



**Lasallian East Asia District**  
LEAD Online Community Prayer Service  
15 May 2021

**“GRATITUDE AND THANKSGIVING”**

**Invitation to Worship**

Let us now look back into our journey with God as we see the things for which we are thankful.

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

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

**Experience of Life**

Lasallian Reflection | *The Joy of Gratitude*

From Lasallian Resource Center, Nov 2018

Gratitude seems to me to be the flip side of generosity. With generosity, we express actions and intentions of unconditional love; with gratitude, we receive actions and intentions of unconditional love. The best kinds of generosity are given unasked, unexpected, and previously unknown. The best kinds of gratefulness are received unasked, unexpected, and previously unknown. The most generous people tend to be the most grateful, and vice versa. Generosity and gratefulness appear to be two vectors of love’s living dynamic.

These same vectors are found in education and teachers. St. John Baptist de La Salle tells his teachers: “Thank God for the grace he has given you . . . and calling you to such a holy work of instructing children and leading them to piety.” And “Thank God, who has had the goodness to employ you to procure such an important advantage for children.”

**GRATITUDE &  
THANKSGIVING**



## Opening Song | My Hearts Thanksgiving

Himig Heswita



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QB09HyGmCdg>

As I sing my heart's thanksgiving  
And my eyes look heavenward,  
How the stars You flung like jewels  
bid your welcome shine your light  
as I marvel at your moonrise  
I'm in awe yet I ask  
"What am I that you should love me  
And hold me as your dearest love of all

You crown me with honor and glory  
And you set all things under my feet  
You have made me a little less than angels  
even if I fly often away

In my anxious and browbeaten moments,  
you comfort me, fill me with peace  
When my foes threaten, dare, and surround me  
You're my strength you're my light and my shield

How exalted your name is, O Yahweh  
and how lofty the work of your hands  
Yet how closely how dearly you draw me  
to Your love, Your divine majesty

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## Reflection of Life (in the context of Scripture)

Colossians 3:12-17

“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

## Wisdom from the Founder | Meditation for the Time of Retreat

15-16.1

God is so good that he does not leave unrewarded the good work that is done for Him and the service that is rendered to Him, especially for the salvation of souls. If it is true that God rewards so generously even in this world those who have left, all things for Him, that they receive a hundred-fold in this life, with how much more reason will he not reward, even in this present time, those who have devoted themselves with zeal to the spreading of His kingdom.

...God gives two kinds of rewards in this world to those who commit themselves unconditionally to the work of saving souls. First, He gives them an abundance of grace. Second, He gives them a larger field for their ministry and a greater facility for accomplishing the conversion of souls...

Oh, how fortunate you ought to consider yourselves, to be working in the field of the Lord, since our Lord says that the reaper will surely receive his reward... (MTR 15)

...Your happiness in heaven will be greater than what will be enjoyed by those who have worked only for their own salvation. It will, in fact, be much greater in proportion to the number of



children you have taught and won over to God... as great as the good that you will achieve in the lives of the children who are entrusted to your care... On the day of judgment, they will be your glory... because the glory that you have procured for them will reflect on you.

Fulfil the duties of your ministry so well that you may be able to enjoy this blessing. (MTR 16.1)

### **Faith Sharing**

Let us now express our being grateful and thankful for the growth and blessing that we experienced as Lasallian in LEAD as we share it with one another through our group sharing.

To guide us in our sharing, let us consider the following invitation to make a commitment:

- What are the “abundant graces” that you had received for the past years that helped you in doing the Lasallian mission?
- What growth or “larger field” you had observed that we have now as we celebrate our 10th year as LEAD?

### **Intercessions**

For every petition we say,

**Lord, we thank you for your blessing.**

Let us joyfully give thanks to God whose love guides and nourishes us. We pray...

**R: Lord, we thank you for your blessing.**

Most merciful God, we praise you for your love, for you created us and bring us to grace. We pray...

**R: Lord, we thank you for your blessing.**

Open our hearts to the needs of all we meet, may our community give strength to our work. We pray...

**R: Lord, we thank you for your blessing.**

For the Brother’s vocation and the growth of our Lasallian family may continue to flourish as an opportunity for us to serve and love you through other people. We pray...

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## **R: Lord, we thank you for your blessing.**

We observe a short moment of silence to whisper to God our personal intentions.

(Silence)

Gathering our intentions together, both said and unsaid, we raise them to the Father in the words our savior gave us.

## **Our Father**

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your Name.  
Your Kingdom come.  
Your Will be done,  
on earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.

## **Closing Prayer | 46th General Chapter Prayer**

We ask you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
who guide all things in our lives as Brothers and Partners,  
to grant us joy in thanksgiving, boldness in truth,  
and strength in decisions.

Despite our fragility, our hearts are filled with reasons to hope,  
because of our desire to commit the Institute  
to following new paths to transform lives.

With your grace, we will have the strength and courage  
to move to the peripheries and release our creative energies.

Together, as Brothers and Partners committed to the Lasallian  
mission, we want to work in the spirit of the gospel  
to change our way of viewing the world,  
to take care of our common home.



And to become true missionary disciples.

We ask Our Lady of the Star, Saint John Baptist de La Salle,  
all our Lasallian saints and holy Brothers to intercede for us.

Amen.

Mary, Queen and Mother of Christian schools,  
*Pray for us.*

St. Joseph, Protector of the Institute,  
*Pray for us.*

St. John Baptist de La Salle,  
*Pray for us.*

All Lasallian saints,  
*Pray for us.*

Live Jesus in our hearts  
*Forever!*

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