

Vincent de Paul: Importance of Prayer

Call to Prayer Leader: Vincent ends many of his letters asking the recipient to pray for him. He uses phrases such as: “remember me in your prayers” (#76 To the Pastor of Bergeres, page 118, September 2, 1631); “Do not forget us in your prayers” (#103 To Saint Louise, page 155, ~1632); “I recommend myself to your prayers.” (#124 To Francois DuCoudray in Rome, page 176, September 19, 1632) To this end, let us lift one another to God in prayer. (Correspondence Vincent de Paul, Coste, Volume 1)

Leader: O God, come to our assistance;
ALL: O Lord, make haste to help us.
Leader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
ALL: As it was in the beginning, is now and
ever shall be world without end. Amen.

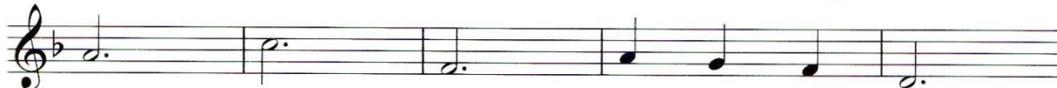


Hymn: “Open My Eyes” by Jesse Manibusan

Vincent DePaul



1. O - pen my eyes, Lord. Help me to
2. O - pen my ears, Lord. Help me to
3. O - pen my heart, Lord. Help me to
4. I live with - in you. Deep in your



see Your face. O - pen my eyes,
hear Your voice. O - pen my ears,
love like You. O - pen my heart,
heart, O Love. I live with - in



Lord. Help me to see.
Lord. Help me to hear.
Lord. Help me to love.
you. Rest now in Me.

Text: Based on Mark 8: 22-25; Jesse Manibusan, b. 1958 Music: Jesse Manibusan, b. 1958 © 1988, Jesse Manibusan. Published by OCP Publications Music used with permission OCP LicenSing Online #612305

Reading: Charity of Women (Châtillon-les-Dombes) November-December 1617
(A different person reads each paragraph, please.)

Meetings: their purpose and the order to be followed during them

“Because it is very useful for all holy communities to come together from time to time ...for discussing the spiritual progress and what concerns the general welfare of the community, the Servants of the Poor will meet every ... month ... for this purpose. ... at a time convenient for them, they will meet ... to listen to a short spiritual exhortation and to discuss matters concerning the welfare of those who are poor and [concerning] the support of the confraternity.

“The order to be followed at the meetings will be to chant the Litany of Our Lord Jesus or the Blessed Virgin ... and then say the prayers that follow. Next, the Pastor or his assistant will give a short exhortation aimed at the spiritual growth of the entire Company and the preservation and progress of the confraternity. ...

“Each time, they will devote half an hour after the exhortation for this meeting.”

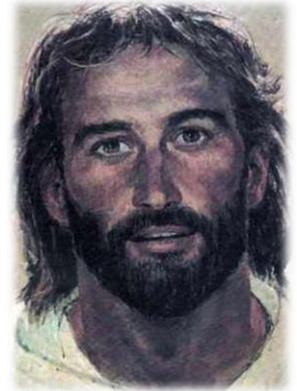
(Documents Vincent de Paul, Coste, Volume 13b, #126, page 15, November-December 1617)

Leader: Let us pray the LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

V. Lord, have mercy on us.
 V. Lord, have mercy on us. Jesus, hear us.
 V. God the Father of Heaven
 V. God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
 V. God the Holy Spirit,
 V. Holy Trinity, one God,
 V. Jesus, Son of the living God,
 Jesus, splendor of the Father ...
 Jesus, our mighty God ...
 Jesus, Son of Mary and Joseph ...
 Jesus, brightness of eternal light ...
 Jesus, King of glory ...
 Jesus, sun of justice...
 Jesus, model of peace ...
 Jesus, most admirable ...
 Jesus, most powerful ...
 Jesus, most patient ...
 Jesus, most obedient.
 Jesus, meek and humble of heart ...
 Jesus, lover of charity ...

R. Christ, have mercy on us.
R. Jesus, graciously hear us.
R. Have mercy on us.
R. Pray for us.

Jesus, friend of us all ...
 Jesus, author of life ...
 Jesus, example of virtues ...
 Jesus, our refuge ...
 Jesus, evangelizer of the persons in poverty...
 Jesus, treasure of the faithful ...
 Jesus, our good Shepherd ...
 Jesus, true light ...
 Jesus, eternal wisdom ...
 Jesus, infinite goodness ...
 Jesus, our way, our truth and our life ...
 Jesus, light of your people ...
 Jesus, zealous lover of souls...



Leader: Let us pray. ALL: Lord Jesus, You said, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you." We beg You to grant us who ask the gift of Your most divine love, that we may love You with our whole heart, in word and deed and never cease praising You. Give us, dear Jesus, lasting devotion and love of Your Holy Name, through You, who live and reign and never fail to govern us with Your abiding love. Amen.

abridged and adapted from <https://www.ewtn.com/faith/teachings/incab3c.htm>

Personal Reflection and Sharing

Which invocation to Jesus (above or my own) is a favorite? Why?
 How is the love of Jesus manifested in my ministry as a Lady of Charity?

Response ALL: "At the name of Jesus ... every tongue proclaim to the glory of God ... JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!"

Philippians 2: 10-11 (New American)

Prayer Leader: "... Ladies, let's thank God for this meeting. Let's ask Him to accept the new offering we're going to make Him ..., by giving ourselves to His Divine Majesty with all our hearts to receive from His infinite goodness the spirit of charity. Let's also ask Him to grant us the grace of corresponding in this spirit to the plans He has for each of us in particular and for the Company in general, and to inspire everywhere this spirit of fervor for the charity of Jesus Christ, in order to merit that He may shed it abundantly on us and, by helping us to produce the effects of it in this world, may make us eternally pleasing to God His Father in the next. **ALL: Amen.**"

Coste, Volume13b, #198, Report on the State of the Works, page 440, July 11, 1657

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Prayer Texts

Matthew 20: 18 "Where two or three are gathered ..., there I am ..."

Philippians 4: 6 "Present your needs to God in ... prayer ..."

prepared for the Ladies of Charity by Sr. Carol Schumer, D.C., September, 2014

