



Fondazione Azione Cattolica Scuola di Santità  
 Fundación Acción Católica Escuela de Santidad  
 Foundation Catholic Action School of Sanctity  
 Pío XI

IN PREPARATION FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> OF NOVEMBER ALL SAINTS' DAY  
 REFLECTION | TESTIMONIES | PRAYER

*Do not be afraid of holiness ... Do not be afraid to set your sights higher*

*Gaudete et Exultate 32.34*

Friday, 30 October 2020 - online for 1h



**"Do not be afraid of holiness ... Do not be afraid to aim higher".**

*Gaudete et exultate 32.34*

## Final Prayer

### INTRODUCTION

P. In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

May the Lord who calls all of us to holiness be with you all.

**And with your spirit.**

P. This evening, we are gathered together to contemplate the face of holiness. Our eyes are turned towards Christ and even now we can contemplate the splendor of Love born from the holiness of his heart. In this prayer, we wish to ask the Lord for the strength to respond to this call: "To be holy, as He is holy". Let us surrender ourselves into His hands, let us detach ourselves from all the anxieties or thoughts that may hinder this moment of prayer and let us open ourselves to listening to His Word.

### LISTENING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Reader

Psalm 99 (98)

The LORD reigns,  
 let the nations tremble;  
 he sits enthroned between the cherubim,  
 let the earth shake.

<sup>2</sup> Great is the LORD in Zion;  
 he is exalted over all the nations.

<sup>3</sup> Let them praise your great and awesome name—  
 he is holy.

<sup>4</sup> The King is mighty, he loves justice—  
 you have established equity;  
 in Jacob you have done  
 what is just and right.

<sup>5</sup> Exalt the LORD our God  
and worship at his footstool;  
he is holy.

<sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron were among his priests,  
Samuel was among those who called on his name;  
they called on the LORD  
and he answered them.

<sup>7</sup> He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud;  
they kept his statutes and the decrees he gave them.

<sup>8</sup> LORD our God,  
you answered them;  
you were to Israel a forgiving God,  
though you punished their misdeeds.

<sup>9</sup> Exalt the LORD our God  
and worship at his holy mountain,  
for the LORD our God is holy.

### **Reader**

From the Gospel according to Matthew (5,44-48)

44 But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you,

45 that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

46 For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors<sup>\*</sup> do the same?

47 And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same?<sup>\*</sup>

48 So be perfect,<sup>\*</sup> just as your heavenly Father is perfect.<sup>d</sup>

### **Reflection on the Gospel according to Matthew 5:43-48**

Lord Jesus calls us to live children of the Father in heaven. He reaches the climax of his important teaching. He puts before us, not only the example of the Good Samaritan urging us to love our neighbour. Now, the Lord Jesus challenges us to follow, what many of us would think, is the most difficult ideal: to love our enemies. Are we really convinced that we have accepted to love our enemies? When the pandemic Covid-19 began to spread in India, the government declared a national emergency. A lockdown was in place throughout the country. There were many migrants in my diocese because they came to work in our cities as unorganized labourers;

they earned their daily wages and survived. Beset by the fear, they desperately wanted to return to their home as they would not find food and were afraid to continue to live in shanty places, too dangerous to live there during this dreadful pandemic. But, there was no public transport as the lockdown was in place; they did not have money to pay to private means of transport. We had to feed them and help them get back to their families. When I began to organize this help, some of our faithful were displeased and wondered why we should help those outside of our religious community, those with different culture, from different state. I reminded the faithful of the scope of the love that Jesus emphatically taught and expected of us, Christians: "I tell you, love your enemies..."

The Old Testament text restricted love of neighbour to the fellow Israelite (*Lev. 19:17*). Lord Jesus allows no such restriction. Our love must extend to every human being. Our love must be a concern for everyone, the love issued from and which images God's love, *agape*. It is God's all embracing love and excludes no one. St Catherine of Siena used to say, "When God loves, God loves nobody else".

Not only are we called to love our enemy but let us be an example to everyone else of this great command of Lord Jesus. Our world needs today this powerful example of love the most. Our love must be universal and undistracted as Our Holy Father tells us in *Fratelli Tutti*. If we are convinced that God loves us, then this love must transform us, making us increasingly like God.

+ Archbishop Felix Machado, Vasai, India.

## INVOCATIONS

P. Let us ask God, through the intercession of Mary and all the saints, for the gift of fidelity to our vocation, with openness of heart and availability to the voice of the Lord:

1. We are not able to accept your Word with an open and willing heart, but we wish to do so in order to let ourselves be guided every day. Open our hearts, Jesus, so that in union with you we may receive your gifts and enjoy your love.
2. Many times we fear that holiness is not within our reach, but you continue to show us a great horizon that is for all. Open our minds, Jesus, so that we can understand that life is a wonderful adventure if lived at your side.
3. In our daily life, we are taken by worries about our different work and study commitments, without looking around and thinking that right here we are called to fulfil ourselves according to your love. Open our eyes, Jesus, so that we can look for our brothers when they are lost and stay by their side in times of difficulty.
4. Sometimes we live our joys without gratitude thinking that everything comes from You and is given to us to be shared. Open our hands, Jesus, that they may overflow with Your grace and through us, Your love may reach every man.

## Litany of the Saints and the Blessed of Catholic Action

SANTI e SANTE			PAESE
1	Alberto	HURTADO padre gesuita	Cile
	Gianna	BERETTA MOLLA madre medico	Italia
	Guido Maria	CONFORTI vescovo	Italia
	Riccardo	PAMPURI religioso	Italia
	ORATE PRO NOBIS		
2	Martiri messicani		
	Luis (padre)	BATIS SAINZ parroco	Messico
	Salvador (martire)	LARA PUENTE laic	Messico
	Manuel (martire)	MORALES CERVANTES	Messico
	David (martire)	ROLDAN LARA	Messico
2 bis	E José Luis	SANCHEZ DEL RIO	Messico
	ORATE PRO NOBIS		
BEATI e BEATE			
3	Wenceslao	PEDERNERA	Argentina
	Ivan	MERZ	Croazia
	Marcel	CALLO	Francia
	Luigi e Maria	BELTRAME QUATTROCCHI	Italia
	Maria	BOLOGNESI	Italia
	don Francesco Giovanni	BONIFACIO	Italia
	Luigi Andrea	BORDINO	Italia
	Cecilia	EUSEPI	Italia
	Andrea Carlo (Mons.)	FERRARI	Italia
	Odoardo	FOCHERINI	Italia
		ORATE PRO NOBIS	
4	Pier Giorgio	FRASSATI	Italia
	Timoteo (padre)	GIACCARDO	Italia
	Alberto	MARVELLI	Italia
	Josef	MAYR NUSSER	Italia
	Itala	MELA	Italia
	Antonia	MESINA	Italia
	Pierina	MOROSINI	Italia
	Teresio	OLIVELLI	Italia
	Bruna (suor)	PELLESI	Italia
	Francesco	PIANZOLA	Italia
		ORATE PRO NOBIS	
5	Secondo (don)	POLLO	Italia
	Giuseppe (don)	PUGLISI	Italia
	Rolando	RIVI	Italia
	Maria	SAGHEDDU (Suor Gabriella)	Italia
	Pina	SURIANO	Italia

	Giuseppe	TONIOLO	Italia
	Mosè (don)	TOVINI	Italia
	Giuseppe Antonio	TOVINI	Italia
	ORATE PRO NOBIS		
6	José Anacleto e comp.	M.Mx - _GONZALEZ FLORES	Messico
	Miguel	M.Mx - GOMEZ LOZA	Messico
	Luis	M.Mx - MAGANA SERVIN	Messico
	José Dionisio Luis	M.Mx - PADILLA GOMEZ	Messico
	Ramon Vigente	M.Mx - VARGAS GONZALEZ	Messico
	Jorge Ramon	M.Mx - VERGAS GONZALES	Messico
	ORATE PRO NOBIS		
7	Maria Felicia (Chiquitunga)	GUGGIARI ECHEVERRIA	Paraguay
	Stanislaw	STAROWIEYSKY	Polonia
	CARLOS MANUEL CECILIO	RODRÍGUEZ SANTIAGO	Porto Rico
	Anton	DURCOVICI	Romania
	Vladimir	GHICA	Romania
	Alojzij	GROZDE	Slovenia
	don José	APARICIO SANZ e Compagni	Spagna
	Manuel (vescovo)	BASULTO JIMÉNEZ	Spagna
	Luis	CAMPOS GORRIZ	Spagna
	José Maria	CORBIN FERRER	Spagna
	Francisco	DE PAULA CASTELLO Y ALEU	Spagna
	Carlos	DIAZ GANDIA	Spagna
	vicente	GALBIS GIRONÉS	Spagna
	Juan	GONGA MARTÍNEZ	Spagna
	Salvio	HUIX MIRALPEIX	Spagna
	Maria	JORDÁ BOTELLA	Spagna
	ORATE PRO NOBIS		
8	Manuel "Lolo"	LOZANO GARRIDO	Spagna
	Jesus Fr. Y companeros	MartSGD - GESTA DE PIQUER	Spagna
	Josefa	NAVAL GIRBES	Spagna
	Maria del Olvido	NOGUERA ALBELDA	Spagna
	José	PERPIÑA NÁCHER	Spagna
	José Maria	POYATOS RUIZ	Spagna
	Pere	TARRES I CLARET	Spagna
	Vincente	VILAR DAVID	Spagna
	Vilmos	APOR	Ungheria
	ORATE PRO NOBIS		

P. Support, Father, with the strength of your love, our journey towards the one who is the Saint and, following the example of the saints and the blessed of Catholic Action and of the whole Church, may the fruit of faith mature in us and we may welcome with thanksgiving the gospel of joy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who is God, and lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

### Final Blessing