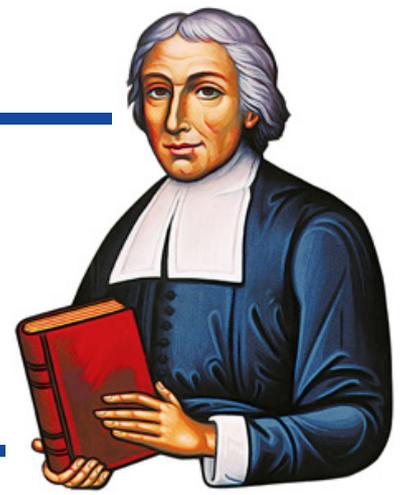

LASALLIAN

VOCATIONS PRAYER –

D E C E M B E R 2 0 2 0



Introduction Prayer:

Loving God,
Open our hearts to inspire others in the journey of their vocation to serve
and create community.

Through your Holy Spirit, help us encounter you as our risen Lord
in all your beauty and in all your loving grace this day.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Reading Luke 24: 13-25

Emmaus

Now that very day two of them were going to a village seven miles* from
Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things
that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and
debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes
were prevented from recognizing him.

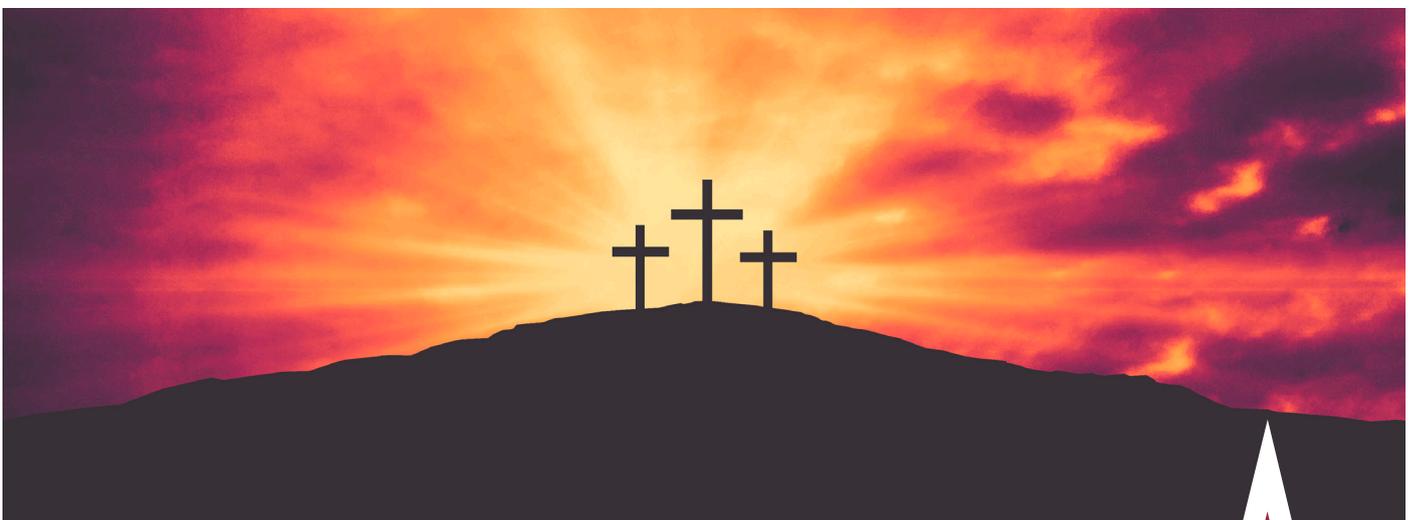
He asked them, “What are you discussing as you walk along?” They
stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in
reply, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the
things that have taken place there in these days? And he replied to them,



“What sort of things?” They said to him, “The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see. And he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke. Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter his glory? Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures.

As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.

“So, he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning [within us] while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?”



So, they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Journey song – play song or read silently

The Long and Winding Road

Lyrics from The Beatles

The long and winding road
That leads to your door
Will never disappear
I've seen that road before
It always leads me here
Lead me to your door
The wild and windy night
That the rain washed away
Has left a pool of tears
Crying for the day
Why leave me standing here?
Let me know the way
Many times, I've been alone
And many times I've cried



Anyway, you'll never know
The many ways I've tried
And still they lead me back
To the long winding road
You left me standing here
A long, long time ago
Don't leave me waiting here
Lead me to your door
But still they lead me back
To the long winding road
You left me standing here
A long, long time ago
Don't keep me waiting here
Lead me to your door

Poem: The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveller, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,



And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less travelled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Reflection Questions

What has inspired you from the Gospel, song or poem reading offered?

Are you on an Emmaus journey with anyone at present?

Do you recognise the gifts in others and invite them to share in mission together?

Are your hearts burning to share the Gospel with others today through your actions?



Prayers and Intercessions

Response: Lord hear our prayer

We pray in thanksgiving for all those all who dedicate their lives to serving the poor, the lost and the least. **Let us pray to the Lord - (R)**

We pray for teachers, staff and families in Lasallian schools and networks. May they continue to inspire young people with a passion to serve those in need. **Let us pray to the Lord - (R)**

We pray for vocations to all forms within the Lasallian mission and the Church. May they be supported and encouraged in discerning their place in the world. **We pray to the Lord (R)**

We pray that we may be instruments of peace, hope and joy as we journey together with the spirit of faith and zeal to touch hearts and transform lives. **We pray to the Lord - (R)**

- And for whom and for what else shall we pray

Our Father or Hail Mary



Closing prayer (prayer leader to read first)

Prayer attributed to the words of Archbishop Oscar Romero:

“It helps now and then to step back and take the long view. The reign of God is not only beyond our efforts. It is beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying the reign of God always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayers fully express our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the church’s mission. We cannot do everything but there is a sense of liberation in realizing that, because this enables us to do something and do it well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God’s grace to enter and do the rest.”

Prayer Together

In your providence, Lord God, you chose St John Baptist to educate the young in Christian faith. Raise up, Lord, in the Church of today educators who will devote themselves wholeheartedly to the human and Christian education of young people. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**St John Baptist de La Salle – Pray for us
Live Jesus in our Hearts – forever!**

