

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY TO THE LIGHT OF THE RESURRECTION

In our Lenten journey towards Easter, let us remember the One who “humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross” (Phil 2:8). During this season of conversion, let us renew our *faith*, draw from the “living water” of *hope*, and receive with open hearts the *love* of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ.... This Lenten journey, like the entire pilgrimage of the Christian life, is even now illumined by the **light of the resurrection**, which inspires the thoughts, attitudes and decisions of the followers of Christ.



Fasting, prayer and almsgiving, as preached by Jesus (Mt 6:1-18), enable and **express our conversion**. The path of poverty and self-denial (*fasting*), concern and loving care for the poor (*almsgiving*), and childlike dialogue with the Father (*prayer*) make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope and effective charity.

Lent is a time for believing, for welcoming God into our lives and allowing him to “make his dwelling” among us (cf. Jn 14:23). Fasting involves being freed from all that weighs us down – like consumerism or an excess of information, whether true or false – in order to open the doors of our hearts to the One who comes to us, poor in all things, yet “full of grace and truth” (Jn 1:14): the Son of God our Saviour. Dear brothers and sisters, every moment of our lives is a time for **believing, hoping and loving**. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as individuals – to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father.

Pope Francis LENT 2021.

MAILBAG: Continuing January-February Reflections a Sacramentine sister shares her meditated prayer. *The Star is ever with us, leading and guiding us, even in Lent!*

“As the Magi kept their eyes fixed firmly on the star and followed it, you Jesus, will be my guiding Star. I want to follow you closely throughout this year. As I follow you Jesus, I will keep in mind all You suffered for me personally and for us all. This star will help me discover the wonder of your gift to me, freely given, inviting me to into a deeper relationship of service and prayer. Jesus, may your shining star reveal your Presence to me. Jesus, you will be my guiding star. At every moment of my existence and in every situation, you will lead me on a path of love, humility and compassion.

Yes, you Jesus will be my star, you will be a light to my path. May your Presence be always in me to guide my words, my actions, my whole being.

If my star disappears from my sight I will immediately call on you and you will answer me. Jesus, this year you will be my star, you will guide me every day on a path of love”

Sr M. Alice. Boucieu le Roi. FRANCE

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS 25 April

The purpose of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly celebrate vocations to ordained ministry and religious life in all its forms. We often hear complaints when the parish no longer has a priest or when a religious community has to leave....But, do we pray with insistence?

Have a Blessed and Joyful Easter



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During these two months, March and April we will journey through Lent to the joys of Easter. Lent is not Covid 19 and neither is it the vaccines and their effectiveness we hear so much about! But we must however proceed with CAUTION as we continue to LIVE our faith openly, aware of those who need our JOY.

A FATHER'S HEART....

WITH A FATHER'S HEART: that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as “*the son of Joseph*”.

Joseph saw Jesus grow daily “in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favour (Lk 2:52). As the Lord had done with Israel, so Joseph did with Jesus: “*he taught him to walk, taking him by the hand; he was for him like a father who raises an infant to his cheeks, bending down to him and feeding him.* (Hos.11:3-4).

In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God: “*As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him*” (Ps 103:13).

Francis. Patris Corde 2

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Go with confidence

For many years St Joseph provided a home for Jesus, caring lovingly for him. He was always close to Jesus and the



strong bond of love and affection between them was broken only when he died in his arms. A gift to a poor person who bears the image of Jesus Christ, given with love and in secret will be rewarded in secret. The continual services that St. Joseph

rendered to the Son of God deserve even greater rewards, don't they?. He is our model of generosity, self-giving and self-effacement. Go to him with confidence as to a loving father. He is the “treasure

Even through Joseph's fears, God's will, his history and his plan were at work.

Joseph, then, teaches us that faith in God includes believing that he can work even through our fears, our frailties and our weaknesses. He also teaches us that **amid the tempests of life**, we must never be afraid to **let the Lord steer our course**. At times, we want to be in complete control, yet God always sees the bigger picture.

Francis. Patris Corde 2

*house" not of Egypt but of the Church. Go confidently to him who was called by God, to save His Son from Herod and to guide and protect the One who governs all. **Pray to him earnestly especially on a Wednesday.***

*Ask him to be **your protector** as you work, your **intercessor** in time of need and your **defender** especially in the hour of death.*

"Go to Joseph" frequently, whatever your needs, spiritual or material. Take Joseph to your heart, imitate his humility and honour his name.

Ask him to obtain through the power of Mary's intercession with her Son, to grant you a holy life and a happy death. Amen

Rule of Life P. 281

Vigne p. Missionnaire.



The "Beautiful Lady" visits Boucieu Peter Vigne...and la Salette

As part of the preparation for 175th anniversary of Our Lady's apparition at La Salette, France, the pilgrim statue of Our Lady of La Salette, will be present at **BOUCIEU on March 23 and 24**. La Salette is the most important Marian pilgrimage in France after Lourdes.

To welcome the statue and pray to Our Lady of La Salette near the tomb of Blessed Pierre Vigne will be a joy that is twofold. As a matter of fact, in his list of missions he included one he preached at **La Salette, 26 October 1719**. He arrived there following two missions, one in Neffe, Hautes Alpes and the other in Curban, Basses Alpes.. Such was his desire to preach the Good News in remote hamlets that even highest of mountains could not deter him. Father Veyrenc, in a biography published in 1868 wrote: "**He was an apostle of the mountains**, and probably more than once his religious colleagues must have applied these words to him: *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, and proclaim the goodness of the Lord!*" The bishops often entrusted him with large parishes which were seriously impacted by the wars of religion and the violence that ensued. This was true of area he was going to visit. The mission in La Salette would have lasted almost a month, because from there he set out once again to begin another mission in the little parish of St. Didier in the Hautes Alpes in November 26. Many years later, in 1846 the Blessed Virgin Mary would appear on the afternoon of Saturday 19 September to two children Maxim Guiraud and Melanie Calvat who were tending sheep for their employers near La Salette in the French Alps. Without a doubt she accompanied and supported Peter Vigne as he made his way through all the surrounding hamlets preaching and hearing confessions. Peter Vigne always preached on the importance of "*penance, contrition, prayer, the Lord's Prayer, the Mass, the commandments.*" We find this same insistence in Mary's message at La Salette: the call to conversion, to keep Sunday holy, to pray... at least the Our Father and the Hail Mary. In Boucieu, on the eve of the **ANNUNCIATION, 25 March**, Blessed Peter Vigne will warmly welcome **Mary, the Beautiful Lady of La Salette**, "*our Incomparable Virgin, Queen of Heaven and Mother of God*" B.R

"We need only ask Saint Joseph for the grace of graces: our conversion.

We now make **our prayer** to him:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

*To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.*

*Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

Pope Francis' Prayer to St. Joseph.

A PRAYER FOR EASTER

God of infinite mercy,
each Easter you rekindle the faith
of your consecrated people.
Give them still greater grace
so that they may truly understand
the waters in which they were cleansed,
the Spirit by which they were reborn,
and the blood by which
they were redeemed.

May the mystery of Easter
which we commemorate
remain always with us
to renew and transform us.

This we ask
through your Son Jesus Christ.

Amen

From the Upper Room to Calvaryto EASTER Alleluia.

The month of April brings us to the great Pascal Triduum and although overshadowed by the pandemic, we are invited to a real and profound celebration of:

HOLY THURSDAY, when Jesus gives us his Sacrament of Love: the EUCHARIST

GOOD FRIDAY to accompany Jesus on his ascent to Calvary

THE RESURRECTION, to receive the JOY of the NEW LIFE Christ offers us, and the mission to be his witnesses today.

