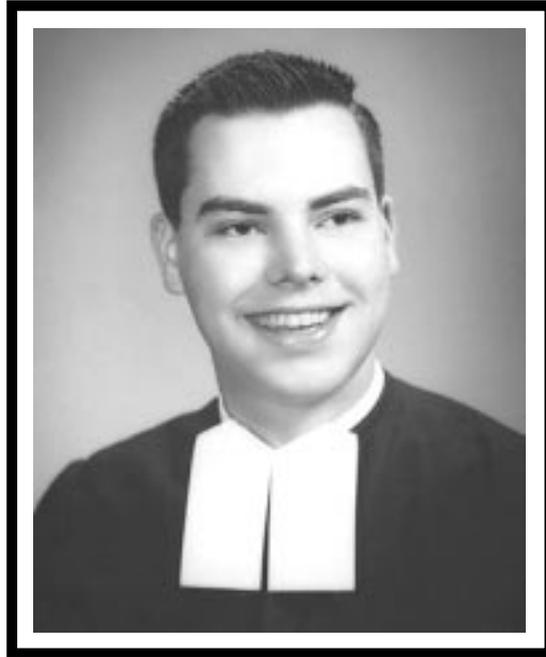


Remembering Our Brother James Miller, FSC



Born: 1944 - Died: 1982
Remembered on February 13th

Brother James Miller, a De La Salle Christian Brother, who was born in Stevens Point, Wisconsin and was a member of the Winona District (now Midwest District) ministered to the people of Nicaragua and Guatemala as well as having taught at Cretin High School (now Cretin-Derham Hall) in St. Paul.

Brother was brutally shot to death as he was repairing a wall at the De La Salle Indian School in Huehuetenango, Guatemala on February 13, 1982. It is thought that this occurred because the Brothers were relentless in their efforts to keep the Indian boys from being conscripted into the military. Brother James was very aware of the oppression of the Guatemalan Indian people and worked to provide training in job skills as well as leadership skills.

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Blessed are they who are persecuted
for the sake of righteousness
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:10

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The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking,
but of justice, peace and the joy the Holy Spirit gives that.

Whoever serves Christ in this way pleases God
and wins the esteem of men and women.

Let us then, make it our aim to work for peace
and to strengthen one another.

Romans 14: 17-19

Reflection:

God in His/Her loving kindness, has raised up witnesses in our midst. God is calling each of us to a more radical discipleship – one which will not be understood by the powerful of our day. We must be wise as serpents in naming and denouncing the evil which pervades our world. We must be filled with a compassion for those for whom suffering from lack of basic necessities has become a way of life. We must be moved to action which will clearly identify us with the poor. Above all, let us not be filled with fear. Let us be filled with courage and hope, for “in the tender compassion of our God, the dawn shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Sister Melinda Roper, MM

Psalm 72

The Anointed delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who are helpless,
having pity on the weak and the needy,
saving the lives of the poor.

From oppression and violence they are redeemed;
and precious is their blood.

Long may Your Chosen One live.

To the one You have anointed
may prayers be made without ceasing
and blessings all the day.

May the name of your Anointed endure forever,
and continue as long as the sun!

Blessed be our God
Who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be Your name forever.

May Your glory fill the earth.

Amen. Amen.

Hymn:

May we find richness in the harvest of justice
which Christ Jesus has ripened for us.

Bread for the journey, bread for the hungry,
all for the glory and praise of our God.

Gather with patience for those who have nothing.

Leave them your riches and you will receive.

Make way for the poor ones, make way for the stranger;
for I am the Lord, the Lord your God.

For to have mercy on those forgotten,
this is My true law, this is My command.

Clothe the naked, be home for the orphan,
be hope for the widow, and welcome the lost.

For to have little is to be in abundance.

To give what remains, to give all we have,
is to walk with the poor ones and become the stranger,
one with the Lord, the Lord our God.

Reflection:

What a consolation for those who have procured the salvation of souls, to see in heaven a great number whom they have helped to obtain the advantages of obtaining so great a happiness! This will happen to those who have instructed many persons about the truths of religion, as an angel said to the prophet Daniel: those who instruct many persons in Christian justice will shine like stars throughout all eternity. Act, then, in such a way by your good and wise guidance of those who are entrusted to you that you will procure blessings and glory.

Saint John Baptist de La Salle



Intercessions:

Brother James Miller's main concern was to empower the laity especially the poor and the oppressed.

Lord, send us men and women who will work for the poor.

The words of the Gospel are our daily bread,

May we always listen to the Spirit alive in our hearts.

Brother James Miller had great love for the poor to whom he ministered,

May our love and concern for others heal and empower them and lead them to You, O Lord.

That our Brother James Miller and all who have died in working for the dignity of the poor, will not have died in vain,

May the gift of their lives continue to enrich and inspire the church throughout the world.

For our Lasallian Family, that true to the inspiration of Saint John Baptist de La Salle,

We may continue to offer a quality Christian education to the working class and the poor.

Let us pray:

O loving God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, hear our prayers as we honor our Brother James Miller. Continue to give us courageous hearts filled with faith and zeal as we work for Your kingdom here on earth.

O God, You are the Source of All Being and the Creator of unfailing light and wisdom, give that same light and wisdom to those who call to You.

As Catholic educators and Lasallian ambassadors of Christ, may our lips praise You; our lives proclaim Your goodness; our works give You honor, and our voices celebrate You forever. May the Spirit of the Risen Lord Jesus, our Teacher and Brother, be forever in our hearts and may this same Spirit shine in and through us as we enlighten, educate and guide the youth entrusted to our care. Amen.

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Saint John Baptist de La Salle,

Servant of God Brother James Miller

and all you holy Brothers who have gone before us,
Inspire us in our lives of dedication and service.

Live Jesus in our hearts. . . Forever!

Bless your persecutors;

Bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice;

weep with those who weep.

Have the same attitude toward all.

Put away ambitious thoughts and
associate with those who are lowly.

Romans 12: 14-16

