

Our Vocation

An afternoon or evening prayer

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

Opening Prayer

(from the Iona Community Worship Book)

(Each taking a paragraph, and all joining in the words in bold.)

When the lights are on
And the school is full
And laughter is easy, and all is well...
Behold, I stand at the door and knock.

When the lights are low,
And the school is still
And the talk is intense,
And the air is full of wondering ...
Behold, I stand at the door and knock.

When the lights are off,
And the school is sad,
And the voice is troubled,
And nothing seems right...
Behold, I stand at the door and knock.

And today, always today,
As if there were no other people,
No other school, no other door ...
Behold, I stand at the door and knock.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest;
Stay with us for the day is ending.
Bring to our community your poverty...
For then we shall be rich.

Bring to our community your pain...
That, sharing it, we may also share your joy.

Bring to our community your understanding of us...
That we may be freed to learn more of you.

Bring to our community
All those who hurry or hesitate to follow you...
That we may meet you as the Savior of all.

Bring to our community your Holy Spirit...
That this may be a cradle of love.

With brother, with sister,
With friend, with stranger,
With neighbor, with guest,
Be among us tonight...
**For the doors of our school we open,
And the door of our hearts we leave ajar.**

In our life and believing...
The love of God.

At our end and new beginning
**The arms of God to welcome us
And bring us home. Amen.**

God's Words

(Romans 12:8-18, 21)

Left: Do not let your love be a pretense,
But sincerely prefer good to evil.
Love each other as much as brothers and sisters should,
And have a profound respect for each other.

Right: Work for the Lord with untiring effort
And with great earnestness of spirit.
If you have hope, this will make you cheerful,
Do not give up if trials come;
And keep on praying.

Left: If any of the saints are in need
You must share with them;
And you should make hospitality your special care.

Right: Bless those who persecute you;
Never curse them, bless them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice
And be sad with those in sorrow.

Left: Treat everyone with equal kindness;
Never be condescending
But make real friends with the poor.
Do not allow yourself to become self-satisfied.

Right: Never repay evil with evil
But let everyone see that you are interested
Only in the highest ideals.
Do all you can to live at peace with everyone.
Resist evil and conquer it with good.

**All: Love each other as much as brothers and sisters should,
And have profound respect for each other. Amen.**

Pause for Quiet Reflection

Today's Voice

(Mother Teresa of Calcutta)

Wherever God has put you, that is your vocation. It is not what we do, but how much love we put into it.

We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But if that drop was not there, I think the ocean would be less by that missing drop. We don't have to think in numbers.

We can only love one person at a time, serve one person at a time.

De La Salle's Voice

(from the First Meditation for the Time of Retreat)

God wills not only that all come to the knowledge of truth, but also that all be saved. God cannot truly provide this without providing the means for it and, therefore, without giving children the teachers who will assist them in the fulfillment of this plan. This, says Saint Paul, is the field that God cultivates, the building that he is raising, and you are the ones God has chosen to help in this work by announcing to these children the Gospel of his Son and the truths that are contained in it.

Closing Prayer

(Mark Link SJ – adapted)

Leader: We conclude our prayer this evening by listening to Jesus speak to us:

“You are the light of the world.
A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.
No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket;
Instead, the lamp is put on a lamp stand,
Where it gives light to everyone in the house.
In the same way, your light must shine before all people...

(Matthew 5: 14-16)

***Saint John Baptist de La Salle...Pray for us!
Live, Jesus, in our hearts...Forever!***