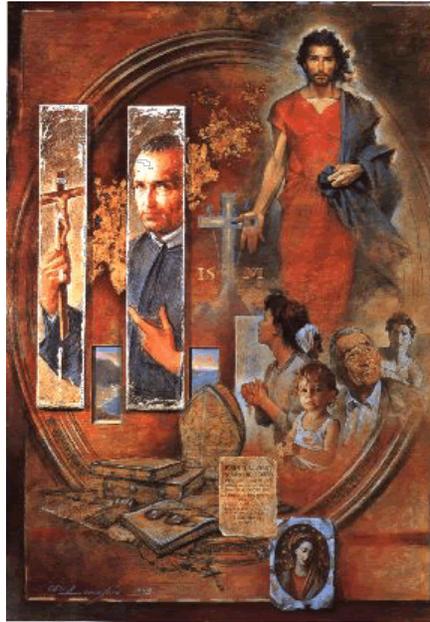


PARTNERS IN AND FOR MISSION PRAYER SERVICE



(Based on the prayer service "Full and Equal Partners: Celebrating Redemptorist/Lay Collaboration,"
from *In the Spirit of St. Alphonse*, by Terry Moran)

GATHERING HYMN: O GOD OF LOVELINESS St. Alphonse Liguori

1. O God of loveliness, O Lord of heaven above.
How worthy to possess my heart's devoted love!
So sweet thy countenance, so gracious to behold,
That one, one only glance to me were bliss untold.
2. Thou art blest, Three-in-One, yet undivided still;
Thou art that One alone whose love my heart can fill.
The heav'ns and earth below were fashioned by thy Word;
How amiable art thou, my ever-dearest Lord.
3. To think thou art my God— O thought forever blest!
My heart has overflowed with joy within my breast.
My heart, so full of bliss, is plunged as in a sea,
Deep in the sweet abyss of holy charity.
4. O loveliness supreme, and beauty infinite;
O ever-flowing stream and ocean of delight,
O life by which I live, my truest life above,
To thee alone I give my undivided love.

CALL TO PRAYER:

Presider: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Presider: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Redemptorist life has never been possible without the support and encouragement of lay people— associates, benefactors and friends. As we Redemptorists have touched and changed the life of the Church, so we have been touched and changed by the people with whom and among whom we have been called to minister. In every place and at every stage of our history, we have looked for ways of joining with lay women and men in mission to more effectively proclaim the good news of plentiful redemption to those who most need to hear it.

Let us pray:

All: Spirit of Christ the Redeemer, open us to your call.
You raise up hundreds of voices to proclaim your praise,
and thousands of hands to build up your reign on earth.
Make all the members of your Church more deeply conscious of
our baptismal commitment to renew the world
in your image.

May all of us who follow the example of Christ the Redeemer
in the spirit of St. Alphonsus be partners in the mission of
proclaiming plentiful redemption according to our gifts and varied
callings. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

WORD OF GOD:

Reader 1:

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians
(1 Cor 12:12-13, 27-31)

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 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. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

All respond: *Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit;
Renew the face of the earth! (2X)*

Reader 2: We remember the leaders of the evening chapels in Naples whom St. Alphonsus empowered to be leaders of spiritual development: Pietro Barbarese, Luca Nardone, Bernardino the cowherd, Leonardo who sold chestnuts on the streets; we recall as well the laywomen trained as catechists by Alphonsus whose names history has not recorded.

All respond: *Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit;
Renew the face of the earth! (2x)*

Reader 3: We remember the circles of associates who gathered around St. Clement Hofbauer; rich and poor, young and old, students and soldiers, professors and merchants; together discovering ways to preach the Gospel anew in a world of radical change.

All respond: *Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit;
Renew the face of the earth! (2x)*

Reader 4: We remember those Redemptorists and associates who collaborated to form some of the first Credit Unions in Edmonton, Saskatoon, Sudbury, Saint John and other parts of Canada, finding creative ways to meet the needs of their times and serve those in need by enabling them to have more control over their own finances and, in so doing, strengthen bonds of community.

All respond: *Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit;
Renew the face of the earth! (2x)*

Reader 5: We remember the Redemptorists and associates who worked together in the apostolate of the pen through such ventures as *Liguorian* magazine, and in the promotion of devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Gerard Majella, St. John Neumann and Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos.

All respond: *Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit;
Renew the face of the earth! (2x)*

Reader 6: We recall those many Redemptorists and associates who have collaborated in Redemptorist Youth/Vocation Ministry, reaching out to youth and young adults and calling them to share in the work of plentiful redemption.

All respond: *Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit;
Renew the face of the earth! (2x)*

Reader 7: We remember all those countless benefactors who have supported the Redemptorist mission with their interest, financial aid and prayers. We remember those who are friends and partners with Redemptorists in prayer and mission.

All respond: *Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit;
Renew the face of the earth! (2x)*

Reader 8: We look with hope to the new forms of collaboration between Redemptorists and laity which are emerging around us. We rejoice that “the Holy Spirit today is urging lay people to a greater collaboration in the evangelizing of the poor,” and we believe that “this constitutes a precious sign of the times for the ecclesial and Redemptorist community” (*Communicanda #4: Collaboration Between the Redemptorist Community and the Laity*).

All respond: *Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit;
Renew the face of the earth! (2x)*

Presider: This short reading is from an address by Fr. Juan Lasso, a former Superior General of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer.

“The disciples gathered in the upper room to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit together with Mary the Mother of Jesus. As followers of Alphonsus, we have always found Mary at the heart of our life and ministry. May Mary’s presence and prayers guide our efforts towards a Spirit-filled future of collaboration of Redemptorists and laity as full and equal partners.” Let us now pray:

Leader: For our Holy Father, for the leaders of other Christian churches and the great world religions; we pray to the Lord...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For our Redemptorist leaders, particularly Fr. Michael Brehl, Fr. Charles Duval, Fr. Paul Borowski, Fr. Stephen Rehrauer and Fr. Peter Bùi Quang Tuấn; we pray to the Lord...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all Redemptorists, for those in formation, for Lay Missionaries of the Most Holy Redeemer, and for Redemptorist Associates; we pray to the Lord ...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those enrolled today as Redemptorist Associates, their families and loved ones; we pray to the Lord ...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all who hunger for peace and justice for the dispossessed, the refugees, the homeless and the poor who wait upon our help; we pray to the Lord...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: In thanksgiving for those who have gone before us, for St. Alphonsus and all the Redemptorists Saints, Blessed and faithful members of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer who have shown us creative and loving ways to live out the charism of plentiful redemption; we pray to the Lord

All: Lord, hear our prayer

Blessing and Sending Forth

Presider: May God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Sending-forth Hymn: "City of God" or another appropriate hymn

