

Sisters of Jesus Good Shepherd Pastorelle



Journeying with the 10th General Chapter

Prayer from 29 JUNE 2023 to 16 July 2023

Journeying with the 10th General Chapter

Introduction

Dearest sisters,

We would like to invite all of you to accompany the days of celebration of the 10th General Chapter. For this purpose, we have prepared this short prayer itinerary.

We have chosen, for each day, to remember a person recognized by the Church as venerable or blessed or saint for each country where we are present and who is loved and venerated by the people of God. It seems appropriate to us on the first two days (29 and 30 June) to commemorate our patron saints Peter and Paul, to ask them for the courage to walk towards the future with hope and, on the last day (July 16), to dedicate it to our beloved Founder, that he may continue to intercede for us and for all the Pauline Family, the courage to undertake new paths in total trust in Jesus Master and Shepherd and always present in our midst.

Our attention has turned towards Witnesses of the Word and of Charity, favouring those who have given new impetus to the mission of the Church; men and women who have carried out their work to the point of giving their lives for the poorest and neediest, for those who have suffered because of injustice, misunderstanding, social exclusion and persecution.

*Sr Dina Ranzato, sjbp
for the Preparatory Commission of the 10^o CG and
Sisters of the General Government.*





Pastorelle



St Peter Apostle

29 June 2023



In communion with the Church and with the Chapter Assembly

“The Lord said to Peter: get up quickly!”

It is the official start of our 10th General Chapter. We rejoice at this ecclesial event which brings together the entire Congregation of the Pastorelle Sisters, present in five continents. Its representatives are gathered in the Chapter event so as to be a true sign of unity in charity.

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (Acts 12:6-7)

“The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.”

4

Brief pause

Our heart rejoices!

Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield.

Our heart is glad in him because we trust in his holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you (psalm 33:20-22)

LET US PRAY:

Merciful, loving Father, who sent your angel to awaken Peter from the 'sleep of death' and prompted him to get up quickly, to go out into the light, kindle in us, your daughters, the fire of your love, to make us cross the threshold of all the doors closed inside and outside of us, to look to the future with hope. We ask this through Christ your Son and our Lord. Amen!

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of thanksgiving



Pastorelle



St Paul Apostle

30 June 2023



In communion with the Church and with all women and men, our sisters and brothers

"I have fought the good fight..."

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (2Timothy 4:7-11)

"I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. Do your best to come to me soon, for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me in ministry".

Brief silence

5

LET US PRAY

1. Lord Jesus, all of us are called, like Paul, to 'fight the good fight' for the proclamation of the Gospel, because the Gospel is not neutral, it does not leave things as they are, on the contrary, it kindles the fire of the Kingdom of God wherever the human mechanisms of power would reign.
Let us pray...
1. Lord Jesus, you also ask the Church today to 'wake up from sleep', to 'fight' against evil, violence, corruption, injustice, marginalization, and to let us be led by you on the paths you choose for us.
Let us pray...
2. Lord Jesus, enlighten our minds to make us understand what it means for us and for the Christian community that is experiencing the Synod, to walk together for a visible communion so that this testimony is accepted and believed as Your Word.
Let us pray...
3. Lord Jesus, just as Paul experienced the abandonment of disciples without being discouraged, help us too to trust those who assume responsibility in the Christian community and serenely accept those who get tired, those who betray, and those who prefer another path.
Let's pray...

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of thanksgiving



**In communion with the Church in Mexico and in Cuba,
with its people and with the Pastorelle who serve the very poor
with dedication and love**

*“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for there is the kingdom of heaven”*

RAFAEL GUÍZAR VALENCIA was born in Mexico on 26 April, 1878. In the first years of his priestly ministry, he devoted himself with great zeal to carrying out popular “missions” in different regions of Mexico. In 1911, to oppose hostilities against the Church, he set up a modern printing house in Mexico City and began printing a Catholic newspaper which was soon closed down by the revolutionaries. He suffered all sorts of persecution and in order to be able to exercise his ministry among the poor and needy, he disguised himself as a street vendor, a homeopathic doctor or a musician. Not being able to stay in Mexico any longer, he took refuge in the United States, in Guatemala and later in Cuba, where he preached a large number of missions. Appointed Bishop of Veracruz (Mexico), he dedicated himself to personally visiting the diocese. He is the first saint Bishop of Latin America who everyone called “the saint of the poor”! Rafael was canonized on October 15, 2006 by Pope Benedict XVI.

ANTHONY MARIA CLARET was born in Spain on 23 December, 1807. He was ordained a priest in 1835. Due to the civil war, he was forced to leave his homeland and went to Rome to offer his services to Propaganda Fide, but not being able to realize his missionary dream he returned to Spain and began to preach popular missions. He discovered the effectiveness of the press in evangelization and published prayer books, catechisms, etc. Appointed Archbishop of Santiago de Cuba (at the time belonging to the crown of Spain) he undertook the work of renewal of Christian life by promoting missionary campaigns in which he participated by bringing the Word of God to all the villages. In 1855 he founded the Institute of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate or Claretian Missionaries. He fought against slavery, created an agricultural school for poor children and founded popular libraries. He died in exile in France on 24 October 1870. He was canonized by Pope Pius XII on 7 May 1950.

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (Matthew 5:3-12)

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you”.

Brief silence

Faith put to the test makes us proclaim

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—

who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the Pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, ...

The LORD works vindication, and justice for all who are oppressed.

As a father has compassion for his children,

so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him. *(from psalm 103 (102))*

LET US PRAY

O Father, who welcomed and accompanied your sons Bishops, Rafael and Anthony, persecuted because of your name and because of many injustices, grant to all the persecuted and those who suffer all kinds of violence, beatitude, peace and consolation and instill in us the courage to fight to build unity, peace and harmony in our communities, in your Church and in the world. We ask this through Christ your Son and our Lord. Amen!

7

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of thanksgiving



Australia



Mary MacKillop

2 July 2023



In communion with the people of Australia

“Never see a need without doing something about it”

Sister Mary of the Cross, born **MARY MACKILLOP**, was born on 15 January, 1842 in Fitzroy, Melbourne, Australia. In those years in Australia there was a lot of poverty, especially in rural areas, religious discrimination was widespread, the state of aborigines deplorable, there was high unemployment and extremely difficult communications. Sister Mary of the Cross was tireless in her zeal for the poor. One of her favorite sayings was “Never see a need without doing something about it” (1867.) Her adherence to God's will made her accept both the joys and the difficulties that frequently beset her. So, she wrote: “The will of God is for me like a dear book that I never get tired of reading”. She was the founder of the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; she was proclaimed a saint by Pope Benedict XVI on 17 October, 2010.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Lord, with my whole heart I seek you; With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth. I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches (*from psalm 118*)

8

THE LORD SPEAKS TO US, LET US LISTEN (*Wisdom 7:7-12*)

“Therefore, I prayed, and understanding was given me; I called on God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her to scepters and thrones, and I accounted wealth as nothing in comparison with her... I loved her more than health and beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light, because her radiance never ceases. All good things came to me along with her, and in her hands uncounted wealth. I rejoiced in them all, because wisdom leads them; but I did not know that she was their mother”.

Brief silence

Like Mary...

1. Lord Jesus, your daughter, sister Mary MacKillop, learnt to be your disciple and to listen to your Word; she knew how to obey your counsels and open her heart as a mother of many children; help us to become more and more 'mothers and sisters' of all God's people.
We pray to you...
2. Lord Jesus, sister Mary MacKillop, as your disciple, put her life at the service of the Gospel; she traveled long roads, visited many villages always in search of the poorest without ever discriminating against anyone; instill in us the same courage and resourcefulness to go towards the needy of today who are many and all over the world! *We pray to you...*
3. Lord Jesus, help us to learn from sister Mary MacKillop to be attentive to the needs of others and like her, let us find in you the strength to console those who are in pain and to meet each one in their daily needs. *We pray to you...*

Hymn to Mary or the Magnificat



Bolivia



Nazaria Ignacia March Mesa

3 July 2023



In communion with the people of Bolivia, especially with the women workers, who even today are deprived of their rights

“When I was hungry, you gave me to eat...”

NAZARIA IGNACIA MARCH MESA - born in Madrid on 10 January 1889 – migrated with her family to Mexico. She became a Religious of the Little Sisters of Abandoned Elderly. Destined for the Oruro mission in Bolivia, she spent twelve years doing works of charity. In 1925 she founded the Congregation of the Missionary Crusaders of the Church. The new religious family was at the forefront of the situation in Bolivia at the time, supporting in particular the social and work promotion of women; in fact, in 1933 she organized the first women's union; but her work embraced all the poor. She died in Buenos Aires in 1943. She was proclaimed a saint by Pope Francis in 2018.

HYMN OF PRAISE

I speak with my Lord

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvellous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me. (*Psalms 131*)

9

THE LORD SPEAKS, LET US LISTEN! (*Matthew 25:35-40*)

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’

Brief silence

Lord, when You inspire me to serve my brothers and sisters:

Glory to you, who make our consecrated life a sign of your love for the little ones

Glory to you, who invite us to be welcoming communities towards the poor

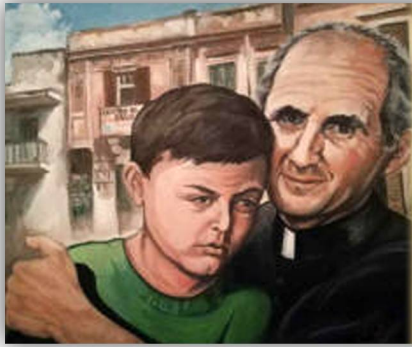
Glory to you, who make our communities expressions of your tenderness

Glory to You, who send us failures and sorrows to help us understand the sufferings of others...

Glory to You, ...

LET US PRAY AGAIN TO MARY: Mother of the Good Shepherd, multiply the number of religious; may they be light for the world, teachers of true piety, and intercessors with God. In penance, in prayer, in apostolic and charitable activity, may they be the salt of the earth, Help for the poor, guide for their brothers and sisters. Obtain for them constant practice of their vows and daily progress. Mother of saints and Queen of religious, pray for us and for our sanctification. Grant that we may one day be your joy in heaven. (*Chaplet to Mary Mother of the Good Shepherd (4)*)

Hymn of thanksgiving



Italy



Giuseppe Puglisi

4 July 2023



In communion with the communities present in Italy, and with the victims of violence and persecution because of their faith and social commitment

Beatified for martyrdom 'in hatred of the faith'

Fr. **GIUSEPPE PUGLISI**, known as Pino, on 25 May 2013, on the lawn of the Foro Italico in Palermo, in front of a crowd of about one hundred thousand faithful, was proclaimed BLESSED. He was the first mafia victim recognized as a martyr of the Church. An exemplary priest, he educated boys and young people to live according to the Gospel, and saved them from the mafia, but the mafia tried to defeat him by killing him. In reality it is he who won with the risen Christ. Pino looked at his killer smiling and said: "I expected it".

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

Faith put to the test makes us proclaim

I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. *(from psalm 18)*

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (1Pt 2:21-25)

"Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls."

Brief silence

Give us the strength to react to evil, Lord!

1. Lord Jesus, Fr. Pino soon began his fight against the mafia, trying to free street children and young people, offering them activities and games to make them understand that one can be respected even without being a mafia member, but believing in one's ideals. What can we do for those who are enslaved to all kinds of violence, even in the fields of social communication? ***Give us the strength to react to evil, Lord!***
2. Lord Jesus, Fr. Pino, in his homilies often addressed the mafiosi openly to remind them of the demands of their being Christians, and for this preaching he was killed; what about us? Do we have the courage to announce your Word of Peace with all the means available today, without delay and fear? ***Give us the strength to react to evil, Lord!***

LET US PRAY:

Merciful and patient Father, send your Holy Spirit to console all the martyrs of the world who still today know how to give their lives for the sake of the Gospel; console their family members, friends and relatives and forgive the criminals, our brothers and sisters. Through Christ our Lord and Brother. Amen.

Hymn of thanksgiving



Philippines



Lorenzo Ruiz

5 July 2023



**In communion with the Church in the Philippines,
with her people and with our communities present in that land;
let us pray in particular for all the Pauline Cooperators**

“If I had a thousand lives, I would offer all these to the Lord”

In the first half of the seventeenth century (1633-1637), **LORENZO RUIZ OF MANILA** (Philippines) **father of family**, together with fifteen companions (priests, religious and lay people), after having sown the Christian faith in the Philippine Islands, Taiwan and Japan, by order of the supreme commander Tokugawa Yemitsu suffered martyrdom for the love of Christ on different days in Nagasaki, Japan. Before undergoing this martyrdom, Christians were subjected to atrocious torments. John Paul II beatified these glorious martyrs on 18 February 1981 in Manila, Philippines, and inscribed them in the calendar of saints on 18 October, 1987.

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (Romans 8:35-39)

“Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Brief silence

The Lord hears the cry of the poor

*I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.*

*O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.*

*The LORD is near to the broken hearted and saves the crushed in spirit.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.*

Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

(from psalm 34)

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of thanksgiving



In communion with all the Pastors and Pastorelle who in Argentina walk with the poor and the suffering

“Shepherds with the smell of the sheep”

JOSÉ GABRIEL DEL ROSARIO BROCHERO was born in 1840 near Córdoba; he was a priest of the Archdiocese of Córdoba, in Argentina. Appointed in 1869 as parish priest of the town of San Alberto, he improved the life of his parishioners in all fields, without neglecting the spiritual one. He was called “el cura gaucho” (the herdsman priest on horseback) because he traveled kilometers and kilometers on the back of a mule, to get close to everyone. He shared the condition of his faithful until he contracted leprosy, for having drunk an infusion of grass mate with some sick people. Returning to his native country, he was claimed back by his people and died on 26 January, 1914, in the town of Villa del Tránsito, which two years later, in his honor, was renamed Villa Cura Brochero. He was proclaimed a saint on 16 October, 2016 by Pope Francis, his compatriot.

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (Matthew 9:35-38)

“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Brief silence

LET US PRAY

1. O Jesus, great Shepherd of the sheep, who in Cura Brochero you put your love for the poor and the desire to be present in the existential peripheries of the Great Sierras to the point of falling ill with leprosy, through his intercession, increase our love for every one of your sheep. *Let us pray: Lord, hear our prayer!*
2. O Jesus Good Shepherd, we thank you because you perfumed the “cura gaucho” with the smell of the sheep, who was convinced that he could only be a good shepherd with a missionary action inspired by affection and compassion for all people affected by suffering, poverty and injustice; we ask that through his intercession you give us a good and compassionate heart for everyone. *Let us pray: Lord, hear our prayer!*
3. And you, holy Cura Brochero, intercede for us strength, that we may not be crushed by our weaknesses; truth, so as to never stifle our conscience; light, to always walk on the path of Jesus our Lord. Help us to experience in our apostolate a relationship of trust and mutual support with the pastors of the Church. *Let us pray: Saint Cura Brochero pray for us!*

The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn of praise



Korea



Andrew Kim Taegon

7 July 2023



In communion with the Church in South Korea and North Korea

“The Spirit blows where it wills”

The Korean Church has the perhaps unique characteristic of having been founded and supported by lay people. More than 10,000 martyrs perished in the Korean persecutions, of which 103 were canonized on May 6, 1984 in Seoul in Korea by Pope John Paul II, including **ANDREW KIM TAEGON**.

Andrew born in 1821 from a noble Christian family, grew up in an environment inspired by Christian principles; his father in particular had transformed his house into a 'house church'. Andrew was 15 years old when one of the first French missionaries who arrived in Korea in 1836 sent him to Macao to prepare him for the priesthood. He returned as a deacon in 1844 and organized the entry of Bishop Ferréol, fetching him from Shanghai where Andrew was ordained a priest. Secretly with an adventurous journey, they returned together to Korea, where they always worked in a climate of persecution... in the end Andrew was beheaded on September 16, 1846 in Seoul; the first martyr priest of the nascent Korean Church.

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

13

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (Luke 8:4-8)

“When a large crowd was gathering, as people were coming to him from town after town, he said in a parable: “A sower went out to sow his seed, and as he sowed some fell on a path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on rock, and as it grew up it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into good soil, and when it grew it produced a hundredfold.” As he said this, he called out, “If you have ears to hear, then hear!”.

Brief silence

LET US PRAY

1. Thank you, Lord, because you have given Andrew Kim the gift of an unshakable faith, of simple and effective language as a true catechist, to give the nascent Church of Korea an apostolic imprint inspired by the parable of the Sower, to indicate the need to sow the seed in all types of soil; with you, Lord, today we too will launch your Word in every social stratum. **We thank you.**
2. Thank you, Lord, because your first Korean presbyter, Andrew Kim, on the eve of his martyrdom, underwent interrogations and prison transfers first with the mandarin, then with the governor and with the king, but to all he manifested his fidelity to his God, refusing to renounce the faith, despite the atrocious tortures; help us Lord to give reason for our faith with frankness and freedom. **We thank you.**
3. Thank you, Lord, for the example of Andrew Kim and his companions. May the offering of their life become a source of new vocations of catechists, priests and consecrated men and women in your Church. **We thank you.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of praise



Colombia



Laura Montoya

8 July 2023



Let us pray in communion with the Church in Columbia and with all Indigenous people

“Dedicated to itinerant catechesis among the Indios”

MARIA LAURA DE JESÚS MONTOYA Y UPEGUÍ, was born on 26 May, 1874 in the small town of Jericó in Colombia. She lost her father at the age of three. Sent to boarding school a few years later, she developed a great passion for teaching and graduated as a teacher at 19... After discovering the conditions of poverty and discrimination in which the Colombian indigenous people found themselves, she decided to do something for them: with a group of friends and her mother, she devoted herself to **itinerant catechesis** among the Indios. She understood the human dignity and divine vocation of the indigenous person. She wanted to fit into their culture, live like them in poverty, simplicity and humility and in this way break down the wall of racial discrimination that some civil and religious leaders of her time had, and who harshly criticized her. Thus, were born the “missionaries catechist of the Indios”, who would later be called the Missionary Sisters of Mary Immaculate and Saint Catherine of Siena. She is the first Colombian woman to achieve the highest honor of the altars. She died on 21 October, 1949, in the village of Belencito, near Medellín. She was canonized by Pope Francis on 12 May 2013.

14

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (1Peter 3:13-17)

“But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats¹; do not be frightened.” But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil”.

Brief silence

LET US PRAY

Merciful God who lavished your love and your gifts to Saint Laura Montoya making her a faithful disciple of your Son and missionary of the poor, grant us, through her intercession, moved by the power of your Spirit, announcing the Gospel, to obtain the gift of peace and, by your will, to find help to our needs. Amen!

Hymn to Mary



Venezuela



José Gregorio Hernández

9 July 2023



**Together with the Church in Venezuela
let us pray for all who suffer in body and spirit...**

“The Doctor of the Poor”

JOSÉ GREGORIO HERNÁNDEZ CISNEROS was born on 26 October 1864 in Isnotú, in the State of Trujillo, Venezuela. In exercising his medical profession, he privileged the poor: not only did he not receive any compensation, but he often gave them money for medicines; they called him “the doctor of the poor”. Deeply Christian, he had no qualms about openly professing his faith. He participated every morning in the celebration of Mass, receiving Jesus in the Eucharist. Before starting each lesson, he made the sign of the cross. A Franciscan Tertiary, he learned from St. Francis how to recognize the suffering Jesus in the poorest people. José Gregorio often said: “One does not understand the work of Christ, one does not understand Christ himself, if one does not enter his heart full of compassion”. He died hit by a car on 29 June 1919 as he was leaving a pharmacy in Caracas, where he had bought medicine for an elderly patient.

He was beatified on 30 April 2021 in Caracas.

15

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (Matthew 9:10-13)

“And as he sat at dinner¹ in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting¹ with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners.”

Brief silence

LET US PRAY

Holy Father, thank you for the witness that José Gregorio gave to your Venezuelan Church and people; in his mission he knew how to combine the competence of a doctor with the compassion learned from your Son Jesus Christ, to heal the bodies and soothe the suffering of the soul of the poorest and most abandoned. Help us too, today, to approach our brothers and sisters, especially the poor and afflicted, with the compassionate heart of Jesus. We ask you this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of praise



In communion with the Church in Uruguay and in the Mariana Islands (SAIPAN), and with all the missionaries in the world

JACINTO VERA Y DURÁN – Pastor and safe guide of the Church in difficult times

Jacinto Vera y Durán was born on 3 July 1813 aboard a ship in the Atlantic Ocean, because his parents were emigrating to Uruguay. Raised in the faith thanks to his mother and the Franciscan friars, he felt called to the priesthood at a very young age. Ordained on 5 June 1841, in 1859 he became Apostolic Vicar of Montevideo. He was appointed bishop on 22 September 1864 and ordained on 16 July 1865. Returning to his homeland in 1871, after a year of exile in Buenos Aires, he worked to put an end to the civil war; having obtained peace, he resumed his missionary activity with greater enthusiasm. In 1878, he was appointed first bishop of the recently founded diocese of Montevideo. He died three years later, on 6 May 1881, during a mission to Pan de Azúcar. He was beatified on 6 May 2023 in the Centenario Stadium in Montevideo, under the pontificate of Pope Francis.

MARGARITA MARÍA MATURANA

From cloistered nun to missionary in Asia. The love of Christ urges me...

María Pilar López de Maturana, in religion Margarita María (1884 -1934), was a Spanish religious, founder of the Congregation of the Mercedarian Missionary Sisters. She undertook several intercontinental journeys, despite stomach cancer, promoting the missionary charism of the Order she founded. In September 1924, the monastery where she resided asked the Superior General of the Order to set up a group of sisters to collaborate with the missionaries since Sister Margarita María wanted to participate in the missions. She was granted approval for an experimental missionary transfer. A first group of sisters reached Wuhu, in China, while another group reached Saipan, in the Northern Mariana Islands. A third group set out for Ponape Island, Japan. In 1930, definitive approval came from Rome for the official transformation of the Mercedarian Monastery of Berriz into a Missionary Institute. She was beatified in 2006, in Spain.

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (Isaiah 52:7-10)

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices; together they shout for joy, for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth; shout together for joy, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God”.

Brief silence

LET US PRAY

1. You gave joy and peace, Lord, to Bishop Jacinto Vera y Durán, who promoted the spiritual renewal of priests, undertook a missionary journey throughout Uruguay, defended the Church from the interference of the civil government and experienced exile, worked to end the war and continued his work as an evangelizer. Pour on us, Lord, his faith and his courage, so that your presence in the world may never fail.

Let us pray: Lord, increase in us the missionary spirit.

2. Blessed Margarita Maria let herself be led by the Spirit along unexplored paths to do something new for the people of her time; will we responsibly assume the path that the 10th GC will undertake?

Let us pray: Lord, help us to open ourselves to the novelty of the Gospel.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of praise



**In communion with the Church in Peru and for its people,
and for all the Pastorelle on this day which is dedicated to the
election of the Superior General**

“The missionary is not a conqueror, but a servant and a friend”

Fr. **ALESSANDRO DORDI** (for all Sandro) was born in 1931 in Gandellino (Bergamo) and even before becoming a priest, he asked to join the “Missionary Community of Paradise”, which prepares priests for dioceses that are lacking. After his ordination, he was sent to Polesine, then to Switzerland and Peru’ to proclaim the Gospel among the least. He was assigned to the parish of Señor Crucificado in Santa, diocese of Chimbote: a vast and naturally very poor territory. His pastoral care centered on the family and on the role of women which was, according to him, the best antidote against the excesses of guerrilla movements, which accused foreign missionaries of being servants of imperialism because they distributed aid received from Caritas and because they proclaimed justice and the truth of the Gospel. He fell victim to an attack by Sendero Luminoso, an armed Maoist movement, on 25 August 1991. The two catechists were spared, while he was shot in the head and heart. “He is a martyr of the faith”, ruled the Church, after a careful investigation, on 3 February 2015. He was beatified in Chimbote on 5 December 2015. He was the first “fidei donum” diocesan priest (that is, “lent” to another diocese) to be beatified.

LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (John 10:11-18)

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Brief silence

The person who knows how to give her life thus sings:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths¹ for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long. (Psalm 23)*

The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn of praise



Dom Helder Camara

12 July 2023

In communion with the Brazilian people and with all the Pastorelle. Let us acclaim this prophet who described himself as “The voice of the voiceless!”

“Brother of the poor, my brother”

HELDER CAMARA was born in Fortaleza (Brazil), on 7 February 1909. At the age of 14 he entered the diocesan seminary and was ordained a priest before his 23rd birthday. He was assistant of the League of Catholic Professors; teacher at the local high school. He founded the “G.O.C.” (Gioventù Operaia Cattolica-Catholic Youth Workers) and the “Catholic Women Workers Union Movement”, arousing strong opposition from many influential groups in the city. In the years 1962-1965 he participated in the four sessions of the Second Vatican Council. 1964-1994 were his most demanding and fruitful period of international activity. Wherever he arrived, he presented himself as: “The voice of the voiceless” and to tell those who approached him that: “Development is the new name of peace”, that “There is no peace without justice” and that “The first violence is the misery in which so many masses find themselves”. During these years he was invited to speak at the headquarters of the ONU, Geneva and New York... On 27 August 1999, in his little house of the Fronteiras Church which had walls cracked by machine-gun fires to intimidate him and silence him, Dom Helder Camara, the “Prophet of the Third World”, the “Francis of Assisi of the 20th century” as he was defined by the *Osservatore Romano*, concluded his earthly pilgrimage. The diocesan phase of the beatification process ended on 19 December 2018.

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LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (1Cor 9:16-18.22-23)

“If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a wage, but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my wage? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ...To the weak I became weak, so that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I might become a partner in it”.

Brief silence

Let us pray with Pope Francis:

*Let us all walk together, let us take care of each other;
look after one another, let us not hurt each other;
let us take care of life, care of the family,
let us take care of nature, care of children,
let us take care of the elderly, care of the poor and the sick.
May the Lord bless you and Our Lady keep you. Amen!*

Hymn of thanksgiving



In communion with the Church in Albania and Mozambique and especially with the new General Government

“Love one another as I have loved you”

In Calcutta (India), **TERESA (AGNESE) GONHXA BOJAXHIU**, born in Albania, quenched the thirst for the abandoned Christ on the Cross with her immense charity towards the poorest brothers and sisters. From the first group of young women who followed her, the Institute of the Missionaries of Charity was born and expanded almost all over the world, in the total service of the sick and the disinherited. She died in Calcutta on 5 September 1997. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II on 19/10/2003 and canonized by Pope Francis on 4/09/2016.

JOSEPHINE BAKHITA (meaning *Fortunate one*), born in the Darfur region in Sudan, was kidnapped as a child and sold several times in African slave markets and suffered cruel slavery. Finally freed in Venice, she became a Christian and Religious with the Daughters of Charity (Canossian) and spent the rest of her life in Christ doing all she could for everyone in Schio (Vicenza) where she died on 8 February 1947. She was proclaimed saint on 1 October 2000 by Pope John Paul II

20

LISTENING TO MOTHER TERESA

“I am a little pencil in God's hands. He does the thinking. He does the writing. He does everything. I repeat: “I am a little pencil.”

“The most terrible poverty is not to have any love to give.”

“If you judge people, you have no time to love them.”

“Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow is not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin ...”

“Peace begins with a smile. Smile five times a day at someone you don't really want to smile at; do it for peace.”

“If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.”

LISTENING TO BAKHITA, FORTUNATA

“Oh, Lord,” she once said, “if I could fly to my people and tell them of your goodness at the top of my voice, oh how many souls would be won!”, among the first, my mother, my father, my brothers, my sister who is still a slave...everyone, all the poor African Negroes, grant, Jesus, that they too may know and love you!”

“Oh, if only they knew! How many Africans would be already Catholics if there were missionaries to tell them that God loves them, the Jesus Christ has died for them.”

“I am going slowly, slowly towards eternity...I carry two bags with me; one contains my sins, the other, much heavier, contains the infinite merits of Jesus Christ.”

Let us pray in silence for each capitular that she may allow herself to be enlightened by the Spirit to choose the lines of action of the Congregation for the next 6 years.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of praise and thanksgiving.



In communion with the people who live in Taiwan and Chile and the local Churches in these Countries

Apostles of the Word of God and the Charity of Christ

Br **GABRIELE M. ALLEGRA** was born on 26 December 1907 in San Giovanni La Punta (Sicily). At the age of 11, he entered the Friars Minor. After completing his studies, he went to Rome to prepare for missionary life in China. Here he translated the Catholic Bible into Chinese. He has been defined: the Saint Jerome of China. He established a Biblical Study in Hong Kong and a Sociological Study in Singapore. He anticipated the thoughts of Paul VI and John Paul II: "It is necessary to evangelize... in a vital way, in depth and to the roots of man's culture and cultures... Culture is not the measure of the Gospel, but it is Jesus Christ the measure of every culture and every human work." He died on 26 January 1976. He was beatified on 29 September 2012 in Acireale (Catania).

ALBERTO HURTADO CRUCHAGA was born in Viña del Mar (Chile) on 22 January 1901. As a priest of the Society of Jesus, he combined profound biblical study with love for the poor; in 1944 he founded the work "Hogar de Cristo", hearth of family life and hospitality for street children, young people and women at risk, prisoners, the elderly, the sick, the physically and mentally disabled and terminally ill. Alberto also became a brother of the workers and to support the workers' struggle so that a social order inspired by faith could be created; and, in 1948, he gave life to "Chilean Union Action" (Asich), inspired by the social doctrine of the Church. He is the author of a vast social-biblical publication. He died after a few months of illness on 18 August 1952. Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed him a saint on 23 October 2005.

LISTENING TO GABRIEL

Engaged in an intense activity of evangelization and assistance to the needy, especially lepers and ecumenical discussion with representatives of other Christian confessions present in China, he used to say: "I won't explain to you what love and humility are, you read the holy Gospel and there every word explains it to us."

LISTENING TO ALBERTO

Concerned and attentive to the social difficulties of the underprivileged classes, he often said: "The greatest work of mercy is that of organizing a society in which poverty is eliminated"; and also: "The Word is not subject to fashion... the Word simply "is" and cannot fail to be: it is up to man to know it..."

AND THE WORD SAYS... (1Cor 12:28)

"And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues."

Let us pray in silence for each capitular that she may allow herself to be enlightened by the Spirit to choose the lines of action of the Congregation for the next 6 years.

The Lord's Prayer

Magnificat



United States



Dorothy Day

15 July 2023



In communion with the Church in the United States of America and the whole Congregation

*“Her many sins are forgiven her,
because she loved much”*

DOROTHY DAY was born in Brooklyn, New York, on 8 November 1897. Better known as “God's anarchist” or even “God's feminist” due to the extremism of some of her positions and the radical nature of her choices of life, she was impacted from a young age with the variegated world of poverty, and going to live with her family in the poorest neighborhood of Chicago. She was a rebel, a nonconformist and a fighter. At the age of 20 she was imprisoned for the first time together with other “suffragists” for an unauthorized demonstration in front of the White House. During the detention she approached the Bible for the first time, which she read avidly, remaining deeply disturbed... she realized that God was starting to make his way into her life... The experience of the abortion had traumatized her, but with the new motherhood she regained strength and courage to undertake new initiatives, always in favour of the least... Her daughter, Tamar, was born in 1927 and she chose to have her baptized according to the Catholic rite, against the wishes of her partner, to prevent the child from «groping in the dark for years as I had done.” She lived the Council season with the hope that it would represent a springtime for the Church. Pope Wojtyla esteemed her and followed her with affection and, sick and unable to move, she also received a visit from Mother Teresa of Calcutta. She died on 29 November 1980 and in the year 2000 the disputed process for her canonization began.

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LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT

LET US LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD (Luke 7:36-57)

“One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and when he went into the Pharisee’s house he reclined to dine. And a woman in the city who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner.” Jesus spoke up and said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” “Teacher,” he replied, “speak.” “A certain moneylender had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?” Simon answered, “I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt.” And Jesus said to him, “You have judged rightly.” Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins

have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Brief silence

LET US PRAY

1. Lord, you let Dorothy's conversion begin by reading for the first time and avidly the Letter (Bible) you wrote for her and for each of us; let the Word, meditated daily, convert our way of being and acting with our brothers and sisters

Let us pray

2. Lord, Dorothy's life was inhabited by love for so many in need, help us too today to be lovingly present and attentive to the needs and well-being of the poor and underprivileged/disinherited.

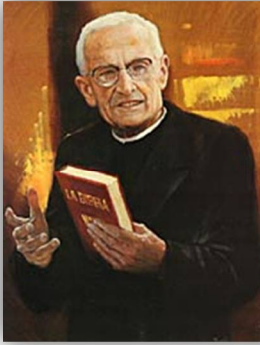
Let us pray

3. Lord, as a journalist Dorothy fought for workers' rights and gave birth to the monthly "Catholic Workers", which later became the "Catholic Workers' Movement"; instill in us courage and initiative to give concrete answers to current issues with current means.

Let us pray

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn



Pauline Family

James Alberione

16 July 2023



In communion with the Pauline Family...

*Come to me, all you who are weary and
are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest (Mt 11:28)*

One Word welcomed in adoration by an adolescent with an open heart, made him vibrate and feel that he “was obliged” to prepare himself to do something for the Lord and for the men and women of the new century. This teenager, named James, became a priest of the Lord, a prophet of communication and the founder of a Great Family placed under the protection of Saint Paul, intent on leading all his children, near and far, believers and non-believers, to the Lord with love. with all the means that 'human genius' offered, at all times and in all circumstances.

HOLY SPIRIT COME DOWN ON US ...

Thus, he used to say to the Pauline priests and disciples:

Praise to you, Lord, for the fruit of human genius that you place in our hands at the service of our brothers [and sisters] of your kingdom.

Through faith we see in all people souls to whom we are indebted for truth, edification, prayer. Through faith, people are seen as fellow companions towards eternity, hence the duty of mutual help.

Thus, he used to say to the Daughters of St Paul:

“Strain Forward”. Always keep in mind what is lacking. There is no time to take pleasure in the past, to recount the things that have been done, the results obtained in that or this Diocese, on this day of the Gospel, of catechism, Marian, etc. There's no time! There is only time to remember what is missing, if we want to be wise and apostles formed on the heart of Saint Paul. We must all feel the humanity, the Church and the universal spirit of Saint Paul...

Thus, he used to say to the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master:

Make progress in all ways, in all fields, but don't put yourselves at the same level as worldly people... the sisters are to be agile, quick, capable of working in Centers, in the apostolates: be capable of riding a bicycle, driving a car, using modern means; they should know how to be productive... Just like a vase when it is full of water it flows out, so the heart when it is full of God, it pours out this fullness on others.

Thus, he used to say to the Pastorelle Sisters:

To live and feel the pastoral spirit of Jesus... the whole Pauline Family is ordered to pastoral care. But you represent the best part... You have the means that the Lord has offered you and... everything is used in a pastoral spirit... everything concerning the technical part: press, radio, television, records, etc. all this is in order of souls, and this means pastoral spirit. ... Think often of the world... study the world map... there are souls who live in those regions. And where are they going? And what will become of them? Here is the pastoral spirit!

Thus, he used to say to the Apostoline Sisters

«... The problem of the future... basically constitutes the travail of every soul. It is therefore a beautiful charity to help young people ask themselves the question: “And what will you do?”». ... «Do the highest charity: that of truth: to give Jesus Christ». Many countries are poor because they lack Jesus Christ. New generations are entering life. The world will be saved only if it welcomes Jesus as he is”.

For the Pauline Cooperators, the Aggregate Institutes and the Holy Family the following maxims are valid.

The apostle has a heart enkindled with love for God and for people and cannot suppress and stifle what he/she feels and thinks. The Apostle is a chosen vessel that pours out, and souls rush to quench their thirst. The Apostle is a temple of the Blessed Trinity that is supremely active in him/her. According to a writer, the apostle exudes God from every pore: with words, works, prayers, gestures, attitudes; in public and in private; from his whole being. To live in God! It is to give God.

James Alberione, recognized by the Church as Blessed, concludes his life, rich in years, humanity and God, saying:

“It is as a servant that I intend to belong to this marvelous Pauline Family, both now and in heaven. There, I shall concern myself with those: [working] in holiness, in Christ, in Ecclesia.
(AD3)

Hymn to Mary or the Magnificat

WE ENTRUST TO HIM THE REALIZATION and the continuation of what has been reflected in these days in the CHAPTER EXPERIENCE so that our Pastorelle communities may become ever more integrated, missionary and vocational.

Hymn of praise and thanksgiving

