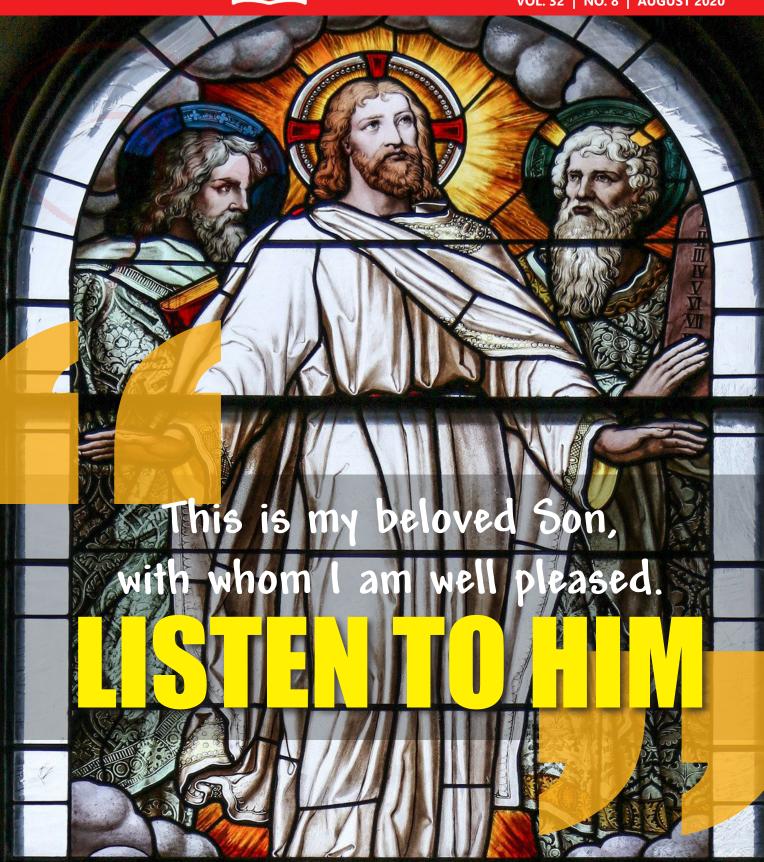
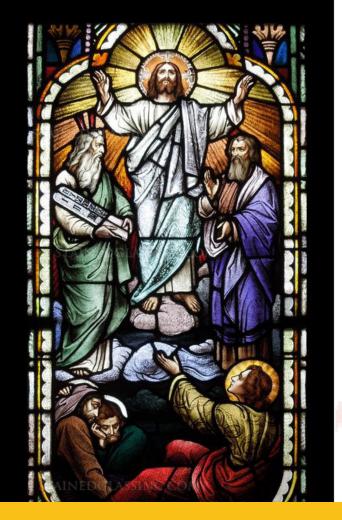


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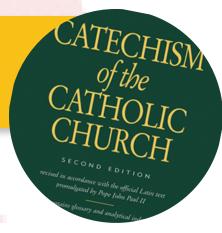


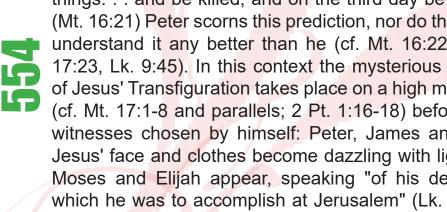


fter six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." - Matthew 17:1-9

A FORETASTE OF THE KINGDOM: THE TRANSFIGURATION

rom the day Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, the Master "began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things. . . and be killed, and on the third day be raised." (Mt. 16:21) Peter scorns this prediction, nor do the others understand it any better than he (cf. Mt. 16:22-23; Mt. 17:23, Lk. 9:45). In this context the mysterious episode of Jesus' Transfiguration takes place on a high mountain, (cf. Mt. 17:1-8 and parallels; 2 Pt. 1:16-18) before three witnesses chosen by himself: Peter, James and John. Jesus' face and clothes become dazzling with light, and Moses and Elijah appear, speaking "of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem" (Lk. 9:31). A cloud covers him and a voice from heaven says: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" (Lk. 9:35)







Some helpful Bible texts

555

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

- Matthew 16:21-23

"Pay attention to what I am telling you. The Son of Man is to be handed over to men." But they did not understand this saying; its meaning was hidden from them so that they should not understand it, and they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

- Luke 9:44-45



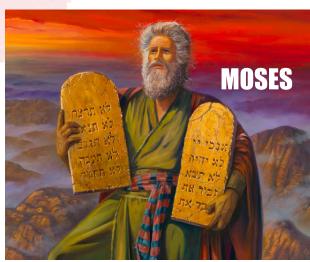


O God. who in the glorious Transfiguration of your Only Begotten Son confirmed the mysteries of faith by the witness of the Fathers and wonderfully prefigured our full adoption to sonship, grant, we pray, to your servants, that, listening to the voice of your beloved Son, we may merit to become coheirs with him. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

--- Collect on the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (August 6), THE ROMAN MISSAL

For a moment Jesus discloses his divine glory, confirming Peter's confession. He also reveals that he will have to go by the way of the cross at Jerusalem in order to "enter into his glory" (Luke 24:26). Moses and Elijah had seen God's glory on the Mountain; the Law and the Prophets had announced the Messiah's sufferings (cf. Luke 24:27). Christ's Passion is the will of the Father: the Son acts as God's servant; (cf. Isaiah 42:1) the cloud indicates the presence of the Holy Spirit. "The whole Trinity appeared: the Father in the voice; the Son in the man; the Spirit in the shining cloud" (St. Thomas Aquinas, SThIII, 45, 4, ad 2).

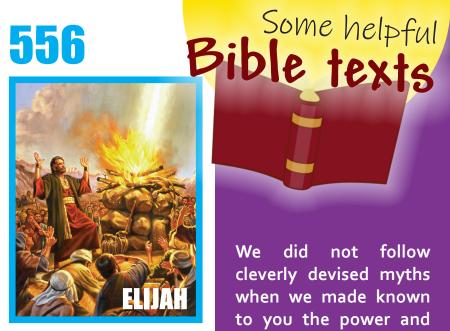
"You were transfigured on the mountain, and your disciples, as much as they were capable of it, beheld your glory, O Christ our God, so that when they should see you crucified they would understand that your Passion was voluntary, and proclaim to the world that you truly are the splendor of the Father" (Byzantine Liturgy, Feast of the Transfiguration, Kontakion).



Source: fineart.artlevin.com

On the threshold of the public life: the baptism; on the threshold of the Passover: the Transfiguration. Jesus' baptism proclaimed "the mystery of the first regeneration", namely, Baptism; our Transfiguration "is the sacrament of the second regeneration": our own Resurrection (St. Thomas Aguinas, SThIII, 45, 4, ad 2). From now on we share in the Lord's Resurrection through the Spirit who acts in the sacraments of the Body of Christ. The Transfiguration gives us a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming, when he "will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body" (Phil. 3:21). But it also recalls that "it is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22)

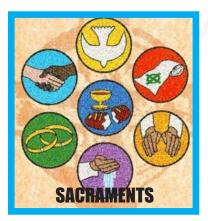
Peter did not yet understand this when he wanted to remain with Christ on the mountain. It has been reserved for you, Peter, but for after death. For now, Jesus says: "Go down to toil on earth, to serve on earth, to be scorned and crucified on earth. Life goes down to be killed; Bread goes down to suffer hunger; the Way goes down to be exhausted on his journey; the Spring goes down to suffer thirst; and you refuse to suffer?" (St. Augustine, Sermo 78, 6: PL 38, 492-493; cf. Lk. 9:33).



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did follow We not cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of

his majesty.

For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that unique declaration came to him from the majestic glory, "This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain.

- 2 Peter 1:16-18

Christ's Transfiguration aims at strengthening the apostles' faith in anticipation of his Passion: the ascent on to the "high mountain" prepares for the ascent to Calvary. Christ, Head of the Church, manifests what his Body contains and radiates in the sacraments: "the hope of glory" (Col 1:27; cf.: St. Leo the Great, Sermo 51, 3: PL 54, 310C).

GOD'S KINDNESS AND RESTORATION IN CREATION

Reflections and Prayer on the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (AUGUST 2, 2020)

WORD OF GOD

FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 14:13-21

heard of it, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. The crowds heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns. When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves." [Jesus] said to them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them

some food yourselves." But they said to him, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve wicker baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children.



Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds.

A. POINT FOR REFLECTION:

When God sends out the priests according to his heart to the Church and the peoples, who can value the great good coming out of that? Well, if Jesus Christ said: "Pray to the owner of the harvest," it means that he absolutely wants us to pray, and he will hear this prayer infallibly; therefore, the more this prayer is spread, the more the Church will be endowed with elect and holy ministers. Being the priests the light of the world and the salt of the earth, they will be the salvation for all. (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia, "The Father's Soul," p. 119)

B. PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Lord Jesus, we adore you hidden in the most supreme mystery of your infinite love. We raise our zealous plea to you. Redeemer of mankind, deign to send holy apostles for the salvation of

all peoples. If apparently you are silent because hidden under the sign of the Eucharist, your divine Heart and your almighty Word are not silent. Bestow your loving attention on the adolescence and call them to your priesthood. From the tabernacle, make your voice heard by Christians: call efficaciously, generous boys and girls to your service. Jesus, you are always present among us in the Blessed Sacrament and live with us, as you once called the Apostles, call many to follow you (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia).

C. SUGGESTED ACTIVITY:

The Multiplication of loaves and fishes can be an image of the Holy Mass, where God nourishes us with His Word and Bread. Reflect on one past experience in attending the Holy Mass. Which part of the Mass that touches you most?

THE PROMISE OF INHERITANCE FOR GOD'S CHILDREN

Reflections and Prayer on the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (AUGUST 9, 2020)

WORD OF GOD

FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 14:22-33

Then Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening he was there alone. Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them, walking on the sea. When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified. "It is a ghost," they said, and they cried out in fear. At once [Jesus] spoke to them, "Take

courage, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how [strong] the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" After they got into the boat, the wind died down. Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying, "Truly, you are the Son of God."



"O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

A. POINT FOR REFLECTION:

Through faith we believe in God and in what he has revealed. The merit of faith consists in our believing in the religious truths without having seen them. In fact, we never saw God. We never saw Jesus Christ. We do not see the work of grace in the sacraments. For instance, in the Eucharist we only see the species of bread and wine. And yet, we are sure that God exists, that Jesus Christ came into this world, that grace works through the sacraments, and that Jesus is present under the species of bread and wine. (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia, "The Father's Soul," p. 38)

B. PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Loving Jesus in the Eucharist, we pray that for this mystery of faith and love, you grant us what we ask in our prayer. The Eucharist and Priesthood

have been the precious gifts given to us by your loving Heart. You started to consecrate priests at your Last Supper, to them you gave the power to consecrate Your body and your blood. For that love which urged you to stay with us, deign to send numerous and holy priests who know and love you, and offer you to the Father in the celebration of the Eucharist. We ask you for priests whose deeds give you glory and make you known and loved by all people esepcially the poor and the children making them eager to receive you in communion and enhance love and commitment to the Church. Amen. (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia)

C. SUGGESTED ACTIVITY:

Choose a day within this week (from August 9-15) when you can pray and meditate on the Prayer for Vocations by St. Hannibal (see above "B").

HONORING THE REAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Reflections and Prayer on the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (AUGUST 16, 2020)

WORD OF GOD

FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 15:21-28

Then Jesus went from that place and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not say a word in answer to her. His disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent

only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did him homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that hour.



"O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

A. POINT FOR REFLECTION:

Whoever lives on faith esteems the earthly things as nothing. He loves no riches, because faith teaches him that the grace of God is the precious pearl to be gained at any cost; and that it is better to heap up riches which thieves cannot steal, nor rust waste. (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia, "The Father's Soul," p. 46)

B. PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Most amiable Lord Jesus, you redeemed the world at the price of your blood, look at humanity whose majority is still in the darkness of error and make your light of truth shine on them. Lord, multiply the apostles of your Gospel, bless, with your grace, their zeal and their fatigues, and may the people be converted to you their Creator and Redeemer. Most lovable Savior, hasten the coming of your Kingdom on earth; attract to your divine Heart

all humankind, so that all may have a share in your Redemption in the eternal happiness of heaven. Amen. (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia)

C. SUGGESTED ACTIVITY:

Spend a day within this week (August 16-22) reflecting on the Collect of the Mass for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: "O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever." What part of this prayer touched you most? Can you identify a word or a phrase in this prayer that is related to Baptism? Why did you choose that word or that phrase?

A GRACE TO LET OUR HEARTS FIXED ON TRUE JOY

Reflections and Prayer on the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (AUGUST 23, 2020)

WORD OF GOD



FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 16:13-20

hen Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For

flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Messiah.



"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it."

A. POINT FOR REFLECTION:

"When I preach, confess, and talk I will instill in the people these feelings of unlimited subjection and filial love toward Jesus Christ's Vicar [the Pope]. The first intention I will put in the mass, thanksgiving, divine office, meditation, and rosary will be for the Holy Father along with his intentions. When he issues encyclicals or delivers speeches and I am fortunate to read them, I will conform myself to his feelings obeying exactly what he commands or suggests. (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia, "The Father's Soul," p. 99)

B. PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Jesus, we pray to you that every candidate to Priesthood, you may make a saint, an apostle of faith and charity. If this grace that we ask you is great, it is worthy of you who are the infinite giver of every good. It is worthy of that precious blood that you shed for your Father's glory and for the salvation of souls. Grant our supplication: make your Priests holy. You are the source of all divine graces, sanctify all the candidates to the Priesthood, keep them away from sin, provide them with all the efficacious means of sanctification and good success. Grant that they may give fruit of eternal life, may their love never cease and their apostolic fatigues bear fruit of innumerable goodness. Most holy Virgin, Mother of the Church, do not cease to pray the infinite goodness for all the seminarians. Fill them with love for Jesus and for yourself. Amen. (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia)

C. SUGGESTED ACTIVITY:

Do you know someone entering for Priesthood or religious life? Support the Church in her ministry of forming candidates to priestly and religious life by praying the prayer for vocations (see above "B").

NURTURED AND CARED BY THE GIVER OF GIFTS

Reflections and Prayer on the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (AUGUST 30, 2020)

rom that time

WORD OF GOD

FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 16:21-27

on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "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 will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay everyone according to his conduct.



"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

A. POINT FOR REFLECTION:

Holiness is the perfect union of our will with God's will out of love for him and of pure intention in order to please his divine majesty. When a person achieves this happiest state, he only longs for hiding together with his beloved. In such a case this person does not need to work great wonders through the suspension of the law of nature, because he has already worked the greatest among the miracles by giving up himself to God. The people can say of him, "His glory is within him." And that person can exclaim, "My life is hidden in Christ." (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia, "The Father's Soul," p. 24)

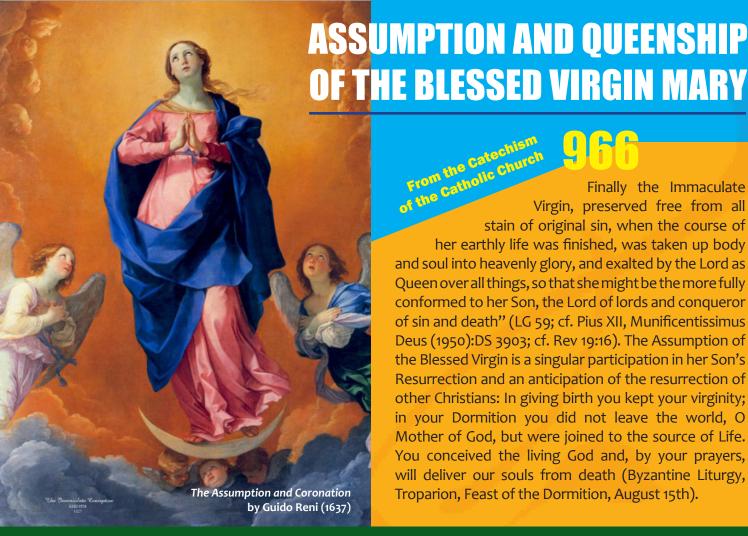
B. PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

My Jesus, do not aba<mark>ndo</mark>n me, do not leave me

in my own hands, because if you leave me for a moment, I will fall into a thousand defects, precipices, and mistakes. Jesus, accept me as your disciple. Be my teacher. Instruct and lead me to the path of perfection and holiness. Let me achieve through your guidance the perfection you want from me. My Jesus, place true holiness in my heart, that I may not feed on selfishness and passion, nor satisfy my senses and illusion, but follow your loving spirit, which only you may give. Amen. (St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia, "The Father's Soul," p. 25)

C. SUGGESTED ACTIVITY:

Resolve to follow God's Will every day through a daily minute commitment to pray the prayer composed by St. Hannibal (see above "B").



Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death" (LG 59; cf. Pius XII, Munificentissimus Deus (1950):DS 3903; cf. Rev 19:16). The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians: In giving birth you kept your virginity; in your Dormition you did not leave the world, O Mother of God, but were joined to the source of Life. You conceived the living God and, by your prayers, will deliver our souls from death (Byzantine Liturgy, Troparion, Feast of the Dormition, August 15th).

Liturgical Note: August 15 is Solemnity of Mary's Assumption, while August 22 is Memorial of Mary's Queenship

OPENING HYMN

GUIDE: "If we want to be Christians, we must have a filial devotion toward the Most Holy Virgin Mary." This is what Pope St. Paul VI said to underline that the Marian devotion is an essential component of Christian life. He adds: "The devotion to the Blessed Mother will teach you to direct everything to Christ, her divine Son, to cultivate interior life, first and irreplaceable condition of apostolate and it will give you continuous inspiration to be generous, humble, zealous collaborators of our Lord Jesus Christ, for the salvation of souls. Pope St. Paul VI also once asked the questions: Who is Mary? What was her task in the world? What did the Lord want from her? We will get the answers to these questions

from the Bible, from the Vatican II, and from the writing of St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia.

READING: 1 Chronicles 15-16

"David prepared a place for the ark of God then he assembled all Israel at Jerusalem to ring up the ark of the Lord to its place which He had prepared for it. The Levites carry the ark of God upon their shoulders with poles as Moses had commanded according to the Word of Yahweh. All Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouting, to the sound of the horns, trumpets, and cymbals, and made loud music on harps and lyres. As the Ark of God set inside the tent which David had pitched for it, they offered holocausts before God and communion sacrifices. When they had finished offering The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by Gentile Da Fabriano

David appointed some of the Levites as ministers before the ark of Yahweh to commemorate, glorify and praise Yahweh, the God of Israel.

The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GUIDE: Since the first centuries, tradition saw in the holy Ark an image of the Blessed Mother. But, while the ark contained the Word of God written on two stones, the Blessed Virgin brought in her womb the Word, Son of God made man to redeem us from our sins.

REFLECTION SONG

(preferably Marian hymn)

GOSPEL READING:

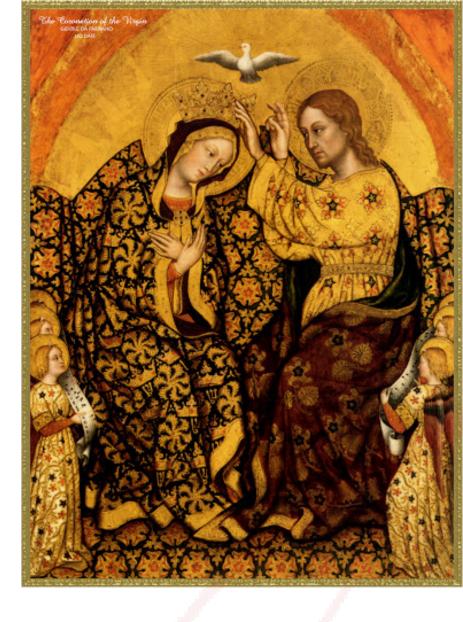
Luke 11:27-28 (standing)

While Jesus was speaking, a woman from the crowd called out and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed." He replied, "Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."

The Gospel of the Lord.

GUIDE: If we want to enjoy also the blessedness of Mary, we must listen tot he Word of God, let it penetrate deeply in us accepting with readiness and generosity what He asks us.

READING: From Dogmatic Constitution on



the Church Lumen Gentium: "In the words of the apostle there is but one mediator: 'For there is but one God and one mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gives himself in redemption for all' (1 Tim. 2:5-6). But Mary's function as mother in no way obscures or diminishes this unique mediation of Christ, but rather shows its power. But the Blessed Virgin's salutary influence on men originates not in any inner necessity but in the disposition of God. It flows forth from the super-abundance of the merits of Christ, rest on his mediation, depends entirely on it and draws all its power form it. It does not hinder in any way the immediate union of the faithful with Christ but on the contrary foster it. (LG #60)

The predestination of the Blessed Virgin as Mother of God was associated with the incarnation of the divine Word: in the designs of divine Providence she was the gracious mother of the divine Redeemer here on earth, and above all others and in a singular way the generous associate and humble handmaid of the Lord.

She conceived, brought forth and nourished Christ, she presented him to the Father in the temple, shared her Son's sufferings as he died on the Cross. Thus, in a wholly singular way she cooperated by her obedience, faith hope and burning charity in the work of the Savior in restoring supernatural life to souls. For this reason she is a mother to us in the order of grace." (LG #61)

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

READING: From the Writings of St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia

"Behold the mystic star of the dangerous sea of life: Mary! The infinite Wisdom of the Eternal God adjusted to the intimate exigencies of human nature giving us, in the Blessed Virgin Mary a Mother! Just to pronounce the word Mother, is sweet, dear to each sensible heart.

There is no one who does not feel a tender affection for the mother who conceived and carried him in her womb, who begot him in suffering, who held him as a baby in her maternal arms, who gave the warmth of her kisses, who nursed him at her breast, who cared for him with the irresistible and all encompassing love of her maternity.

God gave us such a mother in the natural life, a mother more tender and lovable he gave to us in the supernatural life. This

mother is the ideal of every beauty, grace, sanctity, goodness and love! The Almighty God formed her as the masterpiece of His creation, and in his power He gathered in Her all the beauty and goodness He could. After Jesus and in Jesus, I will love the most holy Mother whose devotion, as I know, is the special characteristic of this Pious Institute."

PAUSE

MARIAN SONG (standing)

GOSPEL READING: John 2: 1-12 (standing)

GUIDE: Even today, the Blessed Virgin continues to tell us: "Do whatever my son tells you." Let us therefore listen to her and follow her advice.

SHORT PAUSE

GUIDE: Let us pray together.

ALL: God, you chose the Mother of your Son as our Mother and Queen, grant to us that by her intercession we may attain the glory of your children in your heavenly Kingdom.

Honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary, we pray to you Lord that we may be helped by the humanity of the One who offered Himself on the Cross as Immaculate Victim.

We beseech you, Lord, through the intercession of Mary, make us worthy to participate in the eternal banquet of Heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

RECITATION OF THE HOLY ROSARY

(The Mysteries are said depending on the day you choose to use this schema of prayer.)

FINAL HYMN

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2020



We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen, and their families.



MARY, STAR OF THE SEA

Let us entrust our seafarers around the world through the care and intercession of Mary, Star of the Sea!

or several years, on the days of greater tights and anguish we have imagined ourselves on a boat loaded with people sailing through a stormy ocean in the darkness of the night. No one can see the sky, nor the earth. People only hear the rumble of thunder, the roaring storm, and the moaning winds... Then, kneeling together at the feet of the most holy Virgin, we have lit the candles on her altar, singing from the innermost of our hearts the sweetest hymn with which the Church greets her, "Hail, Star of the Sea!" Oh, the most holy Mary's admirable mercy! More than often this Star dissipated darkness, made the storm still, filled us with joy and happiness, and changed bitterness into holy sweetness!

- St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia, The Father's Soul, page 315



A HOLY HOUR OF PRAYER FOR MORE HOLY VOCATIONS

Dear friends, this is a suggested prayer guide for a holy hour of prayer for vocations. In your most convenient time everyday, or in a week, find time to ask the Lord for good and holy laborers in the Church and society.

Introduction: Today, like in the past, the preaching of the Gospel, the propagation of the faith and the sanctification of souls certainly depends on the witnessing and sanctity of life of all baptized whom God calls to collaborate in his plan of salvation. But most of all these depend on the ones who are called with a special vocation for the task of evangelization.

All the faithful, each according to his or her vocation, have to be available always to announce God's Kingdom and to build the Body of Christ, the Church. Likewise, they must become conscious of their personal duty and responsibility to work for the increase of all special vocations.

In what way? By the witness of our life, catechesis, vocation orientation and animation, but above all the prayer according to the command of Jesus: "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest."

The authentic meaning of prayer for

vocations is practicing what we pray for which is offering to the Lord our availability.

Each community, while praying to the Lord to send holy vocations into the world, makes itself available and creates little the spiritual idoneous conditions so that those who are chosen and called to specific ministries among its members say yes, thereby that through the work of your ministers what is destroyed will be rebuilt, what is old will be renewed and everything will be restored to its completeness through the beginning of all things: Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Eucharistic Greetings (repeat three times)

Leader:

Praise and thanks every moment...

All: to the most holy,

most divine Sacrament...

Leader: Glory to the Father... **All:** As it was in the beginning...

Leader: Send, O Lord...

All: Holy Apostles into Your Church!

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:

O my Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come to me spiritually. I welcome you and unite myself entirely with you. Do not permit me ever to be separated from you. Jesus, I believe in you, I hope in you, and I love you.

A brief period of silence begins here.

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURAL READINGS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:

From the OLD TESTAMENT:

- The Vocation of the Human Race (Genesis 1:26-30)
- The Call of Noah (Genesis 6:5--8:22)
- The Call of Moses (Exodus 3:1-15)
- The Call of Isaiah (Isaiah 6:1-13)
- The Call of Jeremiah (Jeremiah 1:4-19)
 From the NEW TESTAMENT:
- Pray for Vocations (Matthew 9:35-38)
- The Mission of the Seventy-Two (Luke 10:1-12)
- The Call of the First Disciples (Mark 1:14-20)
- Come and See: The Call of the First Disciples (John 1:35-50)
- The Call of Matthew (Matthew 9:9-13)

A brief period of silence continues here.

All: Our Father in heaven, You promised us you would not leave us orphans, for our salvation and sanctification, send your holy ministers who can give us the life of the spirit through the nourishment of faith and charity.

Holy be your name, through the apostolic work of your chosen ones, who, filled with your Holy Spirit make you known and loved by all the people on earth. Your Kingdom come, and may it be build by your faithful ministers, through the sanctity of their life and devoured by the zeal of your glory and the salvation of souls, bring all to Christian perfection. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

ORATIO IMPERATA ON THE COVID-19:

God our Father, we come to you in our need to ask your protection against the COVID 19 that has disturbed and even claimed lives. We pray that you guide the people tasked to find cures for this disease and to stem its transmission.

Protect the medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion.

We pray for those afflicted. May they be restored to health soon. Protect those who care for them. Grant eternal rest

to those who have died. Give us the grace in this trying time to work for the good of all and to help those in need. We implore you to stop the spread of this virus and to save us from our fears. Grant all these through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

We fly to Your protection, oh Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our petition in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

Our Lady, Health of the Sick, pray for us.

St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

St. Rock, pray for us.

St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us.

St. Hannibal Mary, pray for us.

Send, O Lord, holy Apostles into your Church!

Benediction

Divine Praises for Vocations:

Blessed be God, Author of Vocations.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord of the Harvest.

Blessed be Jesus Christ the Compassionate Lord.

Blessed be his Most Sacred Heart, the Merciful.

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood, who washed our sins.

Blessed be Jesus in the Eucharist our spiritual food.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, Light of all those who are called. Blessed be the Great Mother of God, Mary Mother of Vocations.

Blessed be her Immaculate Conception,

the Model of all Priests.

Blessed be the Name of Mary,

Virgin and Mother of all Missionaries.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption, intercessor upon all the Candidates

to the Consecrated life.

Blessed be St. Joseph,

Protector of the Universal Church.

Blessed be God, in His Holy Apostles and Saints of the Church.

Concluding Hymn



The **KAYA IDALANGIN** is produced by the Provincial Rogate Vocational Center to spread awareness to pray and work for holy vocations.

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PROVINCIAL ROGATE VOCATIONAL CENTER (PRVC) Eriberta Lane, Don Jose Green Court, San Dionisio, Parañaque City

St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia, pray for us!
Send, O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

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