

5 TO 11 MAY 2025
WEEK

OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS.



PILGRIMS OF HOPE



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALLER VOCATIONS

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

INTRODUCTION

We, the Sisters Hospitallers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Hospitaller Brothers of Saint John of God, continue to join forces on this journey in synodality at the service of vocations. 2025 is a new year to be in communion with the Lord and with the people who wish to respond to the Lord's calling by pursuing a specific vocation.

This year has been proclaimed by Pope Francis as a Jubilee or Holy Year; the theme chosen for the Jubilee was "Pilgrims of Hope". This will be a special time to accompany humanity in so many situations of pain that the world is currently experiencing as a result of the crises that have taken place: the pandemic, wars, the effects of climate change, etc. In his Bull *Spes non Confundit* "Hope does not disappoint", Pope Francis invites everyone to be a sign of hope for the weakest, the poor, the incarcerated, the elderly and migrants. This Holy Year is a time to bring hope where there is no future, where strength is exhausted and life loses its meaning.

As we do every year, the Vocations Promotion and Formation Commissions of the Sisters and Brothers presented the prayer for hospitaller vocations document as a tool for all the communities to come together in prayer and ask the Lord of the harvest to send more vocations to the Hospitaller mission. The document has a simple structure: an introduction taken from the Pope's Bull; a hospitaller message that connects us with our mission and invites us to pray; a reflection from various formation communities around the world, in which they tell us how they are a sign of hope amid the crises we are experiencing worldwide; a number of daily prayers, and the final prayer, which invites us to ask the Lord that we may all be faithful witnesses of God's mercy and fraternity, and that he may generate vocations in our communities.

2025 is a special year for us to be attuned to all the emerging needs in our world, a year for us to walk together, to join forces and respond to so many situations of pain, but it is also a year to ask the Lord for vocations to hospitality. We invite you to pray with this document in communities and apostolic centers.

**General Vocations Promotion and Formation Commission
Sisters Hospitallers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Hospitaller Brothers of Saint John of God.**



"SIGNS OF HOPE"

MONDAY 05

Monition

"Since we are justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing in the glory of God . . . Hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (Rom 5:1-2.5). That life becomes manifest in our own life of faith, which begins with Baptism, develops in openness to God's grace and is enlivened by a hope constantly renewed and confirmed by the working of the Holy Spirit.

By his perennial presence in the life of the pilgrim Church, the Holy Spirit illumines all believers with the light of hope. He keeps that light burning, like an ever-burning lamp, to sustain and invigorate our lives. Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love: "Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril or the sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:35.37-39). Here we see the reason why this hope perseveres in the midst of trials: founded on faith and nurtured by charity, it enables us to press forward in life. As Saint Augustine observes: "Whatever our state of life, we cannot live without these three dispositions of the soul, namely, to believe, to hope and to love".

Spes non Confundit Bull of indiction of the ordinary jubilee of the year 2025.

Hospitaller Message

When we examine our lives and the countless blessings we received and how fragile we are, we see that we can do nothing but acknowledge God's goodness; only His infinite Clemency and Mercy is the foundation of all our hope and our joy. Because He delights in favouring those who realize their poverty, their wretchedness, their unworthiness, and so do not rest or trust in themselves, but all their support is in God.

(St Benito Menni, C. 232).



Reflection

On May 9, 2024, Pope Francis issued *Spes Non Confundit*, the bull of indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025. The Pope begins by emphasizing that “HOPE” dwells in the heart of every person. It represents a longing and anticipation of good things to come, even when the future remains uncertain.

When I was young, I too hoped to be successful in life, to be a nurse or a doctor, to have a good life. But when I answered God’s call to become a Hospitaller brother, everything changed. Through my formation here in the Philippines, I came to understand that hope is not selfish, but selfless. I believe that hope should always take into account the goodness of others. Through the life and teachings of our Founder, I have come to understand that I want

to dedicate my life to caring for the sick and the needy. My mission is to bring the hope of good health and peace to those who are sick and suffering.

This message of hope from Pope Francis gives me courage to continue my vocation and trust in the Lord. I am fortunate to understand the true meaning of hope, I have entrusted myself completely to God’s loving plan. May Jesus, the source of all hope, continue to set my heart ablaze so that I may live a life of hope and maintain it every day. May this HOPE that I have found be a constant guide in my daily life as a Brother of St. John of God.

(Novitiate in the Philippines - Hospitaller Brothers).

Prayers of the Day

1. Lord Jesus, in your shepherd’s love, continually rekindle the hope of our vocations in our own unworthiness. Help us to keep that flame burning. Show us your eternal hope in this ever-changing humanity.

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord.

2. Mary, Mother of God, guardian of holy vocations, accompany us on our journey to your Son. As we follow in the footsteps of hospitality, giving hope to the hopeless on the journey of life. May this year of Hope be a beacon for us to renew our vocation and to live our lives faithfully as true Christians.

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord.



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALLER VOCATIONS

Prayer for Vocations.

Father of mercy,
you gave your Son for our salvation
and you continually sustain us with the gifts of your Spirit,
grant us in this Jubilee Year
Christian communities that are alive, joyful and full of hope,
that are sources of fraternal life and that awaken in young people
the wish to devote themselves to You and to the proclamation of the Gospel.

Support them in their efforts to offer young people
an adequate vocational catechesis and paths of special consecration.
Give them wisdom for the necessary discernment of vocations
so that the greatness of your merciful love may shine through in everything.

May Mary, Mother of Hope,
intercede for all hospitaller communities,
May our witness of life awaken in young people
the courage to live passionately for God and for
people in need. Amen



(Novitiate in the Philippines - Hospitaller Brothers).



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALLER VOCATIONS

HOPE, A CRY OF FREEDOM FOR PRISONERS

TUESDAY 06

Monition

The freedom (...) This is an ancient appeal, one drawn from the word of God, whose wisdom remains ever timely. It calls for acts of clemency and liberation that enable new beginnings: "You shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants" (Lev 25:10). This institution of the Mosaic law was later taken up by the prophet Isaiah: "The Lord has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour" (Is 61:1-2). Jesus made those words his own at the beginning of his ministry, presenting himself as the fulfilment of the "year of the Lord's favour" (cf. Lk 4:18-19). In every part of the world, believers, and their Pastors in particular, should be one in demanding dignified conditions for those in prison, respect for their human rights and above all the abolition of the death penalty, a provision at odds with Christian faith and one that eliminates all hope of forgiveness and rehabilitation. In order to offer prisoners a concrete sign of closeness, I would myself like to open a Holy Door in a prison, as a sign inviting prisoners to look to the future with hope and a renewed sense of confidence.

Spes non confundit Bull of indiction of the ordinary jubilee of the year 2025.

Hospitaller Message

The call to follow Jesus impels us. The needs of others urge and challenge us. Though we are weak we live to help, support, comfort, heal, sympathize and love. Our works are here, along with the great multitude of wretched and sick persons, the poorest of the poor, who not only take up our time and benefit from our attention and care, but whom we consider to be our neighbors, our brothers and sisters... we are part of a Samaritan Church.

(Sister Teresa López Beorlegui, Cong. no. 22/99).



Reflection

Our novitiate is in Yaoundé, the capital of Cameroon. Every Sunday we visit the city prison, which houses both men and women inmates. It is a powerful moment, full of emotion, because the wretchedness, injustice and abuse there touch us deeply. People are treated without dignity! We feel sadness, but also compassion and joy in reaching out to the inmates because our presence reassures and comforts them. They express the joy of sharing their experiences, and we dedicate our time to listening to them, encouraging them to live in faith, trusting in God who cares and loves us all. We also share meals and medicine with them and the celebration of the Eucharist. This space, where we encounter the pain of these individuals, enables us to experience God's mercy in our daily lives, where we discover his presence. He is there to accompany, heal, restore, lift and comfort us in times in which we feel most fragile. This experience makes us attentive and sensitive to the needs of our brothers and sisters

(Novitiate in Africa - Hospitaller Sisters).

**Prayers of the Day**

1. Merciful Father, you have come to bring us joy, peace, healing and freedom; we entrust to your compassionate heart all our brothers and sisters who have been deprived of their freedom. May this Jubilee Year be for each one of them a time of hope that will help them to grow in trust and in the joy of life.

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord

2. Following the example of St. John of God and St. Benedict Menni, faithful followers of Jesus in the madness of the cross, may we young people respond to the Lord's call with generosity, courage and fidelity

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALLER VOCATIONS

Prayer for Vocations.

Father of mercy,
you gave your Son for our salvation
and you continually sustain us with the gifts of your Spirit,
grant us in this Jubilee Year
Christian communities that are alive, joyful and full of hope,
that are sources of fraternal life and that awaken in young people
the wish to devote themselves to You and to the proclamation of the Gospel.

Support them in their efforts to offer young people
an adequate vocational catechesis and paths of special consecration.
Give them wisdom for the necessary discernment of vocations
so that the greatness of your merciful love may shine through in everything.

May Mary, Mother of Hope,
intercede for all hospitaller communities,
May our witness of life awaken in young people
the courage to live passionately for God and for
people in need. Amen



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS

HOPE, A BETTER FUTURE FOR MIGRANTS.

WEDNESDAY 07

Monition

Signs of hope should also be shown to the sick, at home or in hospital. Their sufferings can be allayed by the closeness and affection of those who visit them. Works of mercy are also works of hope that give rise to immense gratitude. Gratitude should likewise be shown to all those healthcare workers who, often in precarious conditions, carry out their mission with constant care and concern for the sick and for those who are most vulnerable.

Inclusive attention should also be given to all those in particularly difficult situations, who experience their own weaknesses and limitations, especially those affected by illnesses or disabilities that severely restrict their personal independence and freedom. Care given to them is a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope that calls for the choral participation of society as a whole.

Spes non Confundit Bull of indiction of the ordinary jubilee of the year 2025.

Hospitaller Message

"It broke my heart to see them so poor and so mistreated" (1st D 155)

John did not have the resources to open a hospital and take in the sick. But charity moved him to do something for them and he opened his first center. Charity does not allow questions like, "Where, how, when, with what?" John came to Granada, he saw the sick and the poor abandoned in the streets and he found refuge for them in the hospital. Since then, his work has continued throughout history and will continue as long as his children are truly his children.

(OH Formation Plan 1985)

Reflection

In no. 11, the Bull Spes Non Confundit invites us to be signs of hope to the sick. Through our closeness, our example, the holistic care that we offer to those who suffer, we send signs of hope to the many young people who live in a state of numbness and to those who are searching. The Bull states that, "care given to them (those who are in particularly difficult situations) is a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope that calls for the choral participation of society as a whole".

To sing, one must be in tune, one must open the door of one's heart to let others in and participate. It is also through this closeness that we are signs of hope to our brothers and sisters in the community, especially to those who suffer, "doing good and doing it well," following the example of our Founders.

(Novitiate in Europe –Hospitaler Brothers)



JUBILEE 2025



PILGRIMS OF HOPE



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS

Prayers of the Day

1. May we, Brothers and Sisters in Hospitality, be "Signs of Hope" to the sick that we care for in our centers. May we raise our coworkers' awareness to the need to be close to the sick in their suffering and alleviate their pain with a professional attitude and love

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord

2. May we increasingly strive to find ways to alleviate the pain of persons suffering from serious illnesses, while respecting human dignity and guaranteeing the necessary care

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord

Prayer for Vocations.

Father of mercy,
you gave your Son for our salvation
and you continually sustain us with the gifts of your Spirit,
grant us in this Jubilee Year
Christian communities that are alive, joyful and full of hope,
that are sources of fraternal life and that awaken in young people
the wish to devote themselves to You and to the proclamation of the Gospel.

Support them in their efforts to offer young people
an adequate vocational catechesis and paths of special consecration.
Give them wisdom for the necessary discernment of vocations
so that the greatness of your merciful love may shine through in everything.

May Mary, Mother of Hope,
intercede for all hospitaler communities,
May our witness of life awaken in young people
the courage to live passionately for God and for
people in need. Amen



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALLER VOCATIONS

HOPE, A DREAM FOR THE YOUNG

THURSDAY 08

Monition.

Signs of hope are also needed by those who are the very embodiment of hope, namely, the young. Sadly, they often see their dreams and aspirations frustrated. We must not disappoint them, for the future depends on their enthusiasm. It is gratifying to see the energy they demonstrate, for example, by rolling up their sleeves and volunteering to help when disasters strike and people are in need. Yet it is sad to see young people who are without hope, who face an uncertain and unpromising future, who lack employment or job security, or realistic prospects after finishing school. Without the hope that their dreams can come true, they will inevitably grow discouraged and listless. Escaping into drugs, risk-taking and the pursuit of momentary pleasure does greater harm to them in particular, since it closes them to life's beauty and richness, and can lead to depression and even self-destructive actions. For this reason, the Jubilee should inspire the Church to make greater efforts to reach out to them. With renewed passion, let us demonstrate care and concern for adolescents, students and young couples, the rising generation. Let us draw close to the young, for they are the joy and hope of the Church and of the world

Spes non Confundit Bull of indiction of the ordinary jubilee of the year 2025.

Hospitaller Message

In his closeness to young people, Pope Francis invites them to face the future with a smile of hope. Indeed, he says to them, "Do not stop smiling! You, young people, are the majority of the earth's population, and your presence fills the earth with life, hope and future. Don't lose the enthusiasm of faith". It is an open invitation to continue the mission bequeathed to us by our founders, St. John of God and St. Benedict Menni. With their eyes fixed on heaven as they entrusted their lives to the Heavenly Father, they left in the hands of those of us who follow their charism hope for all who are the very raison d'être of hospitality. During this week of prayer for hospitaller vocations, we continue to ask God to send us good Samaritans, men and women willing to be a sign of hope for all, for the poor and needy

(Vocations Promotion, Latin American and Caribbean Province of the Hospitaller Brothers of Saint John of God.





Reflection

Our vocation to hospitality is a sign of hope for our sisters and brothers in the community, when we express our faith with gestures and words of closeness, joy and charity, and live fraternal love deeply in an intercultural way, fostering the union of hearts.

In living our vocation of charity, serving gratuitously those who suffer, we awaken in the hearts of young people the joy of the encounter with the merciful Christ and the enthusiasm of helping the most vulnerable. Thus, indifference is transformed into sensitivity and care for others.

We open our doors to welcome, listen to and accompany the dreams of young people in the building of a new humanity. We spread hope when we collaborate with tenderness to encourage, strengthen and care for those who have lost the joy of living, valuing their dignity and fostering the experience of feeling loved by GOD so that they may find meaning in their lives

(International Novitiate of Condeixa- Portugal - Hospitaller Sisters).

Prayers of the Day

1. For adolescents, students and all those who feel called to follow Jesus according to the different vocations, may hope encourage them to respond to his call and may we know how to keep the flame of joy burning in our discernment process and spread the seeds of hospitality throughout the world.

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord

2. For young people who are “falling apart” in life and in society, especially the unemployed, those who lack the necessities of life, those suffering from addictions, those trapped in prostitution and those involved in acts of violence; that they may find generous and compassionate hearts to lead them out of despair, guide them towards conversion and encourage them on a path of hope.

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS

Prayer for Vocations.

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you gave your Son for our salvation
and you continually sustain us with the gifts of your Spirit,
grant us in this Jubilee Year
Christian communities that are alive, joyful and full of hope,
that are sources of fraternal life and that awaken in young people
the wish to devote themselves to You and to the proclamation of the Gospel.

Support them in their efforts to offer young people
an adequate vocational catechesis and paths of special consecration.
Give them wisdom for the necessary discernment of vocations
so that the greatness of your merciful love may shine through in everything.

May Mary, Mother of Hope,
intercede for all hospitaller communities,
May our witness of life awaken in young people
the courage to live passionately for God and for
people in need. Amen



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS

HOPE, A BETTER FUTURE FOR MIGRANTS.

FRIDAY 09

Monition

Signs of hope should also be present for migrants who leave their homelands behind in search of a better life for themselves and for their families. Their expectations must not be frustrated by prejudice and rejection. A spirit of welcome, which embraces everyone with respect for his or her dignity, should be accompanied by a sense of responsibility, lest anyone be denied the right to a dignified existence. Exiles, displaced persons and refugees, whom international tensions force to emigrate in order to avoid war, violence and discrimination, ought to be guaranteed security and access to employment and education, the means they need to find their place in a new social context.

May the Christian community always be prepared to defend the rights of those who are most vulnerable, opening wide its doors to welcome them, lest anyone ever be robbed of the hope of a better future. May the Lord's words in the great parable of the Last Judgement always find an echo in our hearts: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" for "just as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me" (Mt 25:35.40).

Spes non Confundit Bull of indiction of the ordinary jubilee of the year 2025

Hospitaller Message

... There are always many needs, even where there seem to be better living conditions: poverty, illnesses of all kinds, loneliness, exclusion and marginalization, slavery and lack of freedom, hunger and so many others. All of us who belong to the Family of St. John of God are being sent there. We are called to leave our comfort zone promptly, hastily and creatively in order to help and assist those in need and, as St. John of God said, for Jesus Christ alone. (cf. 2GL 7)

Premurosi nell'ospitalità" (Practice hospitality) - Extract from the Letter of Br. Jesús Estayo, OH. Superior General on 08/03/2024.



Reflection

Our hospitaller vocation, whose charism is “hospitality”, incarnates and continues to present the compassionate and merciful Christ to the world. This beautiful vocation is the sign of a better future, which gives hope to the men and women of today and of the future.

Our hospitaller vocation is above all a sign of hope for the brothers of the community. Each brother who is welcomed feels part of the community and of the great hospitaller family. In fact, our witness is expressed through mutual acceptance in cultural diversity. The unity of this diversity is based on true love, which is a sign of hope. The way in which we look after one another every day, especially in moments of joy and sorrow, mutual respect and a growing sense of belonging are strong signs of a better future for our religious communities.

Furthermore, in the African context, populations are confronted with the realities of war, jihadism, and socio-economic as well as political crises. These instabilities force thousands of young people to emigrate, and our vocation as a hospitaller community is to provide them with shelter, medical care, psychological support and adequate resources to rebuild their lives. It also promotes human dignity, justice and universal fraternity.

(Novitiate in Africa - Hospitaller Brothers)

**Prayers of the Day**

1. Lord, we entrust to you our migrant brothers and sisters, especially those from Africa who are fleeing war, jihadism, and socio-economic as well as political crises. Through the call to hospitality, may they find places of welcome where their dignity is restored, their wounds are healed and their hope is rekindled.

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord

2. Lord, we entrust to you the legislative power of our countries. Give them the wisdom and courage to enact laws in favor of immigrants in their host countries.

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord

JUBILEE 2025



PILGRIMS OF HOPE

ORDINE OSPEDALIERO di
SAN GIOVANNI DI DIO

Hermanas
Hospitalarias



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS

Prayer for Vocations.

Father of mercy,
you gave your Son for our salvation
and you continually sustain us with the gifts of your Spirit,
grant us in this Jubilee Year
Christian communities that are alive, joyful and full of hope,
that are sources of fraternal life and that awaken in young people
the wish to devote themselves to You and to the proclamation of the Gospel.

Support them in their efforts to offer young people
an adequate vocational catechesis and paths of special consecration.
Give them wisdom for the necessary discernment of vocations
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intercede for all hospitaler communities,
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HOPE, UNDERSTANDING FOR THE ELDERLY

SATURDAY 10

Monition

The elderly, who frequently feel lonely and abandoned, also deserve signs of hope. Esteem for the treasure that they are, their life experiences, their accumulated wisdom and the contribution that they can still make, is incumbent on the Christian community and civil society, which are called to cooperate in strengthening the covenant between generations.

Here I would also mention grandparents, who represent the passing on of faith and wisdom to the younger generation. May they find support in the gratitude of their children and the love of their grandchildren, who discover in them their roots and a source of understanding and encouragement

Spes non Confundit Bull of indiction of the ordinary jubilee of the year 2025.

Hospitaller Message.

"We should not view the stay of an old person in a House managed by the Order as a solution to a housing problema alone, but it must be fully imbued watt its charismatic meaning and sense. This means that we must appreciate the "third age", which must not be masked by the illusion of some eternal youth, but experienced as a specific and different age in life, with all its riches and problems, the same as every other stage in life"

((Charter of Hospitality of the Hospitaller Order of Saint John of God No. 5.2.7.7.))



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS

Reflection

In Vietnam, respect for the elderly is a value that is equivalent to appreciation and gratitude. The elderly represent precious treasures and wisdom, they are always ready to offer their children and grandchildren deep experiences of faith, sacrifice and generosity. They irradiate warmth, affection, support and peace within their families. I don't know what life would be like for us young people without our grandparents. They carried out a fundamental mission in our vocational processes. Didn't we learn our first prayers from them? Didn't they teach us the first lessons of hope and serenity when we encountered difficulties and had to fight for family unity? Today's young people are invited to appreciate the wisdom and experience of the elderly and to be there for them when they experience loneliness or abandonment



(Novitiate of Vietnam - Hospitaller Sisters)

Prayers of the Day

1. "Gray hair is the splendor of the old (Proverbs 20:29b). May the elderly be blessed with wisdom and health, so that they may continue to dream and tell their children and grandchildren about God's love. May God support them in their weakness and may He help them experience with joy and hope every moment of their lives until the end.

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord

2. As young people, let us help promote a culture of unconditional respect for the elderly. Let us not allow them to be discarded. They offer the present a past that is necessary to build the future; may they find in us understanding, gratitude and a listening ear

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS

Prayer for Vocations.

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grant us in this Jubilee Year
Christian communities that are alive, joyful and full of hope,
that are sources of fraternal life and that awaken in young people
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Support them in their efforts to offer young people
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Give them wisdom for the necessary discernment of vocations
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May Mary, Mother of Hope,
intercede for all hospitaller communities,
May our witness of life awaken in young people
the courage to live passionately for God and for
people in need. Amen



HOPE, A DIGNIFIED LIFE FOR THE POOR.

SUNDAY 11

Monition

I ask with all my heart that hope be granted to the billions of the poor, who often lack the essentials of life. Before the constant tide of new forms of impoverishment, we can easily grow inured and resigned. Yet we must not close our eyes to the dramatic situations that we now encounter all around us, not only in certain parts of the world. Each day we meet people who are poor or impoverished; they may even be our next-door neighbours. Often they are homeless or lack sufficient food for the day. They suffer from exclusion and indifference on the part of many. It is scandalous that in a world possessed of immense resources, destined largely to producing weapons, the poor continue to be "the majority of the planet's population, billions of people. These days they are mentioned in international political and economic discussions, but one often has the impression that their problems are brought up as an afterthought, a question which gets added almost out of duty or in a tangential way, if not treated merely as collateral damage. Indeed, when all is said and done, they frequently remain at the bottom of the pile". Let us not forget: the poor are almost always the victims, not the ones to blame.

Echoing the age-old message of the prophets, the Jubilee reminds us that the goods of the earth are not destined for a privileged few, but for everyone. The rich must be generous and not avert their eyes from the faces of their brothers and sisters in need. Here I think especially of those who lack water and food: hunger is a scandal, an open wound on the body of our humanity, and it summons all of us to a serious examination of conscience.

Spes non Confundit Bull of indiction of the ordinary jubilee of the year 2025.

Hospitaller Message

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and of our Lady, the Virgin Mary, the ever-virgin, God before all things in the world, Amen Jesus. God save you, my brother in Jesus Christ, dearly beloved in Jesus Christ. I am writing to let you know how passionate I am and how much I need to thank our Lord Jesus Christ for all of this. For you must know, my most beloved and dear brother in Jesus Christ, that there are so many poor people who come here that I myself am often amazed at how they can sustain themselves; but Jesus Christ takes care of everything and feeds them. Firewood alone costs seven or eight reales a day, because the city is large and very cold, especially now in winter, many poor people come to this House of God. Between all of us, sick and healthy, staff and pilgrims, there are more than one hundred and ten here.

(Second Letter of Gutiérrez Lasso).



Reflection

In chapter 8, the Gospel of Mark tells us that Jesus had compassion on those who had nothing to eat (v. 2). At the same time, it shows how the sharing of bread on that occasion became a cause of confusion and division (v. 14-18). The same thing is happening with the poor in today's world. Many develop models of care and collaboration that unfortunately remain dead letter. Others debate the relevance and cost of their implementation. Others yet take it upon themselves to make their presence felt with simple gestures, such as a smile, which show that there is still hope, even in the midst of difficulties and hardship. The community of the Novitiate of Saint Richard Pampuri strives to live out the two-fold dimension of Christian spirituality: "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15). For decades, the Saint Benedict Menni Center in Soacha, Cundinamarca, has been a visible and effective presence in the face of exclusion and indifference toward the most vulnerable.

We grow together (patients and brothers) to avoid hypocrisy, legalism and superficiality (the leaven of the Pharisees. v. 15), which also impoverish the spirit. To be signs of hope involves having solidarity for one's own shortcomings. That is why we are concerned about material and spiritual poverty, responding to the Lord's constant call not to be indifferent to suffering. Encouraging and nourishing hope begins with the wonderful gift of genuine joy, and mutual welcome (hospitality) to wounded humanity which is looking for a gaze, a gesture, an embrace; even just a word that can heal it (Mt 8:8) and give it dignity.



(Novitiate in America - Hospitaller Brothers)

Prayers of the Day

1. We ask you, Lord, that our life of faith and your closeness strengthen us so that we may be visible signs of your love in the world every day, sharing a gaze, a gesture, an embrace, a word that can heal and dignify our suffering brothers and sisters

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord.

2. We place before you the fragility of the world so that you may transform it into strength, and that you may transform sadness into joy. May sharing your table today help us to be visible signs that show the value of your presence in solitude and poverty

Let us pray to the Lord R/ We ask this of you, O Lord.



OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALER VOCATIONS

Prayer for Vocations.

Father of mercy,
you gave your Son for our salvation
and you continually sustain us with the gifts of your Spirit,
grant us in this Jubilee Year
Christian communities that are alive, joyful and full of hope,
that are sources of fraternal life and that awaken in young people
the wish to devote themselves to You and to the proclamation of the Gospel.

Support them in their efforts to offer young people
an adequate vocational catechesis and paths of special consecration.
Give them wisdom for the necessary discernment of vocations
so that the greatness of your merciful love may shine through in everything.

May Mary, Mother of Hope,
intercede for all hospitaller communities,
May our witness of life awaken in young people
the courage to live passionately for God and for
people in need. Amen



JUBILEE 2025



PILGRIMS OF HOPE

ORDINE OSPEDALIERO di
SAN GIOVANNI DI DIO

Hermanas
Hospitalarias

