

Perseverance

Call to Prayer

Leader: (as candle is being lit...)

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world...
Whoever follows me will have the light of life
and will never walk in darkness." (John 8:12)

Lord Jesus, you said that where two or three come together in your name,
You are there with them. The light of this candle symbolizes your presence among us.

And so, let us remember....

All: That we are in the holy presence of God.

Opening Prayer (together)

I place my trust in you, faithful God. In times of trouble, help me persevere on the path
of truth and life. I trust that you are upholding me. Amen.

Reading I

(2 Corinthians 4)

We are subjected to every kind of hardship, but never distressed; we see no way out but
we never despair; we are pursued but never cut off; knocked down, but still have some
life in us; always carry with us in our body the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus, too,
may be visible in our body. Indeed, while we are still alive, we are continually being
handed over to death, for the sake of Jesus.

Reading II: De La Salle's Words

(from a letter to Mr. de La Cocherie and Mr. Gense, two of Lasalle's friends and benefactors)

I tell you gentlemen, that if God, in showing me the good that would be done by this
Society had also discovered to me the trials and crosses which were to accompany it, I
would have lacked courage, and far from assuming charge of it, I would not have dared to

touch it with the tips of my fingers. Meeting constantly with opposition, I have been persecuted by prelates, even by those whom I expected help. My own spiritual children, whom I had tenderly cherished and trained with the greatest care, and from whom I expected the most valuable services, have risen against me, and have added interior trials, the most bitter of all, to my exterior crosses. In a word, if God had not stretched out His hand to sustain this edifice in a visible manner, it would long since have been in ruins.

Solemn Reflection/Prayers of Intercession

Closing Prayer (together) *(adapted from the Novena for Vocations for Our Lasallian Family)*

Most Holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – we re-dedicate ourselves to You today. You called us into this ministry years ago, and we realize that You continue to call us again and again. Help us to continue to listen to You. Increase our faith, hope, and love so that we may see more clearly and appreciate more deeply the ways in which You communicate Your will for us. May we continue to find fulfillment and delight in daily answering Your call.

Leader: We conclude our prayer this morning 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)*

(Someone extinguishes the candle)

The light of this candle is now extinguished. But the light of Christ in each of us must continue to shine in our hearts and in our lives.

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