



VOCATIONAL ADORATION

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain.” (Jn 15,16a)

Mantra - Let us sing

Let us entrust in the Lord, He is just and so good; Let us trust in the Lord, Alleluia! (Repeat)

Animator: Be praised and glorify every moment...

Animator: Beloved Sisters, after a day in profound silence, filled in this mystery of the love of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, intrinsically united to the Mystery of the Church that walks enlightened by the action of the Holy Spirit; let us begin our ADORATION to the MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT, crowning this day, thanking the Lord for the experiences lived. In the month of October, the Church celebrates the month of missions. According to the Church, it is a period in which it seeks to "promote and awaken awareness and Christian missionary life".

- **SONG TO WELCOME THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT - free choice**
- **SILENCE AND WORSHIP TO THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT – Meditation’s Music**

Reader 1. When we talk about “evangelizing action”, we mean the action of each person. This day of retreat wanted to make us evaluate how and if our encounter with Christ happened and what this encounter provoked in us. Meeting Christ is transformative, just as it was for Saint Paul. It is a contagious encounter that leads us to announce him; it is an encounter that makes us disciples and missionaries.

Reader 2. Being a disciple is a condition that arises from the fascination of a personal encounter with the risen Christ. When we think this way, the great example that comes to mind is Saint Paul. He appears as a unique model of an apostle in the love and following of Jesus. Saint Paul tells us: “Woe is me if I do not proclaim the Gospel” (1 Cor 9, 16).

Reader 3. Certainly, the experience of a personal encounter with Christ touched Paul deeply, provoking in him conversion and an unavoidable commitment to the explicit proclamation of the Gospel. His conversion was not the result of beautiful thoughts, of pure personal reflections, but was the result of divine intervention, of an unpredictable divine grace.

Reader 4. From this change, everything that previously constituted value for him became loss and rubbish (cf. Phil 3, 7-10). From that moment on, Paul put all his energies into the exclusive service of Jesus Christ and his Gospel. He will define himself as “an apostle by vocation” (cf. Rom 1:1; 1 Cor 1:1); or “apostle by the will of God” (2 Cor 1, 1; Eph 1, 1; Col 1, 1), an apostle who wants to “become all things to all people” (1 Cor 9, 22) without reservations.

- SILENCE ADORATION TO THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT – Meditation’s Music

Reader 1. Saint Paul was “overtaken by Christ Jesus” (Phil 3:12). A missionary disciple, passionate about Christ, he made Him the principle and centre of his life. He did not tire of proclaiming the resurrected Jesus, even though it cost him countless difficulties. He himself reports what he had to endure (cf. 2 Cor 11, 24-28). Nothing contained or held him back in proclaiming the Gospel to every creature and everywhere. To face everything he faced, Paul had a very strong reason: “the love of Christ compels us” (2 Cor 5, 14).

Elaborated by: Sr. Claudete Jaguszeski

Revised by: Sr. Elza Cipriano Albino

Translated by: Sr. Sonia M. Medina Arguello

Reader 2. Who among us is capable of repeating with Paul: “For me to live is Christ (Phil 1:21). “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ” (1 Cor 11:1). “I live, but it is no longer me, is Christ who lives in me; I live my present life in the flesh by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” (Gal 2:20).

Reader 3. Paul did not personally live with Jesus of Nazareth; he did not participate in Jesus' missionary comings and goings through Judea, Galilee and Samaria. He did not witness any miracle performed by Jesus. But, after that unforgettable question: “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” he felt seized by Jesus, to the point of making his radical choice for Him: “what do you want me to do?” (Acts 9, 4-6).

Reader 4. Paul also presents himself as a model of evangelizer. “You know well how I behaved towards you... I served the Lord with all humility, with tears and in the midst of trials that I suffered... I never stopped announcing what could be of benefit to you, nor from teaching you, openly and from house to house” (Acts 20, 18-20). It is clear how Paulo felt “one thing” with his community.

Reader 1. Serving the Lord is the first reality, the first mission, the first duty of every baptized. The good apostle judge's himself and knows that he is seen by others as a servant of Christ. But before being a servant of the community, I must be at the service of Christ, reached by Him... The Lord's minister will not owe anything to anyone other than Christ. Not needing to please anyone, not needing to respond to anyone other than Christ, is a great advantage in every mission we carry out.

Reader 2. Serve through tears, with zeal, with fervour, with intelligence, with courage, with perseverance and with all humility... because; in the service of every missionary disciple there are tears, trials, persecutions, insidious of all kinds, difficulties... Are we too capable of shedding tears of zeal and love for the people entrusted to us? With what emotional intensity do we live the mission entrusted to us? What are the joys and anguish of our mission? The image of “missionary disciple” and pastor that Paul gives us is of a deep, emotional and affectively involved man in what he does. What image do we express or reveal in the day to day of our mission?

- SILENCE ADORATION TO THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT – Meditation´s Music

Animator: Let us also have the “finesse” that Paul had in conquering souls and hearts. Let us look at Paul and try to reproduce in our evangelizing action what he confesses: “I in no way consider my life precious to myself, as long as I complete my career and carry out the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus: witnessing the Good News of the grace of God” (Acts 20, 24). Without a doubt, Saint Paul, impelled by the love of Christ, became a “disciple and missionary” and this is also our mission.

Let us pray sharing

PSALM OF SILENCE

1 – Here I am, Lord, like a grain of sand in the desert.

2 – Here I am, Lord, barefoot, waiting for you.

3 – Here I am, Lord, with an open heart, listening.

4 – Here I am, Lord, seeking peace in your response.

1 – Here I am, Lord, like the heart of the Virgin Mary, an open wide window, so that the sun of your being becomes fruitful and penetrates my home with your presence.

2 – I want to be with you, sitting, at your feet, without thinking or searching, sensitive to what comes to me.

Elaborated by: Sr. Claudete Jaguszkeski

Revised by: Sr. Elza Cipriano Albino

Translated by: Sr. Sonia M. Medina Arguello

3 – I want to be with you free of charge, here and now, attentive to your word, totally present.

4 – I want to unify my being with yours, my life with your life.

1 – You are, Jesus, the last word, welcomed in the silence of a harsh experience;

2 – You are, Jesus, Good News, which gladdens the heart,

3 – You are, like the silence of cold nights that, drop by drop, soaks the parched earth.

4 – Jesus, I want to unify my being as a person.

1 – I want to be a person. “Being” and not “Having”. Be in your purity.

2 – I want to abandon the noise that stuns and enslaves me.

3 – I want to cut the ties that surround my freedom.

4 – I want to break, tear, force, open chains.

1 – I want you to place your tender heart in the dust and nothingness of my poverty.

2 – I want to know, to taste your mercy to sweeten my stony heart.

3 – I want the light of your gospel to illuminate my being and to banish the blind night.

4 – Give me, Lord, self-control, the control and a vigilance, as I desire to be a servant of your Kingdom. I want to be free and I still feel manipulated.

ALL: Here I am, Lord, in your presence, so that your word may enlighten me and make me return to my origins, to paradise and thus discover the fruitful silence of your mysterious love for me.

Animator: Like Mary, the disciple of Jesus and Mother of the Church, who, in silence, heard the Word of God and kept it in her heart, let us welcome his Word with LOVE. Not committing is to stop being a disciple.

Song of Acclamation: (Matthew 22:1-14)

“Go to the crossroads and invite everyone you meet to the banquet” (Mt 22, 9)

Reflection of the Parable

Reader 3. Through his parables, Jesus reveals to us a profound contemplative vision of life, and this vision of His does not distance him from reality. On the contrary, he always keeps him in touch with the fragility of human existence: he sat at the table and ate with sinners; he mixed with the sick and the unclean; he committed himself in solidarity with the poorest, the most oppressed and the excluded of his time; revealed his compassionate presence among the weakest and most suffering, victims of an unjust social and religious structure. Jesus destroyed the categories of **pure and impure, perfect and imperfect, righteous and sinner...** And announced a banquet for everyone, “bad and good”.

Reader 4. The God that Jesus revealed shows his face in closeness and reconciliation towards everyone. He is not ashamed to approach and mingle with the poverty and fragility of his sons and daughters. God is immersed in the human being, welcomes everything and fulfils everything (including fragility). He presents himself as a “wandering God”, who runs to meet the one who is lost.

Reader 1. The God of Jesus does not act in the same way as the “god of the Pharisees”. He does not make comparisons between one and the other. It does not put the unclean at a disadvantage. He is the “festivity” God, who always proposes the “table of inclusion” to all his daughters and sons.

Reader 2. Jesus places indigence, fragility, limits and not perfection, purity, at the centre of his proclamation. He knew that a person aware of their weaknesses and poverty is more available and open to God's Grace.

Reader 3. It is by recognizing oneself as weak and limited that human beings open up to God and other people. It is his own fragility and poverty that make him sensitive to listening and accepting God's invitation to participate at the table of the Kingdom. This is the path of God towards the human being, and of the human being towards God.

Reader 4. We can only become full in God when we offer Him our weaknesses, limitations and faintness. Everything we hide from God will be missed in our humanization. If we do not accept the abandoned and excluded aspects in the corners and crossroads of our existence, we will go through life with only half of what we are: a human being who just wants to reveal his **positive side**. When we find ourselves like this, we feel that nothing can flow, because something is missing. Nothing should be rejected or judged. Everything must be welcomed and everything must be offered to the Lord of feast.

○ **Song:** free choice

Animator: When we experience the strength of God's love, when we recognize his presence as Father in our personal and community lives, we cannot stop to announce and share what we have seen and heard. Let us share the thoughts of some Saints on what mission is:

1- Saint Paul VI: “Evangelizing constitutes, in fact, the grace and vocation proper to the Church, its deepest identity.”

2. Pope Francis: “Jesus, “the first and greatest evangelizer” (Paul VI), who unceasingly sends us to proclaim the Gospel of the love of God the Father, with the power of the Holy Spirit”.

3. Saint Bede: “He who preaches must trust God so much, to the point of being sure that he will not lack what is necessary for life, even if he cannot look for it; since he should not be less concerned with eternal things than with temporal ones.”

4. Saint Paul VI: “The commitment to proclaiming the Gospel to the people of our time, animated by hope but at the same time often tortured by fear and anguish, is without a doubt a service rendered to the community of Christians, as well as to all humanity.”

5. Saint Augustine: Jesus “did not want them to possess or carry anything with them; not because life doesn't have its needs, but because in this way, the believers to whom they announced the Gospel would have to provide them with what they needed...”

6. Saint John Paul II: “Truly the Holy Spirit is the protagonist of the entire ecclesiastical mission: His work shines splendidly in the mission”.

8. Pope Francis: “May the Virgin help us to say our “yes” to the urgency of making the Good News of Jesus resonate in our time; obtain for us a new ardour of the resurrected to bring, to everyone, the Gospel of life that conquers death...”

9. Saint Paul VI: “She (the Church) exists to evangelize, that is, to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God and to perpetuate the sacrifice of Christ in the Holy Mass, which is the memorial of his death and glorious resurrection.”

10. Saint John Paul II: “Evangelizing is above all bearing witness in a simple and direct way to God revealed by Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit.”

Our Father

Prayer: God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, overflowing source of the mission; help us to understand that life is a mission, a gift and a commitment. May Mary, our intercessor, help each one of us, to be prophetic witnesses of the Gospel, in a synodal Church and in a permanent state of mission. Here I am, Lord, send me! Amen.

- **Song:** free choice

