, which was incurable at the time.

Through the Heart of your immaculate Mother, we pray, O good Jesus,
grant to your heroic apostle everything he asks you in heaven:
- Comfort for those who mourn and strength for those who suffer;
- Healing for the sick and food for the hungry;
- Freedom for the persecuted and imprisoned, the return home of immigrants,
salvation for the dying.
- For those who still do not believe in you, the grace to reach the full knowledge
of the truth.

E.28. Thanksgiving for Damien

Thanksgiving for Damien
God, our Father,

We give you thanks for Fr. Damien,
Who, to follow your Son Jesus Christ unconditionally,
Offered to go to Molokai with the ostracized lepers.
He identified with them until his death.

With the self giving of his life, he gave back human dignity back to them,
And gave them a future. And in him we were shown how much you love all people.

We ask that your Spirit will move us to follow in his footsteps and to have a faith like his,
Open our hearts to those who have no value, who are the marginalized,
So that, through us they may find you.
May many follow the path he pointed out to us.

We ask you, Good God, that you do not cease to love us,
Today and every day, until eternity. Amen

E.29. Blessed are you, Damien

Blessed are you, Damien,
Who loved the lepers to the point of giving your life for them.
Blessed are you for your faithfulness to the great and the humble.
Blessed are you, because from your sick bed you were a voice that affected the universe. Blessed are you, because from your leprosy, you were a cry to the lepers of the world.

Blessed is your way of love, your infinite tenderness, your untiring work.
Blessed are your hands that consoled, your lips that inspired,
your eyes that saw the wounds of the lepers, the wounds of Christ himself.

Blessed are you who continues to invite to song and hope
All those who suffer in the world, no matter what kind of sickness, be it physical, moral or social.

E.30. Damien, Jesus called you (Fr. Bruno Benati ss.cc.)

Saint Damien, Jesus called you to bring the Gospel to those with leprosy
and he gave you the same
love that dwelt in his heart.

You were his faithful servant, leading an exemplary life of sacrifice and patience.
A life of heroic love for those
most despised,
whose rights you were quick to defend,
even at the risk of your life,
until the supreme moment of death.
In your life and apostolate, you manifested to all the tenderness and mercy that Jesus has for us.

Tirelessly serving the victims of leprosy,
you gave them back their human dignity
and you reveal to us the beauty of our inner being, that no illness, deformity or weakness, can really disfigure.

Now look on us with compassion and

and hear our trusting prayer.
May the Holy Spirit open our hearts to the world's misery,
and help us discover Jesus in the marginalized.

May Jesus give us the burning love of his loving heart.
May our prayers come to Him through you,
so that, in the midst of adversity, we might experience the help of his mercy.

We present to you our needs
and we thank for the favors received.
Saint Damien, son of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary
pray for us.

Bruno Benati Lenzi ss.cc.

E.31. I look at your hands, Damien

I look at your hands, Damien.
They are worn out, swollen and course. That is how they are at the end
Since they were worn out in so many things that you used them for.
They were work and action.
Little by little, at the impulse of your great heart,
You transformed this devastated place of Molokai into something beautiful, into hope.
You were transforming so many hearts into experiences of the Kingdom.
With your sick hands, Damien, in the Eucharist, you offered Christ to the Father.
Christ, with his pierced, nailed hands.
Your hands, Damien, imitating those hands of Christ,
Were open to welcome, pardon and love.

But when you meditated on the Gospel, you saw what Christ did, with his hands, he
cured the sick and did so many miracles.
What you would not have done to have the same gift of healing those with leprosy.

Do not envy this power of Christ, Damien,
It was your whole being, your whole life that was a miracle.
In your decision and self giving to the poor lepers , the great miracle was that you did
not leave them.
Thanks, Damien, you did not physically cure those with leprosy, but you left us
something better, the example of a love that transforms the hurts of this world.
(Pedro Cerdán ss.cc.)

E.32. Words learned from you

With words learned from you, Damien,
I am going to sing of what you have done, at least try to, because it is impossible to
confine to words such an overflowing amount of love.

Everything else – what is not love, or the concrete circumstances of your life – is
secondary.

- having offered voluntarily to go to Molokai ;
- the isolation to which you were condemned under the pretext that you could
infect others;
- the struggle you had with your own rebellious feelings when faced with such
misery;
- the pain of feeling helpless because you could not give the lepers the remedies
they needed, at least against the anger that often choked their souls;

- feeling your own body, crumble like a mountain of sand under the lashing rain, as an old house eaten by all the wood worm in the world.
 All this, all these situations outside, temporary, were not without their stories which equally may not have been, if it had been the will of the master of the cornfield to send you to cultivate another field.
 In that case, that is, outside Molokai , I know, Damien, you would have worked with the same determination, with the same endeavor, with the same love.
 There was no place where you did not feel impelled to give yourself completely, here, there, the voice of the Lord, the person of the maser, whom you felt was Father.
 You lived out of his love and this was totally in keeping with your total self giving, Damien, this is love that I feel incapable of putting into my poem.

E.33. Damien, unsparing in self giving

Father Damien, unsparing in self giving
 To God and people, a voluntary leper in the labor of love, a biography full of passionate pages, all inflamed by the celestial wind of the Spirit.
 How difficult it is to imitate you, we are afraid of your festering flesh and your outstanding service, to your suffering neighbor, on the island of Molokai .

How many times I felt, after knowing you, that special attraction which emanated from you with such a delicate fragrance! A great exploit such as yours, with such a quality, a yearning like yours that reaches heaven, give us back the days of the great saints with crystal souls.

No the good times of our holy Church are not finished, of men and women, that gave themselves in total charity, crazy for Christ, full of hope and pain. Damien, you are a good example and model as a test and a symbol.

E.34. Sayings to put to music

1. Lord, make me, like Damien, an instrument of your love.
2. Listen compassionately today, Lord, to the prayers of Damien
3. Damien, in his time, was the cry of the lepers;
 now in heaven he is "the voice of those who have no voice"
4. What extraordinary attraction emanates from you, Damien,
 crazy with love, the height of love and pain !
5. Damien knew how to be like Jesus,
 a good shepherd who gives his life for his sheep.
6. Damien, you were love and self giving without reserve,
 so that those without beauty could captivate
7. Damien is not great
 because he served the lepers to the point of contracting leprosy,
 but because he did it with love.
8. In Molokai , Damien did not heal the lepers,
 but he taught us something better
 the example of a love
 that transforms the evils of this world
9. Damien, ardent zeal and unquestionable compassion
 toward the most abandoned
 ask Jesus to pour out his love
 with super abundance into our hearts
10. That the needy, sick and marginalized, can find in us

consolation and sympathy, hands that cure and hearts full of compassion
11. Damien, giant of charity,
pray to the Lord that we may be also full
of the same ardent love of his Heart.

E.35. Novena to Father Damien

Oh God, come to my help
Glory be to the Father
Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, in the person of Christ
blessed us with the blessing of the Spirit.

The intentions of the rosary today and of our (first, second, third etc.) day of the novena
to Saint Damien of Molokai is:

Tuesday for priestly and religious vocations
Wednesday: for all missionaries
Thursday: for those who work with the poor and marginalized
Friday: for those dedicated to the care of the sick and the elderly.
Saturday: for all those with chronic illness
Sunday: for the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts
Monday: for all those who work for peace and justice
Tuesday: for the deceased, especially for missionaries who have died
Wednesday: for our Parish..N. (Virgin of Carmen)

The Holy Rosary,
At the end of the fifth mystery we pray in the following way:

We ask, Lord, through the intercession of Mary, called Virgin of the Way and
Virgin of Peace, that we may be filled with paschal joy. Look with kindness on the
Church who asks with faith that we may lead a holy life in the example of Saint Damien
of Molokai.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Biblical reading

Saint Damien says to us:

Let us invoke the protection of Saint Damien of Molokai and in silence present to him
our special intentions (silence)

Litany of Saint Damien

Saint Damien of Molokai pray for us
Apostle of the lepers
Life pleasing to the Father
Sent by Christ to the sick
Model religious
Faithful and loyal servant
Instrument of love of Christ
Worker for the Kingdom
Tireless missionary
Adorer of the Eucharist
Zealous pastor

Wounded pastor
 Compassionate soul
 Inspirer of Faith
 Hope of Molokai
 Servant of Charity
 Rest for the sick
 Leper among lepers
 Everything to all
 Consolation of the dying
 Happy leper
 Mirror of the beatitudes
 Builder of the Church
 Untiring worker
 Help of the orphans
 Sanctuary of a surprising happiness
 Spokesperson for the poor
 Arm of God for sinners
 Man for others
 Faithful believer
 Icon of the Passion of Jesus
 Strong in tribulation
 Son of the Cross
 Fruitful sacrifice
 Servant of the Heart of Christ
 Friend of the Heart of Mary
 Son of the Sacred Hearts
 Poor among the lepers
 Approachable man
 Universal man
 Ecumenical man
 Seed for vocations
 Pride of Hawaii
 Joy of his brothers and sisters
 Cause for rejoicing for the whole Church

Saint Damien of Molokai, you who knew and shared the pain of your people, pray for us and mercifully come to our help. Amen

Honor and glory to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary – Now and forever.

E.36. Damien, brother on the journey

Damien, brother on the journey,
 happy and generous missionary,
 who loved the Gospel more than your own life,
 who for love of Jesus left your family, your homeland, your security and your dreams,

Teach us to give our lives
 with a joy like yours,
 to be lepers with the lepers of our world,
 to celebrate and contemplate the Eucharist
 as the source of our own commitment.

Help us to love to the very end
 and, in the strength of the Spirit, to persevere in compassion
 for the poor and forgotten
 so that we might be

good disciples of Jesus and Mary.
Amen

E.37. God of mercy, we tank you for Damien

God of mercy,
We thank you for Damien,
brother to all,
father to lepers,
child of the Sacred Hearts.

You inspired in him
a passionate love for the life,
health and dignity
of those he found fallen
by the side of the road.

Thank you, for like Jesus
he knew how to love until the end.
Thank you, for like Mary
he knew how to give himself without reserve.

Thank you Father, for through Damien
you still inspire holiness
and passion for your kingdom.

Amen

E.38. The Leprous Hands of Damien

I look at your hands, Damien,
full of leprosy,
full of rotten flesh, stinking;
full of faith, love and consolation.
blessed flesh, offered in commitment
incarnate in the wounds of the suffering Christ,
deeply rooted in the womb of Mary the sorrowful,
raised high on the cross of Calvary,
glorified by the lepers of your island of Molokai.

Blessed are your hands Damien of Jesus and Mary,
blessed are your hands that raised those fallen in sickness.
Those consecrated hands
that gave back faith, hope and humanity
to those abandoned and sick
because of the disgusting blight of inhumanity,

With the blessing of your hands,
the lepers found consolation and relief from their suffering,
wounds, tears, cries and you healed their pain,
rebellion, blindness, powerlessness and you cured their solitude;
doctor, bricklayer, carpenter and musician,
priest, prophet, teacher and missionary;
shepherd of hundreds of sheep without pasture, forgotten sheep
in a world without God, without law, without love.
Damien, it was your hands
that in God's name worked wonders;
your hands anointed with holy oil

baptized, forgave and reconciled.
It was your fatherly hands and your Samaritan's heart
that taught children their letters;
closed the eyes of the dying ,
buried leprous bodies in the bowels of a forgotten island,
they were the hands raised to the house of God
to make it, wheat, bread, vineyard and land of Eucharist.

Father Damien, look at my hands,
empty, selfish and sick from pride,
there is no longer leprosy on Molokai,
leprosy is in the heart of the human race,
it is the sickness of unawareness and immorality,
it is the leprosy that rots our bodies and our minds.

Damien of the Sacred Hearts,
from Molokai send your light to the world
and with your holy hands wipe out
the plague of sin and evil;
so that each of us, brother/sister,
discover the face of Christ and holiness.

By Damiana de Jesús (Quito-Ecuador)

E.39. Meditation before the Eucharist (Eve of the canonisation)

Lord, during this evening of vigil and prayer, contemplating the sacrament of your merciful and sacrificial love, we give you thanks.

We thank you, crucified Jesus, because you have borne our suffering and our pain. Because your wounds have healed us. Because you carry us and justify all, the great multitude, all of humanity.

We give you thanks for Damien. In him you created a masterpiece of the Spirit. Damien, who exposed his own life to death, who chose his friends from among the most abandoned and who was able to love to the very end. And all of that, for you, for your Gospel of mad unbounded love.

Thank you, risen Christ, conqueror of death, reward of all who hope in you. Thank you because Damien is not just a "famous dead man," or a hero to be admired from the past. No, Damien is alive with your life, and now more than ever he is part of the prayer of the Church, that hopeful and pleading prayer that ceaselessly asks for the coming among us of your Reign, Reign of peace and justice, Reign of life and truth.

Thank you, Jesus, for the strange happiness that inundated Damien's heart. The happiness of a free man who claimed nothing for himself. The happiness that no pain, no sickness, no disdain, no poverty, not even death could take away. The happiness of the sinner that knows he is loved and forgiven. The happiness of one who loves with profound tenderness those who can give nothing in return. The happiness of the missionary who speaks of you, who awakens in others thirst for your love, who consoles them with the balm of your grace. The happiness of one whose faults and failings are consumed in the burning fire of love and service. Thank you, Christ, merciful friend, for you did not leave Damien alone but led him by the hand right to the very end. Only from you, Lord, comes true joy and plenteous redemption.

Lord, look upon us gathered before you to adore you. Look at our littleness and our slowness and give us your joy. We are many and tomorrow we will be more. We are from different places, of different races and cultures. We are a small sample of beautiful suffering humanity, brothers and sisters but still divided, united but also with conflicts. What a joy it is to call one another brothers and sisters! But how we also make one another suffer with our pride, our indifference, our dark side, our hatred! How much sorrow and misery there is in this world! How terrible is the

anguished cry of innumerable little ones of the world, the despised, massacred, outcast, their basic human dignity trampled on...! Teach us how to love as Damien loved. To look at one another with goodness of heart. To overcome barriers as Damien did, barriers of distance, race, religion, language, repulsion, fear, resentment...To freely commit ourselves, without always thinking of our security. Help us to love as you loved.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your wounded, loving redeeming heart. Thank you for the heart of Mary, obedient, disciple, mother. Thank you for these Sacred Hearts that made Damien a universal brother, model of humanity, apostle of those afflicted with leprosy, hero of charity, inspiration for every human being called to serve the outcast and forgotten, glory of the whole Church, reflection of the loving holiness of God among us.

You, who passed through the world doing good, make fruitful our joy so that it might bear the fruit of goodness, justice and compassion to the glory of God the Father.

(Santa Maria sopra Minerva, Javier Álvarez-Ossorio Ramos ss.cc.)

F. About Fr. Eustaquio Van Lieshout

F.1. Hymn to Fr. Eustaquio

Father Eustaquio
A man of the people
A man who loved intensely
A man who had mercy on all
A man with a simple heart
In whose heart great things were done
All for you, Lord, your person illuminates, your person attracts
Look on us, Lord
Give us the courage to be apostle of love
Give us the zeal of Joseph Mary Coudrin
The love of Damien
The enthusiasm of Mathew
The simplicity of Eustaquio
And we will continue your work, Lord
in the proclamation, in reparation, in adoration, in silence, in expiation,
in suffering, in self giving, in immolation, in love.

D. Luiz Mancilha Vitela, ss.cc.

F.2. Supplication to Fr. Eustaquio.

Our God, our Father, is revealed,
Jesus, our liberator,
he chose Father Eustaquio, his servant,
to live and proclaim your love.

Pray for us, Father Eustaquio,
Watch over us with love.
We rest in your kindness,
as our intercessor with God.

Faithful messenger and watchman
of the love of Jesus and Mary.
Model worshiper
of the mystery of the Eucharist,
We the sick and the poor,
pray for health and peace;
We ask today and always for your blessing
Because you give divine life.

Zealous missionary among the poor,
kindly shepherd of the sheep;
example of life and virtue,
for those who serve the Lord

(music and lyrics by Lucio Prado Dumont ss.cc., Original in Portuguese)

F.3. Prayer by Fr. Eustaquio

My Jesus,
I want to follow your steps,
Speak your words
Think your thoughts
Carry your cross,
Drink your blood
Eat your body
Reach heaven
And detest sin.

F.4. Prayers of the Mass

Collect

O God, who enriched the priest Blessed Eustaquio
with the gift of restoring health to the sick
and peace to sinners,
grant through his merits and intercession
that we may enjoy lasting health of soul and body
and come to eternal joy.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Offerings

Look upon the sacrificial gifts we offer, almighty God,
on the feast day of blessed Eustaquio,
and grant that we, who celebrate the mysteries of the Lord's Passion,
may imitate what we now do.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

By the power of this mystery, O Lord,
confirm your servants in the true faith,
that they may everywhere profess in word and deed
the faith for which blessed Eustaquio never ceased to labor

and for which he spent his whole life.
Through Christ our Lord.

G. Other prayers of ss.cc. spirituality

G.1. From the Good Father for the adoration

My God, I adore you, pervaded of your majesty
I am your son, rescued by the precious blood
Here I am, in front of you in my poverty
You are the creator of heaven and earth.
You are my end
I adore you with the angels and saints
and I will proclaim your praise all my life.

G.2. To begin the day

Jesus, as I begin this new day,
I offer you all that I will experience today.
With confidence I believe that I will find in you everything that I need.
My heart is thankful;
I know that your Spirit is always with me

May I live this day strengthened by your love for the Father and for the world.
During this new day I want to make my own
the attitudes, options and tasks
that led you to the point of having
your heart pierced on the cross.

May Mary, your mother, lead me
to enter more fully into your heart!

Jesus, I know that I am sinful and weak,
but still you desire that your Kingdom be present through me.
Many brothers and sisters will experience today
the consequences of injustice, hatred and the world's sin.
Transform my heart making it more like yours.

May I offer this whole day in love and reparation.
Make me free and available so that your Kingdom might come;
teach me to love as you love,
especially the poor, the afflicted,
the marginalized and those who have not heard the Good News

May Mary, model of faith in your Love,
help me!

Jesus, you have made me a member
of this family of the Sacred Hearts.
You create among us deep bonds
of communion and solidarity.
Make me attentive today to the needs of
my brothers and sisters in community.

May I accept this gift of communion in one spirit with simplicity and joy
Nourish us with your word and your Eucharist,
source and summit of our lives,
so that today we may contemplate,
live and announce your redeeming love.

May Mary, our Mother,
accompany us!

G.3. Example of the Good Mother

Heart of Jesus and Heart of Mary,
at the dawn of the third millennium
and of the second century of the Congregation,
make of me a religious woman of ss.cc.
vested with your attitudes
and your sentiments
that has the courage to see reality
and to confront it,
consumed with zeal for the mission,
available to change
rooted in the faith
and full of hope.
Amen

(Prayer of Jeanne Cadiou)

G.4. Prayer of consecration (for perpetual profession)

Father most holy,
we praise you and give you thanks.
From the very beginning
you have always done what is good for humankind.
When we turn from you,
you do not abandon us but offer us a covenant.
You are the faithful God, who is patient and merciful.
In the fire of your love,
you reveal to Moses, your friend,
that you hear the cry of your suffering people.
You are the God of tenderness and mercy,
whose Heart is wounded by everything that destroys humanity and creation.
You so love the world, Father most holy,
that in the fullness of time
you sent your only Son
to be our savior.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary, your humble servant.
Always open to your will,
she faithfully accompanied her Son
from his birth to his cross.

You wanted her heart
to be the model of a heart
that listens and gives itself to your love.

In Jesus Christ we find everything!
Sharing our human condition,

caring for the poor and the little ones,
he came among us as one who serves and gives his life for all.
He loved us to the very end,
to death on the Cross, his Heart pierced.
By his wounds we are healed.
Risen from the dead, he opens the way to life,
freedom and joy for all who believe in him.

Father most holy, now
nothing can separate us from your love!
By your Holy Spirit
you never cease to call men and women
in every generation
to follow Christ in the religious life.
Out of love, they choose to prefer nothing to him
and to place their lives at the service of others.
And now, Father most holy,
look with kindness upon NN...
By their religious profession,
they offer themselves to you
with all their heart forever.

We ask you to anoint them
with your Spirit of fire and love,
so that with the sisters, brothers and laity
of their religious family
they may listen to Jesus Christ,
meek and humble of heart,
and conform their lives to his
so as to be always one with him.
May their lives be hidden with Christ in God.
May he dwell in their hearts
and may they be rooted in his love.
And thus may they be committed ever more deeply
to contemplate, live and proclaim
your love revealed in
the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

By the grace of your Holy Spirit,
give them always
prudence and simplicity,
gentleness and wisdom,
seriousness and kindness,
discretion and freedom.
May they burn with charity
and may they love only you.
May they seek to glorify
you with a pure heart,
and holy body.

God ever faithful,
be their delight, their joy and their love;
be their consolation in sorrow,
their light in the midst of doubt,
their recourse in the face of injustice.
In trials, be a source of patience.

In poverty, be their treasure.
In privation, be their nourishment.
In sickness, be their health.

In you they possess everything,
since they prefer you above all others.
May they one day hear
the voice of Christ inviting them to share his joy
and take their place with him in his Kingdom.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and God,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
forever and ever. AMEN.

(prayer composed by Bernard Couronne ss.cc.)

G.5. God needs us!

God needed a father for his people,
He chose an old man
Abraham.
He needed a spokesman,
He chose a timid fellow who stuttered
Moses.
He needed a king to lead his people,
He chose the smallest brother from a family of shepherds
David.
He needed a family
to prepare for the coming of the messiah and savior.
He chose simple folk
Ann and Joachim.
He needed a home to welcome his Son
He chose a humble young woman
who would give birth in a stable
Mary in Bethlehem.
He needed a rock upon which to build his church,
He chose a brash fisherman
who would deny him three times
Simon Peter.
He needed a face
which would speak to people of his love.
He chose a prostitute
Mary Magdalene.
He needed a herald
to shout his message to the whole world.
He chose a barefaced persecutor
Paul of Tarsus.

He needed a band of missionaries
who would spread the Gospel everywhere.
At the height of a bloody revolution,
he chose a young zealous priest
Pierre Coudrin.
He needed someone to be always lovingly present
before the Eucharist.
He chose a young worldly woman
Henriette Aymer
He needed a father to stay with
the abandoned lepers of Molokai.
He chose a strapping man from Flanders
Damien de Veuster.

Today he still needs people who will
contemplate, live and proclaim his love.

He has chosen you...
even if you are afraid.

G.6. Prayer at the threshold of the millennium

God our Father,
We thank you for our Congregation of the Sacred Hearts.
We thank you for this religious family
whose existence is the work of your providence.
We thank you for the unfathomable riches
revealed to us in the Heart of your Son:
A heart, full of love and goodness,
a heart, patient and merciful,
a heart, overflowing with wisdom and knowledge,
a heart that is the fountain of virtue,
a heart that is the dwelling place of divine goodness,
a heart that is the refuge of justice,
a heart that is the abode of peace and reconciliation,
a heart that is the source of life and resurrection.

Lord, at the threshold of a new millennium,
we offer you all work and all our commitments.
Out of them we are weaving the future.
May we continue to share with the world the burning flame of your Son's Heart.
Lord, may we be prophets
who announce your reign in the world,
who long for the world to be transformed,
who lead your people to fullness of life,
who illumine the darkness of the world
with the light of your resurrection.
May your spirit consecrate us
to be faithful witnesses of your love,
until the day when you quench our thirst
to see you face to face.
AMEN.

(By an SS.CC. novice in Mozambique)

G.7. Prayer of the ss.cc. lay people

Lord Jesus Christ
you have a heart like ours.
You see our suffering, you know our concerns.
You know also our burning desire for life,
happiness, joy and salvation.

In your word and ministry
you give us all we need to live:
to the poor you give bread,
to the grief-stricken, joy,
to the lonely, a home,
to the abandoned, help and comfort,
to the discouraged, hope and confidence,
to the despairing, strength and courage,
to the sick, a loving consoling presence,
to the dying, communion with God forever.

Give us a heart as big as yours

so that all those whom we meet
might feel understood, welcomed and loved.

Let us be your mouth,
to speak words of goodness and reconciliation;
Let us be your ears,
to listen when no one else wants to listen.
Let us be your hands,
to give without expecting a return.
Let us be your feet,
to go where distress and misery reign.
Let us be your heart, wounded out of love,
to heal the wounds of all humanity.
As children of your Father,
we want to be united by our love for one another;
and to proclaim by our unity,
that you are alive in our midst.

Amen.

(Communities of the Secular Branch in Germany)

G.8. Psalm for the ss.cc. community

Praise to the Lord, he is our strength,
the reason of our community.
He has convoked us to contemplate his presence
in the whole earth.
We praise you when remembering our history;
those who have preceded us in this family
are deeply and lovingly present to us.
We remember our Founder,
pursued priest and shepherd,
You were with him and you inspired him
to form a family of men and women,
missionaries of the Good News.
We remember our Foundress
determined to build a community who would live
with the attitudes of Jesus and Mary.

Give us courage to be faithful
to the charism of our Founders
let us risk our lives in service to the poor,
in the fight for justice,
in the care of nature,
in the defense of life and peace.

Forgive us for trusting in our own forces,
forgive us for falling into ideological novelties,
may our only doctrine be your Gospel.
Give us the strength to announce your Word
in clandestine situations today.

We give you thanks, Lord, for each Sister,
for the young ones beginning the journey,
and for those who follow you with a sure step.
We praise you because you have chosen each of us to live your redeeming love.
Take our hands that forge signs of your Kingdom, that we may always walk
in communion with the Church.
Look at us, at our heart
we want to live the present in depth

and confront the future with joy and hope.
Amen.
(By the ss.cc. communities in Spain)

G.9. United to the prayer of the Heart of Jesus

We are one
 with the prayer of the compassionate Heart of Jesus,
When we sing the praise of God of creation...
When we lift our hearts
 in thanksgiving to the Lord
 for being present in human history...

When we praise the Father for the gift of his Spirit...
We are one
 with the prayer of the compassionate Heart of Jesus,
When we contemplate the Eucharist and realize
 that we are members of the body of Christ...
When we live according to the words of Jesus...
When we bring the world to Christ and
 Christ to the world...

We are one
 with the prayer of the compassionate Heart of Jesus,
When our hearts and our hands push us
 beyond the barriers between races and religions...
When each person becomes
 a brother or a sister for us...
When our prayer inspires us to become
 a voice for the voiceless and strength for the weak...

We are one
 with the prayer of the compassionate Heart of Jesus,
When we recognize
 that we are the Body of Christ for the world,
When we are willing
 to do God's will and not our own,
When we are able to feel
 the pain of our brothers and sisters who suffer...
Then, we are one
 with the prayer of the compassionate Heart of Jesus.
(Composed by a community in Latin America)

G.10. Thanksgiving for the consecration to the ss.cc.

God our Father
we give you thanks
for our Congregation of the Sacred Hearts.
We give you thanks for this religious family
whose existence is the work of your Providence .
We give you thanks for the fathomless riches
that the heart of your Son has shown us
a Heart that is full of love and kindness,
a Heart that is patient and merciful,
a Heart that is a Treasure of Wisdom and knowledge
a Heart that is the source of virtue

a Heart that is full of divine kindness
a Heart that is the sanctuary of justice,
a Heart that is the refuge of peace and reconciliation,
a Heart that is the source of life and resurrection.

G.11. Prayer for our missionaries

Lord, I offer this hour
for all the missionaries in the world,
for the communities
that they encourage and the people
they serve.

In a special way I want
to pray for the Missionaries
of the Sacred Hearts.
May your Holy Spirit give them
strength, courage and wisdom
in their work of evangelization.

¡Protect them from all danger!
And raise in our
communities vocations
that they can continue their mission.
We ask this through
Mary, your Mother, Queen of Peace.

G.12. Prayer for ss.cc. Vocations (I)

God our Father,
source of life and all good things,
look on your Sacred Hearts family
united in the name of Jesus,
concerned about being near those
you have called by their names,
to proclaim that your Kingdom is
for the weak and the simple.

May we recognize
Your presence in the Spirit
who recreates, transforms and dynamites us
Lord, in this mission
initiated by our Founders,
the Good Father and the Good Mother,
do not let us
be overcome by tiredness, or give into discouragement
rather, make us more capable of giving ourselves to service
in the example of Blessed Damien of Molokai

Open the hearts of young people
so that they may discover their place
in the world and in the Church
following in the footsteps of the Master

We ask you this with Mary, our Lady of Peace,
our companion on the way. Amen

G.13. Prayer for ss.cc. vocations (II)

God our Father,
we thank to you for having called us to this way of following Jesus,
in it we have found our joy and our way of life.

We ask to you that you inspire in many young people the desire to enter our religious family and the grace of being able to do it so that they might announce with us the Gospel to the poor, joy to those who suffer, and to all your merciful love that shines in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

We asked it to You, who live and reign for the ever and ever.
Amen.

G.14. Prayer for the ss.cc. Congregation (I)

Father all good,
You have called us to believe in You and to offer our hearts and our lives entirely to You.

We ask You to help us to live deeply the encounter with Your Son, Jesus.
May we make ours the attitudes, the choices, and the commitments that led Him to the Cross, his Heart transpierced.
Grant us that freedom that the Spirit gave to our Founders.
AMEN!

G.15. Prayer for the SS.CC. Congregation (II)

God, our Father,
we give you thanks for our religious family of the Sacred Hearts.
You never cease to manifest your Providence: you have led us by the hand.
Send your Spirit upon us
that we may be able everywhere to truly witness your tender and merciful love,
manifested in the Heart of your Son.
Conform our hearts and our communities to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
in order that in being faithful to our history
we may forge paths for the future and give life always and everywhere.
AMEN.

G.16. Prayer for the Congregation of the ss.cc. (III)

Sacred Hearts of Jesus and of Mary,
Keep our Congregation faithful to its spirit.
And increase the number of its sons and daughters.
Give us Eucharistic hearts,
apostolic hearts, holy hearts.
Give strength and courage to our missionaries.
Help us to overcome our difficulties.
Remember our deceased Brothers and Sisters.
May we all live, work, and die following our motto:
"To the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
honor and glory".

G.17. Prayer for the ss.cc. family

God, our Father, source of life and of all good,

look upon the Sacred Hearts Family gathered in the name of Jesus.

It strives to accompany the vocation of those whom you call to participate in our mission.

May your Spirit lead us to recognize your presence which renews and energizes us.

Do not allow fatigue and discouragement to stop us in the accomplishment of the mission begun by our Founders.

Rather, strengthen within us the capacity to serve until the end following the example of our brother Damien of Molokai..

Open the hearts of the young that they may discover their place in the world and in the Church by following in the footsteps of their Master and Savior, Jesus.

We ask this, with Mary, Our Lady of Peace and our Mother who journeys with us.

AMEN!

G.18. Children of the Sacred Hearts

We come from all around the world

We do not care from which place you come

We treat each other equally

Because we are one

We share together, when

We are eating, when

We are hungry, when

We are happy, when

We are sad, when

We are playing, when

We are working

Because we are one.

Sometimes we fight,

Sometimes we sing,

Sometimes we cry,

Sometimes we laugh,

Because we are one.

We love each other,

We take care of each other,

We give and share with each other,

We are a big family

Because we are one.

Even though we are poor,

we are rich in love,

Even though we are poor,

we are rich in hospitality,

Even though we are poor,

we are rich in honesty,

Even though we are poor,

we are rich in helping each other,

Because we are one.

We are a family,

We are Brothers and Sisters,

We are friends,

We are children of the Hearts.

Tjoe Herlina Soekoer ss.cc.

G.19. This way, Lord.

Lord, from this corner of the world we raise our prayers to you full of affection and love for our Sacred Hearts Congregation and for each one of the Brothers, Sisters and laity that make it up today.

Lord we recognize that you have been the brother and the faithful friend who has remained strongly connected to each generation.

You have encouraged our faith, communal life and Mission.

You have allowed us to put the flavor and dynamism of the Sacred Hearts in the world enabling us to be salt and light, in the world and for the world.

Lord, you have chosen us as your beloved children, you have given us many vocations who have lived centered in you, today may their lives continue to question, challenge and encourage, so that we can let go of the bonds and securities that have made us selfish, individualists and hard of heart.

With you, we want to build a more just and united world.

Lord, responding to your call we have expanded to the five continents; each one wanting to be a new vessel, filled with the new wine; and in this way to live in proximity and in solidarity with the poorest, to work in projects that dignify the life of each one.

Lord, grant us the courage to leave all and to risk our lives for you and for those who live alone, or are abandoned, excluded, exploited.

May we as children of the Sacred Hearts not lack the faith, perseverance, enthusiasm, generosity, radicality and loyalty to do your Will.

María Nieves Argüello, ss.cc.

G.20. Prayer of abandonment in the Providence

Heavenly Father,
through the power of the Spirit
acting in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
we ask, through the intercession of the Good Mother and the Good Father,
the grace of complete trust in the goodness and providence of God and the grace of
zeal and courage to put into action what we contemplate.
Sacred Heart of Jesus we place our trust in You.
Immaculate Heart of Mary, be our model and guide.
Amen

G.21. Prayer for an ss.cc. meeting

Heavenly Creator,
We thank you for our vocation as religious of the Sacred Hearts.
Send us the gift of your Spirit on our meeting.
Help us to be persons of discernment so that we may have the light to know your will
and the courage to do it.
Give us the grace to be open to all your people,
especially the poor and marginalized,
after the example of our Brother Damien.

Conform our hearts and our communities
to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary
so that we may be life-giving
always and everywhere.

Adapted from the Sisters' Prayer for the 1994 General Chapter.

G.22. Send your Spirit

Lord, send your Spirit over all your creation
as you did on that first Pentecost.
Send your Spirit on each one gathered here.
Give us enthusiasm for Gospel action.
Make us desirous of living the gift of our vows in our religious family.
Enable us to contemplate, live and announce the merciful Love of the Father,
that we may become, in the Spirit,
a prophetic people, your people,
forever and ever.
Amen.

Bernard Couronne, ss.cc.

G.23. Confidence

Lord, let me come
near to your Tabernacle
to tell you of my pain,
to speak of my loves,
to give thanks for Your great Love
and to praise the Father with you.

Because I am waiting for you
And you are not coming,
Tell me, Lord, must I wait long to be with You?

If my question offends you forget it,
love is impatient and it knows no measure!

All I want is to do your will,
to do whatever you tell me
without wondering why
Because I know that you will never forget me!

María del Carmen Villar Romero, ss.cc

G.24. To begin the adoration

Blessed are you, Lord Jesus, for this moment of intimacy;
Blessed are you for I am here before You:
the one who called me from my mother's womb,
the one who gifted me with his confidence
inviting me to be a religious of the Sacred Hearts.

Blessed are you because I can listen to you and to be here alone with you
But...I am not alone, Lord:

I bring with me the love and the company of my brothers and sisters of the Congregation,
Religious and laity,
that here, in the Eucharist we recognize you as Lord,
we experience you as friend,
we adore you as our only God.

I bring also the life and the concerns
of my family and my friends
of the communities where I serve
and all the brothers and sisters who suffer en the world.

May your Spirit come and help me in my weakness
and thus, with Mary and like Mary,
may I become permeable to your grace:
praising your goodness,
thanking your gracefulness,
blessing your greatness,
confessing my littleness,
interceding for those who suffer the most,
confiding to you those you have entrusted to me.

Thus in my entire person, You, Lord, be always praised.
Amen.

Gerardo Joannon ss.cc.

G.25. To conclude the adoration

At the conclusion of this moment of adoration, Lord,
I ask pardon for the distractions,
the result of my clumsiness and littleness.
I thank you for your patience and company
and ask you to give me the grace
to always adore you without using you,
to know you without diminishing you,
to serve you without hope of reward,
to give you without decreasing you,
to share you without losing you,
to preach you without honoring myself
and to announce you with the greatest efficiency and modesty
throughout my entire live.
Amen.

Gerardo Joannon, ss.cc.

G.26. My prayer, a credo (The creed of a ss.cc.)

I believe in your merciful love, God our Father, the Creator. I believe in your redeeming
love, Son of the Father, and in your love, Holy Spirit, Sanctifier.
I believe in your love that repairs and saves, Word of God made flesh in Mary, by your
action, Holy Spirit, you who are the personal love of the Father and Son.

I believe, Lord Jesus, in the mysterious redemptive and salvific plan of Your Father.
I believe in our salvation and happiness, fruit of our humanization in your image and
likeness.
I believe in You, Jesus, my Lord and my God, our new and eternal covenant. For in you,
the new Adam, we are called anew into the covenant of union with your Father that was
lost.

With our Founders, I believe in the close union of your Sacred Hearts, Jesus and Mary, and in the fulfillment of the saving will of the Father, to repair and reestablish by your sacrifice, the lost dignity of man, that of being the beloved children of God the Father. I believe that we can cooperate with you in that by our vocation, charism and mission.

I believe in your redemptive love, obedient to the Father's plan, Jesus, son of Mary, she who was your collaborator in bringing about your incarnation and your work in history. Mary, I believe in your humble co-redemptive mission, which is the basis of our own. I believe in your contribution to the blessed fulfillment of God your Father's plan of love.

With our Foundress, I am one with, I contemplate and I make reparation to your hearts pierced "by the enormous crimes of sinners" and by our own sins today. I believe that "God wants us to participate in the interior suffering of the Heart of Jesus." With our Founder I believe that I "am a child of the Cross and that in you, Jesus, I find everything."

I believe that we can cooperate humbly in the salvific and redemptive work of the Father, imitating you, O Mary, our Mother. I believe that we do this every day of our lives by "retracing" the sufferings of your childhood, your hidden life, your public life and your crucified life, Lord Jesus, so as to finally live with you forever.

I believe in your living mysterious presence in the tabernacle and I adore and make reparation to your heart that is continuously wounded. There you await my faithful and silent presence. I believe also in your promised presence in my heart, which is devoted to your love and service. There I might obtain from you the grace of perpetual adoration of your loving heart.

Lord, I believe that our adoration is the inexhaustible source of our ministry of contemplating, living and proclaiming the mystery symbolized in your Sacred Hearts. I believe that our perpetual adoration can become a source of power for our ministry and mission, wherever we are, in the Church and in the world.

I believe in the value that you desired to give to our consecrated life, Lord Jesus. I believe in the importance of our being signs for the Church and the world, as members of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, in whose service our Founders, Damien, Eustaquio and so many others of us want to live and die. Amen.

(An ss.cc. brother)

G.27. Always reparation

Lord Jesus, I cannot forget what You have suffered.

They tell me that his happened in the past, that it was more than 20 centuries ago, that it happened in a remote country, but that You don't suffer now because You are risen. That's true to a certain point. I saw You suffering yesterday in that poor old woman, with thrombosis, prostrate in a bad bed covered with a torn blanket, taken care of in a dark room by a daughter who also had to take care of her four little ones.

I have seen You suffering in so many crushed people who say to You: "Lord, why have You abandoned me?"

And seeing all this brings pain.

But there is a deeper pain. I feel the guilt that I share because of the actual suffering of so many people.

I can't wash my hands and say: "The suffering of malnourished children, the suffering of women who have to battle all alone bearing in their faces the mark of their pain or the sad faces of men without access to work has nothing to do with me"

I am part of that society which permits or favors injustice and human suffering.

There's more. I take responsibility for the fact that my egoism, stinginess, pride, indifference to others are part and reflection of what society shows. Then it is I who have you nailed and badly hurt. I contribute to that part of reality where Redemption has found resistance and hardness of heart. For that reason I I kneel weeping, I beg for forgiveness a thousand times and I tell You that I love You with a great passion, healing the wounds of my brothers and sisters hurt by the lack of work, alcoholism or loneliness. I want to clean Your face, Lord, giving back to each child who begins his or her life marked by marginalization and disdain, laughter and games. I want to call out so that many who are condemned by society may break their chains and and raise up their heads to make another world of justice and peace. When I go on adoration I don't make reparation for the sins of others, but for my own that have crucified You. For this reason "I am crucified with Christ and I live now, not I, but it is Christ lives in me and I live in the Son of God Who loved me and gave Himself up for me." And this pain of prayer is the beginning of resurrection and happiness. From it one emerges ready to give up his or her life for others, one emerges with resurrection and hope. Thanks!, Jesus, for allowing me to go up to the cross of my people and to go up with them to Your resurrected life.

Pablo Fontaine ss.cc.

G.28. Prayer of Fr. Frezal Tardieu ss.cc.

(Prayer of Father Frezal Tardieu, a few hours before he was executed by a firing squad, May 26, 1871, Paris) (Published in 1898)

Here I am, O my God,
I come to do your will; engrave your law in the depth of my heart
and give me the grace to do always what is pleasing to you.

O most Blessed Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, my God and my all,
I adore you and I give you thanks for the blessing of my birth and my salvation,
for keeping me in your care, for the indelible sacraments that you instituted for me,
for my vocation to the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary
and for all the other innumerable blessings
you have poured forth on me and on all people.

Prostrate before you, O my God, and covered with the precious blood of your Son,
I offer you and I consecrate to you all that I have, all that I am, my thoughts, my words,
my health, my weakness, my sickness, my goods, my reputation, my life.

You have given me everything, I give everything back to you to be used for your glory
and the salvation of my neighbor.

Take from me all that displeases you and give me all that pleases you.
Guide me and take possession of me according to your good pleasure.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
give me the grace to never offend you but to do always your holy will.

Allow me to arrive at the perfection of my vocation according to the spirit of the Sacred
Hearts of Jesus and Mary, so that my joy might be perfect.
Give me a will that is good, firm and persevering and deep peace.
Walking always in your presence may I find you in all things.

Allow me to grow always closer to you through love and thankfulness
and to come to you holding the palm branch of a martyr,
so that I may praise you, bless you and sing your mercies forever!

Amen