

Verbum Dei

GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER

*“You are
witnesses of all
these things”*

(Luke 24:48)

“Reviving the gift that is in you”

April 12-18, 2021

General Objective:

To grow as a Verbum Dei family in the missionary, prophetic, itinerant and expansive spirit so that we can form joyfully, apostles of Christ and evangelizing communities.

Objective of the Week:

As believers of the Risen Lord, it's to give witness with our life what we have witnessed of Him

MONDAY

Luke 24:44-48 ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are the very things I told you about while I was still with you: everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the writings of the prophets, and the Psalms had to come true.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, “This is what is written: the Messiah must suffer and must rise from death three days later, ⁴⁷ and in his name the message about repentance and the forgiveness of sins must be preached to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

CCC 642 Everything that happened during those Paschal days involves each of the apostles - and Peter in particular - in the building of the new era begun on Easter morning. As witnesses of the

Risen One, they remain the foundation stones of his Church. the faith of the first community of believers is based on the witness of concrete men known to the Christians and for the most part still living among them. Peter and the Twelve are the primary “witnesses to his Resurrection”, but they are not the only ones - Paul speaks clearly of more than five hundred persons to whom Jesus appeared on a single occasion and also of James and of all the apostles.

In what am I invited to give witness of the Risen Lord?

TUESDAY

(St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr)

John 6:28-29 So they asked him, “What can we do in order to do what God wants us to do?”²⁹ Jesus answered, “What God wants you to do is to believe in the one he sent.”

‘The great gift of Easter is hope - Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake. **(Basil Hume)**

Do I sense that Jesus is calling me to have more trust in Him? What is He asking me?

WEDNESDAY

John 6:37-39 Everyone whom my Father gives me will come to me. I will never turn away anyone who comes to me, ³⁸ because I have come down from heaven to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And it is the will of him who sent me that I should not lose any of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them all to life on the last day.

Like Jesus, how am I embracing with love and responsibility what is asked from me to take care?

THURSDAY

1 John 1:1 We write to you about the Word of life, which has existed from the very beginning. We have heard it, and we have seen it with our eyes; yes, we have seen it, and our hands have touched it.

How willing am I in continuing to allow Jesus to work through me?

FRIDAY **(St. Bernadette Soubirous)**

"A Christian who doesn't give witness is unfathomable ...We are not a religion of ideas, of pure theology, of beautiful things and commandments...No, we are a people who follow Jesus Christ and give witness – that is, want to give witness to Jesus Christ – and this witness sometimes ends up giving one's life. **(Pope Francis)**

Acts 5:29-32 ` ²⁹ Peter and the other apostles answered, "We must obey God, not men. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from death, after you had killed him by nailing him to a cross. ³¹ God raised him to his right side as Leader and Savior, to give the people of Israel the opportunity to repent and have their sins forgiven. ³² We are witnesses to these things—we and the Holy Spirit, who is God's gift to those who obey him."

How can I continue bearing witness to Jesus in the midst of the different challenges we are facing?

SATURDAY **(St. Anicetus)**

1 Cor 15:1-5 And now I want to remind you, my friends, of the Good News which I preached to you, which you received, and on which your faith stands firm. ² That is the gospel, the message that I preached to you. You are saved by the gospel if you hold firmly to it— unless it was for nothing that you believed. ³ I passed on to you what I received, which is of the greatest importance: that Christ died for our sins, as written in the Scriptures; ⁴ that he was buried and that he was raised to life three days later, as written in the Scriptures; ⁵ that he appeared to Peter and then to all twelve apostles.

What is my experience of Christ's resurrection? Am I eager to share it to others especially those who may still oppose to this Good News?

3rd Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 3:13-15,17-19

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 4:2,4,7-9

2nd Reading: 1 John 2:1-5

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

