



Lasallian East Asia District
10th Anniversary Novena Prayer
December 2020

“Spirit of Faith”

Invitation to Prayer | Meditations

St. John Baptist De La Salle

The spirit of this Institute is, first, a spirit of faith, which ought to induce those who compose it not to look upon anything but with the eyes of faith, not to do anything but in view of God, and to attribute everything to God.

God’s Presence

Let us remember that we are in the Holy Presence of God.

Opening Song | Empty Space

Johnny Go, SJ & Manoling Francisco, SJ



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ui4i-y1V1AY>

There's an empty space in your distant gaze.
And you may look away, the void still stays.
There's a hollow part in your weary heart,
And though you try again, no smile can hide your pain.

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Fear not the night within.
That's where My light begins, so you may one day see My face.
Only I can fill your days.

There's a raging storm in your broken soul,
And how you wish away your troubled days.
There's an open door at your deepest core,
And though you lose your way you'll still come home someday.
Fear not the noise within; that's where My voice begins,
So you may one day hear My song. Only I can still your storm.

There's an empty room, there's a hidden wound:
This heart that burns for you, if only you knew,
There's a missing part in My yearning heart,
And I will stay around until the day you're found.
May this My whispered song lead you to come back home,
Till we're no longer far apart.
Then will your laughter fill My heart.

Opening Prayer | Psalm 62

In God alone is my soul at rest;
my help comes from him.
He alone is my rock, my stronghold,
my fortress: I stand firm.

How long will you all attack one man
to break him down,
as though he were a tottering wall,
or a tumbling fence?

Their plan is only to destroy:
they take pleasure in lies.
With their mouth they utter blessing
but in their heart they curse.

In God alone be at rest, my soul;
for my hope comes from him.
He alone is my rock, my stronghold,
my fortress: I stand firm.

In God is my safety and glory,
the rock of my strength.



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Take refuge in God, all you people.
Trust him at all times.
Pour out your hearts before him
for God is our refuge.

Common folk are only a breath,
Great men an illusion.
Placed in the scales, they rise;
they weigh less than a breath.

Do not put your trust in oppression
nor vain hopes on plunder.
Do not set your heart on riches
even when they increase

For God has said only one thing:
only two do I know:
that to God alone belongs power
and to you, Lord, love;
and that you repay each man
according to his deeds.

God's Word | Spirit of Faith

2 Corinthians 4:12-18

So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since, then, we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed, therefore I spoke," we too believe and therefore speak, knowing that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.



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Man's Word & Reflection | Meditations

Introduction in the Spirit of Faith

Jesus Christ, entering a soul, raises it so far above all human sentiments, through the faith that enlivens it, that it sees nothing except by the light of faith. No matter what anyone does to such a soul, nothing can disturb its constancy, make it abandon God's service, or even diminish in the least degree the ardor it feels for God, because the darkness that previously blinded its spirit is changed into an admirable light. As a result, the soul no longer sees anything except by the eyes of faith. (MDF 32.2)

Your faith must be a light that guides you in all things and a shining beacon to lead to heaven those you instruct. (MDF 178.1) Do you have such faith that you are able to touch the hearts of your students and to inspire them with the Christian spirit? This is the greatest miracle you can perform and the one that God asks of you, for this is the purpose of your work. (MDF 139.3)

Intercessions

Response: Lord, increase our faith!

We pray, Lord, that You grant us with the kind of faith as lively as Saint Peter, martyr, so that we are able to teach our children the "maxims of the Holy Gospel and the mysteries of our religion." Let us pray to the Lord...

R: Lord, increase our faith!

We pray, Lord, that You guide us with the spirit and fullness of faith that will allow us to "contribute to the good of the Church" in our ministry. Let us pray to the Lord...

R: Lord, increase our faith!

We pray, Lord, that you equip us with the spirit of faith, a sign of vitality of our society, so that we may continue to personally live out the experience of our call in mission. Let us pray to the Lord...

R: Lord, increase our faith!



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We pray, Lord, for a deeper sense of understanding in our abandonment to God, through an inspired and sustained spirit of faith, so that we may effectively carry on with our apostolic mission. Let us pray to the Lord...

R: Lord, increase our faith!

Glory ...

Our Father ...

Closing Prayer | Rule 6

Rule of the Brothers of the Christian Schools

Heavenly Father, equip us with the lens to see the realities of our lives with the eyes of faith. We are fervent in our desire to grow in the spirit of faith for it is by faith that we are able to judge all the realities of life in the light of the Gospel; it is by faith that we find God in our work, concerns, and joys; it is by faith that we learn to discern in every event, and in every person, especially in the poor, a sign and a call of the Spirit; it is by faith, as "cooperators with Jesus Christ," that we can dedicate our whole lives to the building up of the Reign of God through the service of education; and it is by faith that we abandon ourselves, like our Founder, to God's guidance. We ask this through Jesus Christ, "the first-born of many brothers." Amen.

Song for Reflection | Household of Faith

Johnny Go, SJ & Manoling Francisco, SJ



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8eL2dSaRIII>



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Here we are at the start committing to each other
By His word and from our hearts
We will be a family in a house that will be a home
And with faith we'll build it strong

We'll build a household of faith
That together we can make
And when the strong winds blow it won't fall down
As one in Him we'll grow and the whole world will know
We are a household of faith
Now to be a family we've got to love each other
At any cost unselfishly
And our home must be a place that fully abounds with grace
A reflection of His face

We'll build a household of faith
That together we can make
And when the strong winds blow it won't fall down
As one in Him we'll grow and the whole world will know
We are a household of faith

Mary, Queen and Mother of Christian schools, pray for us.

St. John Baptist de La Salle, pray for us.

All Lasallian saints, pray for us.

Live Jesus in our hearts forever!