

Prayer: Adore, Welcome, Go January, 2018

Call to Prayer In an address to the Vincentian Family on the 400th anniversary of our charism, Pope Francis encouraged us to continue our journey, offering three verbs which he believes are essential for the Vincentian spirit: adore, welcome, go.¹ As we commence this new year, let's pause, reflect and ponder this invitation.



All: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Reading "To adore." Saint Vincent made countless invitations to cultivate the interior life and dedicate oneself to prayer which purifies and opens the heart. It is the compass for every day; it is like a manual for life; ... Prayer is pausing before God in order to be with him, simply dedicating oneself to him. This is the purest prayer, that which makes space for the Lord and for his praise, and nothing else: adoration. ...

"This is adoration: placing oneself before God, with respect, calmly and in silence, giving the first place to him, abandoning oneself trustingly. Then to ask that his Spirit may come to us and let what is ours go to him. ... One who adores, who takes up the living wellspring of love ... begins to behave with others as the Lord does ... [becoming] more merciful, more understanding, more willing, ... [more] open to others."²

Short Pause for Reflection

Response "O Come, All Ye Faithful" refrain

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O
come, let us a - dore him, Chri



Reading "to welcome." When we hear this word, we immediately think of something to do. But in reality welcoming is a more profound disposition; it requires not only making room for someone, but being a welcoming, available person, accustomed to giving oneself to others. As God does for us, so we do for others. Welcoming means putting things into perspective, setting right my way of thinking ... It is a gradual parting from all that is mine: my time, ... my plans, my agenda. One who welcomes gives up the 'me' and allows 'you' and 'us' to enter life. ... Saint Vincent helps us to appreciate this 'dna' of welcoming, of openness, of communion ...³

Short Pause for Reflection

Response "All Are Welcome" refrain Marty Haugen



All are wel - come, all are wel - come, all are wel - come
1-5. in this place.



Prayer: Adore, Welcome, Go (con't)

Reading "to go. Love is dynamic; it goes forth from itself. One who loves does not sit in an easy chair looking on, waiting for the advent of a better world, but gets up and goes with enthusiasm and simplicity. Saint Vincent said it well, 'our vocation is to go, ... all over the world; and to do what? To set people's hearts on fire, to do what the Son of God did. He came to set the world on fire in order to inflame it with His love.' (Conference, 5/30/1659) This vocation is always valid ... It poses these questions to each of us, "Do I go to encounter others, as the Lord wishes? Do I carry this flame of charity everywhere or do I remain locked in, warming myself at my hearth?"⁴



Short Pause for Reflection

Response "Go Make a Difference" Steve Angrisano, Tom Tomaszek



Refrain

Go make a dif - f'rence. We can make a dif - f'rence. Go make a dif - f'rence in the world. Go make a dif - f'rence. We can make a dif - f'rence. Go make a dif - f'rence in the world.

Reflection and Sharing What in Pope Francis' message touched my experience in service?
What challenges me as I rededicate myself as a Lady of Charity in 2018?

Leader Pope Francis concludes, "I thank you because you are moving along the world's streets, as Saint Vincent would ask of you even today. I hope you ... continue, from adoration, to draw God's love each day and to spread it in the world through the infectious good of charity, of openness, of harmony. I bless you all and the poor whom you encounter."⁵

Prayer (together) St. Vincent, universal patron of all associations and works of charity who, during your life, never rejected anyone. Obtain from God help for those living in poverty, solace for those who are ill, comfort for those in pain, generosity for those who are rich and peace for all our world. May each of us and those we serve experience your compassionate intercession as we seek to nurture hope, joy and fullness of life now and the year to come. We pray this through you, to God, in Jesus' name with the Spirit. Amen.
adapted from Prayer to St. Vincent de Paul, Manual of the Ladies of Charity, page 22

Leader St. Vincent de Paul, **All Pray for us.**

¹⁻⁵ Address of Pope Francis to the Vincentian Family, Saint Peter's square, October 14, 2017
https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2017/october/documents/papa-francesco_20171014_famiglia-vincenziana.html

Prayer Texts

- Luke 1: 46-53 "... holy is his name ..."
- Hebrews 13: 2 "... show hospitality ..."
- Mark 16: 15 "Go ..."