



GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER

“that the love you have for me may be in them”

(John 17:26)

“Reviving the gift that is in you”

March 15-21, 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:

To enter into the fraternal relationship of Jesus and His passionate way of loving

MONDAY

(St. Louise de Marillac)

John 11:32-36 ³² Mary arrived where Jesus was, and as soon as she saw him, she fell at his feet. “Lord,” she said, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died!” ³³ Jesus saw her weeping, and he saw how the people with her were weeping also; his heart was touched, and he was deeply moved. ³⁴ “Where have you buried him?” he asked them. “Come and see, Lord,” they answered. ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ “See how much he loved him!” the people said.

John 17:26 I made you known to them, and I will continue to do so, in order that the love you have for me may be in them, and so that I also may be in them.”

What does Jesus made me to discover today in prayer?

TUESDAY

(St. Hilary)

1 John 5:2 This is how we know that we love God's children: it is by loving God and obeying his commands.

1 Cor 14:1 It is love, then, that you should strive for. Set your hearts on spiritual gifts, especially the gift of proclaiming God's message.

How am I invited to love? Am I willing to strive for it?

WEDNESDAY

(St. Patrick)

Lk 6:27-36 “But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, and pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone hits you on one cheek, let him hit the other one too; if someone takes your coat, let him have your shirt as well. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you for something, and when someone takes what is yours, do not ask for it back. ³¹ Do for others just what you want them to do for you. ³² “If you love only the people who love you, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners love those who love them! ³³ And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners do that! ³⁴ And if you lend only to those from whom you hope to get it back, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount! ³⁵ No! Love your enemies and do good to them; lend and expect nothing back. You will then have a great reward, and you will be children of the Most High God. For he is good to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.

What am I invited in prayer to put into practice?

THURSDAY

(St. Cyril of Jerusalem)

Mt.18:15-17, 21-22 “If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault.

But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back. ¹⁶ But if he will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that 'every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses,' as the scripture says. ¹⁷ And if he will not listen to them, then tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if he will not listen to the church, treat him as though he were a pagan or a tax collector. Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, if my brother keeps on sinning against me, how many times do I have to forgive him? Seven times?" ²² "No, not seven times," answered Jesus, "but seventy times seven.

How can I grow in love? In what way I can apply His teachings into my life?

FRIDAY

(St. Joseph, Spouse of BVM)

1 Jn 4:11-12, 19-21 Dear friends, if this is how God loved us, then we should love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in union with us, and his love is made perfect in us. We love because God first loved us. ²⁰ If we say we love God, but hate others, we are liars. For we cannot love God, whom we have not seen, if we do not love others, whom we have seen. ²¹ The command that Christ has given us is this: whoever loves God must love others also.

Luke 10:30-37 ³⁰ Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from

Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. ³¹ It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. ³² In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. ³⁴ He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he told the innkeeper, 'and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.'"³⁶ And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbor toward the man attacked by the robbers?"

³⁷ The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him."

Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."

How do I take what Jesus is inviting me today in prayer?

SATURDAY

(St. Cuthbert)

Eph 3:17b-19 and I pray that Christ will make his home in your hearts through faith. I pray that you may have your roots and foundation

in love, ¹⁸ so that you, together with all God's people, may have the power to understand how broad and long, how high and deep, is Christ's love. ¹⁹ Yes, may you come to know his love—although it can never be fully known—and so be completely filled with the very nature of God.

8. It is my desire that, in this our time, by acknowledging the dignity of each human person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity. Fraternity between all men and women. "Here we have a splendid secret that shows us how to dream and to turn our life into a wonderful adventure. No one can face life in isolation... We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead. How important it is to dream together... By ourselves, we risk seeing mirages, things that are not there. Dreams, on the other hand, are built together".

(Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*)

What fills my heart? Am I ready to be Jesus' disciples? Am I willing to follow Him, out of love and to the very end?

5th SUNDAY of Lent

1st Reading: Jer 31:31-34

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 51:

2nd Reading: Heb 5:7-9

Gospel: John 12:20-33

