

ONE HEART ★ ONE COMMITMENT ★ ONE LIFE

Year of Lasallian Vocations



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

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our call to respond to the reality and needs of young people today and renew our commitment to our mission, charism, and founding story. May each of us live out our Lasallian vocations as we embrace the charism and the Mission of St. John Baptist De La Salle. As Lasallians, Brothers, lay partners, young people, we walk together seeking those most in need of Your grace and mercy. We recognize You in the young people and our peers in our educational and other ministries. Continue to lead and empower us and help us to remember what De La Salle said, "The work is Yours."



Janet Brooks-Gerloff

"The disciples are on their way to Emmaus, which could represent any place in the world, even - why not? - your own heart."

- Lasallian Reflection #4

SACRED SCRIPTURE: Luke 24:13-35

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 into 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.



REFLECTION *for personal reflection or communal sharing*

What does this passage teach us about social justice and walking with those who are poor?

How does Jesus manifest himself as a quality educator in this passage?

At what point does Jesus form community with Cleopas and his friend?

How does Jesus show respect for the two disciples who are discouraged?

How is God's presence seen in this passage?

INTERCESSIONS

For all in our Lasallian Family, that they will have open eyes to see Christ in everyone.
Touch our hearts, Lord, and set them aflame with love of You.

For our Church, that it will inspire all to recognize the presence of God in their lives.
Touch our hearts, Lord, and set them aflame with love of You.

For ourselves, that we will touch hearts and allow our own hearts to be inflamed.
Touch our hearts, Lord, and set them aflame with love of You.

For those who are poor, neglected, vulnerable, that we might respond to their need.
Touch our hearts, Lord, and set them aflame with love of You.

For our own intentions which we now voice aloud. (pause for a time to voice aloud)
Touch our hearts, Lord, and set them aflame with love of You.

For all the deceased, our family, friends, Lasallians, Brothers and Partners, whose lives continue to inspire us today.
Touch our hearts, Lord, and set them aflame with love of You.

CLOSING PRAYER

O God, who chose Saint John Baptist de La Salle to educate young Christians, raise up, we pray, teachers and servants in Your Church, ready to devote themselves wholeheartedly to the human and Christian formation of others.

We ask this through Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever.

Amen.

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



This prayer was created by the Regional Vocation Formation Committee to be shared with ministries and communities during the Year of Lasallian Vocations.

It is the second of three prayer services to be shared focusing on the three themes of the Year of Lasallian Vocations.