

Chosen by the Spirit to Serve

Call to Prayer: *"Continue to offer God your work and to raise your heart to Him, asking Him to bless you and telling Him that you want to be faithful to Him always."*

St. Vincent De Paul Conferences, volume V, page 160



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

Hymn: *Send Us Your Spirit* David Haas *refrain only*

Musical notation for the hymn "Send Us Your Spirit" by David Haas. The notation is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff is labeled "Refrain" and has a first ending bracket over the final two measures. The second staff has a second ending bracket over the final two measures, which then leads to "to Verses" and "Fine". The lyrics are: "Come Lord Je - sus, send us your Spir - it, re - new the face of the earth. new the face of the earth." The first ending leads to the second ending, and the second ending leads to the verses and fine.

Refrain

1

2

to Verses
3 Fine

Come Lord Je - sus, send us your Spir - it, re - new the face of the earth.
earth. new the face of the earth.

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Quotes from Our Founders: rotate readers, pausing briefly between each.

"I ask Our Lord that this new year may be a happy one for you ... and be followed by many other similar ones that will lead you to God ..." (St. Vincent, Volume VII, page 58)

"I desire all of [you] to be filled with a great love which will immerse [you] so sweetly in God and so charitably in the service of the poor..." (St. Louise, Spiritual Writings, #441, page 75)

"May God be pleased to strengthen you with His grace so that, by sanctifying your soul ..., He will also sanctify, through it, the souls of the people." (St. Vincent, Volume VI, page 257)

"[May God, who] ... has chosen you to assist the poor, preserve you as the apple of His eye." (St. Vincent, Volume VI, page 346)

"Remember ... to serve those who are poor is to go to God and you should see God in them." (St. Vincent, Volume IX, page 4)

"...the harvest is great; the workers are few. Our Lord is relying on you." (Volume IV, page 358)

"People look upon you as servants of God and workers of the Gospel ... good servants and that is why you are esteemed and assisted." (St. Vincent, Volume IV, page 117)

"Continue to offer God your work and to raise your heart to Him, asking Him to bless you and telling Him that you want to be faithful to Him always." (St. Vincent, Volume V, page 160)



Scripture: Gifts of the Spirit

"To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit."

1 Corinthians 12:7

Chosen by the Spirit to Serve (con't)

2

Reading: Being different from your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors in appearance, personality or talents is okay. Saint Paul points out to the believers that the Holy Spirit gives different gifts to different people. The unity of these gifts comes both in their source (God) and their purpose (service). The special talents and abilities God has given to us are to be shared, not compared. Those who recognize and share their gifts with others further the mission of Christ in the world.

adapted from Loyola Press 3-minute retreat, 4/10/19, <https://www.loyolapress.com/retreats/different-gifts>

Reflection and Sharing:

What gifts has God given me for my ministry as a Lady of Charity?

What can I do to help others to appreciate their gifts?



Response -- Intercessions:

Let us pray for one another with these words. **Response: Grace us, O God.**

- ✚ May we look for Christ's presence within our ministry, especially in those persons and places that seem least likely to reveal this unshakable Love...
- ✚ May we give generously and patiently of our time, energy and talents when they are needed and receive graciously the assistance that others offer to us...
- ✚ May we set aside the distractions of endless tasks and duties to listen with generous hearts and minds to those who bring their sorrows and joys to us...
- ✚ May we be clothed in the calmness of Christ and the strength of His kindness, so that anxiety and fear do not hold us back from serving with love...
- ✚ May we walk faith-filled and confident through the emerging undertakings and surprising developments that come our way...
- ✚ May we recognize the blessings of our ministry and pause to give thanks for this bounty, no matter how small or insignificant they might appear...
- ✚ May we remember that our ministry finds its source in the One whose power working through us can do more than we could ask or imagine...

Closing Prayer: ALL: Jesus, we turn to you, our model and mentor of giving and receiving. We recall how you poured yourself out in service to those who crowded around you. We bear in mind, too, how you withdrew to the mountain sides to pray and restore what was depleted in your body and spirit. Grant us, Holy Spirit, the wisdom, inspiration and discipline to cultivate a healthy balance between generous service to others and gentle care of ourselves. In God's name, we pray. Amen.

adapted from Prayer Seeds by Joyce Rupp, pages 134-135



Final Blessing: Holy Spirit, giver of all gifts, help us to use our talents to serve others for your honor and glory. **ALL: Amen.**

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