# July 2024

# vocational month

daily prayer: from 2 to 12 July





Family

# ROSMINIANA FAMILY VOCATIONAL MONTH JULY 2024

During the month of July 2024, we propose to continue with the reflection and meditation on Pope Francis' catecheses on prayer, joining us in praying for all vocations.

Each day we will meditate on one of the catecheses and a prayer intention will be presented. In this way we will be able to become more aware of our responsibility to encourage and accompany new vocations and, at the same time, to make a journey together that enriches our interior life and impels us to cry out to the Lord for more labourers for his harvest.

In the reflection of the day, only a part of the catechesis is proposed to us, so we encourage you to read the entire corresponding catechesis daily as a personal spiritual reading.

Let us open our hearts and lips with great hope and let ourselves be surprised by the Lord.

### **OPENING PRAYER**

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Good Father, we want to unite ourselves to You through Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is alive and present in Your Word and in Your Church. We come to you with humility and simplicity, and we beg you to transform us into people of prayer who continually recognize your presence and closeness.

Lord Jesus, today we say to you, as your disciples did once: teach us to pray. We want to imitate you by going deeper in our hearts to find the Father who is in secret. Give us the grace to live the fruits of prayer in our daily lives.

Holy Spirit fills our being with your presence, come to our aid and pray in us. Give us the grace to call God with confidence: "Father". Make us to worship you in spirit and truth, that we may be living temples in which the name of the Lord is glorified. Help us to love and persevere in prayer. Amen.



July 2.

# The prayer of Abraham (Catecheses 5)

#### Opening prayer

**Pope Francis** 

This is a great novelty in man's religious journey: the life of a believer begins to be understood as a vocation, thus as a calling, as the place where a promise is fulfilled; and he moves in the world not so much under the weight of an enigma, but with the power of that promise, which one day will be fulfilled. And Abraham believed God's promise. He believed and he set out without knowing where he was going — thus says the Letter to the Hebrews (cf. 11:8). But he had trust.

#### **Personal Prayer**

Lord Jesus, on this day we ask you for the grace to rediscover in our lives the call we have received from you. Remove doubts and anxieties from us and give us the strength to walk every day trusting in you, in your company and in your word. Make us aware that you walk by our side and give us the strength to seek in each step we take to please you by fulfilling your will. Prayer Intention.

We pray to you Lord for all the people you are calling, tune their ears, that they can recognize your voice in the signs, in the people and in the situations that you put in front of them and like Abraham they may believe, trust and set out on a journey. We also pray for those who within their vocation receive a particular call, give them Lord, the light and discernment that dispels doubt, that no one will feel that they are too young or too old to start a new pat in you.

#### Prayer for vocations

July 3.

# The prayer of Jacob (Categuesis 6)

#### Opening prayer

#### **Pope Francis**

Wrestling with God: a metaphor for praver. At other times Jacob had revealed himself capable of dialoguing with God, of sensing him as a friendly and close presence. But that night, through a lengthy struggle that nearly makes him succumb, the patriarch emerges changed. A change of name, a change in his way of life and a change in personality: he emerges changed. For once he is no longer master of the situation — his cunning is of no use to him — he is no longer a strategic and calculating man. God returns him to his truth as a mortal man who trembles and fears, because in the struggle, Jacob was afraid. For once Jacob has nothing but his frailty and powerlessness, and also his sins, to present to God. And it is this Jacob who receives God's blessing, with which he limps into the promised land: vulnerable and wounded, but with a new heart.

#### **Personal Prayer**

Lord, so many times – even without being aware of it – we feel so sure and confident in ourselves that we live as if we did not depend on you. Today we ask you to experience like Jacob this struggle that transforms, we want to meet you in the night of our life and to recognize

our littleness in the face of your greatness, to accept that we cannot defeat you and we want to beg your blessing.

Prayer Intention.

Today we put before you all those who, because of their life history, because of their past, are afraid to meet you face to face, those who are so attached to themselves that they are not able to cling to you. Show them your greatness, Lord, that they may not be afraid to give up everything to follow you and serve you, give them a new heart, a new life, a new name that is a sign and testimony of the call you have made to them.

#### Prayer for vocations

July 4th.

# The Prayer of Moses

(Catechesis 7)

#### Opening prayer

**Pope Francis** 

Moses does not barter his people. He is the bridge; he is the intercessor. Both of them, the people and God, and he is in the middle. He does not sell out his people to advance his career. He does not climb the ladder; he is an intercessor: for his people, for his flesh and blood, for his history, for his people and for the God who called him. He is the bridge.

... And the world lives and flourishes to the blessing of the righteous, to the prayer for mercy, this prayer for mercy that the holy, the righteous, the intercessor, the priest, the bishop, the Pope, the layperson, any baptized person unceasingly raises up for humanity, in every place and time in history. Let us think of Moses, the intercessor. And when we want to condemn someone and we become angry inside — getting angry can do good, but condemning does no good – let us intercede for him or her; this will help us a lot.

#### **Personal Prayer**

Jesus, teach us to love as you do. It is so easy to point out and look for culprits, to see the evil that others do and condemn them, we do not want to act in this way. Make us like Moses mediators between God and his people, allow us to be useful means by which people can get to know you and transform their lives.

Prayer Intention.

We turn our prayer to you, Lord, for all the people you are calling, in the different vocations and realities of life, to assume the role of intercessors. Give us, Lord, men and women religious, priests, ascribed ones, families who come before you to cry out with the same ardour of Jesus, mercy for the world.

Prayer for vocations

July 5.

# The prayer of David

(Catechesis 8)

#### Opening prayer

#### **Pope Francis**

There is a single golden thread running through David's life, that gives unity to everything that happens: his prayer. That is the voice that is never extinguished. David the saint prays: David the sinner prays; David the persecuted prays; David the persecutor prays. Even David the manslayer prays. This is the golden thread that runs through his life. A man of prayer. That is the voice that is never silenced: whether it assumes tones of jubilation or those of lament, it is always the same prayer; only the melody changes. In so doing, David teaches us to let everything enter into dialogue with God: joy as well as guilt, love as well as suffering, friendship as much as sickness. Everything can become a word spoken to the "You" who always listens to us.

#### **Personal Prayer**

Lord, only in you can we find true peace, help us to understand that weakness is part of our nature and that there is no point in hiding or turning away from you when we feel that we have failed against you. May we, like David, remain united to you and live a life of prayer even in the fragility of our lives. Prayer Intention.

We pray to you, Lord, for all men and women you are calling, so that by your grace they may understand that your mercy is greater than their weakness, that with you at their side they can walk confidently. Do not allow anyone to close themselves off your call because they consider themselves unworthy, but through prayer and union with you they feel strengthened and willing to give their whole life for your glory.

Prayer for vocations

July 6.

# Elijah's prayer (Catechesis 9)

#### Opening prayer

#### **Pope Francis**

We need Elijah's spirit. He shows us that there should be no dichotomy in the life of those who pray: one stands before the Lord and goes towards the brothers and sisters to whom He sends us. Prayer is not about locking oneself up with the Lord to put "make-up" on one's soul: no, this is not prayer, this is false prayer. Prayer is a confrontation with God, and allowing oneself to be sent to serve one's brothers and sisters. The touchstone of prayer is concrete love towards our neighbour. And vice versa: believers act in the world after having first kept silent and prayed; otherwise, their action is impulsive, it is devoid of discernment, it is rushing without a destination. Believers behave this way, they do many injustices because they did not go to pray to the Lord first, to discern what they must do.

#### **Personal Prayer**

Lord, we know that without you we can do nothing, and that even our good intentions, if we don't let your spirit guide us, we don't participate in your work. Teach us to live in a right way the balance between the life of prayer and service, nourish our soul in the intimacy of your presence and impel us with the strength we receive from it to strive in the mission you have entrusted to us.

Prayer Intention.

Lord, we ask you to move the hearts of so many Christians to live, like Blessed Anthony Rosmini, this unity between the contemplative and the active life. Send us more people with a great love for justice. May each one of these disciples of yours know how to be at your feet listening to you while they maintain the ardent desire for the mission and the readiness to serve to which you call them.

#### Prayer for vocations

#### July 7.

# The Prayer of the Psalms 1

(Catechesis 10)

Opening prayer

**Pope Francis** 

The existence of each human being is but a breath, his or her story is fleeting, but the prayerful know that they are precious in the eyes of God, and so it makes sense to cry out. And this is important. When we pray, we do so because we know we are precious in God's eyes. It is the grace of the Holy Spirit that, from within, inspires in us this awareness: of being precious in the eyes of God. And this is why we are moved to pray.

... The prayer of the Psalms asks God to intervene where all human efforts are in vain. That is why prayer, in and of itself, is the way of salvation and the beginning of salvation.

#### **Personal Prayer**

Lord Jesus you are the reason for our prayers, you are the reason for our life, giving you glory and recognizing that you are our God is the greatest joy we can experience, that is why we turn to you for help because we know that nothing is impossible for you, it nourishes in our hearts the desire for worship and the trust of the one who asks knowing that he is heard. Prayer Intention.

Lord we know that the destiny of the world is in your hands and that your holy will governs it, today we want to ask you Jesus to give us the strength to carry your message of salvation and invite more people to follow you, give us the strength to carry the seed, to water it and take care of it and at the same time the confidence that it is you who makes it grow. Give us a vocation ministry that announces with enthusiasm, that is a witness to the full life that is in you and that can remain confident that you make every vocation and every call through our service.

#### Prayer for vocations

July 8.

# The Prayer of Psalms 2

(Catechesis 11)

Opening prayer

**Pope Francis** 

For this reason, the Psalter presents prayer as the fundamental reality of life. The reference to the absolute and to the transcendent — which the spiritual masters call the "holy fear of God" — is what makes us completely human, it is the boundary that saves us from ourselves, preventing us from venturing into life in a predatory and voracious manner. Prayer is the salvation of the human being.

... And so, prayer is not a sedative to alleviate life's anxieties; or, in any case, this type of prayer is certainly not Christian. Rather, prayer makes each of us responsible. We see this clearly in the "Our Father" that Jesus taught his disciples.

**Personal Prayer** 

Lord, every time we pray especially for vocations as we do during this month, make us understand that your design is not only that there are vocations, but that we feel part of this process that our life is a witness and our proclamation a message that allows people to understand the call you make to each one. Prayer Intention.

Today we pray to you, Lord, for all those with the responsibility of being promoters of vocations, so that they may carry out this service with a greater diligence, dedication and awareness of its importance. In the same way, we pray for all Christians that we may become aware that it is our responsibility to encourage everyone to follow you, to seek and to make of their vocation a mean for their sanctification and a witness of your presence.

#### Prayer for vocations

#### July 9.

# The Virgin Mary, prayerful woman (Catechesis 15)

Opening prayer

**Pope Francis** 

There is no better way to pray than to place oneself like Mary in an attitude of openness, with a heart open to God: "Lord, what you want, when you want, and how you want". That is, a heart open to God's will. And God always responds.

... Prayer knows how to calm restlessness. But we are restless, we always want things before asking for them, and we want them right away. This restlessness harms us. And prayer knows how to calm restlessness, knows how to transform it into availability. When we are restless, I pray and prayer opens my heart and makes me open to God's will.

... How beautiful it would be if we too could be a bit like our Mother! With a heart open to God's Word, with a silent heart, with an obedient heart, with a heart that knows how to receive God's Word and allows it to grow with the seed of good for the Church.

Personal Prayer

Good Mother, how much we want to be like you, to live in peace and serenity, to enjoy the presence of God within your heart, to experience that great conviction that obeying to the Father is the only way to live fully. Teach us to say yes, not to overthink things, and to accept the gifts and struggles that the Lord puts before us with joy and enthusiasm.

Prayer Intention.

On this day, Lord, we want to ask you, through the intercession of your Mother, to bless every community, every house of formation, school and parish, where the growth of the vocation to holiness is fostered, where people are formed to grow in charity and where little by little they discern and take up the particular vocation they have received. Give us the grace that each of these places may be like your mother's heart, a place where the experiences and graces that the Lord allows us to live are preserved and contemplated, a place where silence and contemplation are the source of virtue and where doing the Father's will is the greatest source of joy.

Prayer for vocations

#### July 10.

## The Prayer of the Nascent Church (Catechesis 16)

Opening prayer

**Pope Francis** 

The Church is not a market; the Church is not a group of businesspeople who go forward with a new business. The Church is the work of the Holy Spirit whom Jesus sent to us to gather us together. The Church is precisely the work of the Spirit in the Christian community, in the life of the community, in the Eucharist, in prayer... always (...) It is God who creates the Church, not the clamour of works. It is Jesus' word that fills our efforts with meaning. It is in humility that we build the future of the world.

In reading the Acts of the Apostles we then discover what a powerful driving force of evangelization the prayer gatherings can be, where those who participate actually experience Jesus' presence and are touched by the Spirit.

#### **Personal Prayer**

Good master, we know that your church is the privileged environment in which we can experience in greater depth what it means to be your disciple. You have called us to walk as a community, as a family, so we ask you to allow us to understand that it is as a community that we can grow and serve, that we manage to experience loving and being loved. It is here that mutual understanding and fraternity unite us most to you through our brothers and sisters. We want to be more aware every day that in prayer and through prayer you make all this possible

Prayer Intention.

Jesus bless your Church, beautify and mold it, so that every Christian can find in it his place and a vocation with which to serve you, so that we may experience how all hearts become one in prayer and how we are all useful and necessary, how we can grow in service to others and how the joy or pain of the other becomes our own. Allow the Church of today to be like the nascent Church, which will be recognized by fraternity, by prayer, by the proclamation of your word, where everybody feel called and all live as your disciples.

#### Prayer for vocations

July 11.

# The Blessing

(Catechesis 17)

Opening prayer

**Pope Francis** 

Prayer is joy and thanksgiving. God did not wait for us to convert before beginning to love us, but he loved us long before, when we were still in sin.

We cannot just bless this God who blesses us; we must bless everyone in him, all people, bless God and bless our brothers and sisters, bless the world: this is the root of Christian meekness, the ability to feel blessed and the ability to bless.

Personal Prayer

Lord, everything around us speaks to us of you, of your blessings and of your grace. Make our hearts a source of blessing for all, let our words and actions show your presence, help us to extend our hands to those who need it, teach us to look with love and compassion and to bless even those who curse us, to those who seem to have no salvation: we want to love everyone as you do.

Prayer Intention.

Lord, we want to pray for all those who feel their vocation and their call as a burden, as a job, as a weight, so that you may renew love in them and that they may understand the blessing they have in their lives and be themselves a source of blessing for others. Give us the Lord, consecrated men and women, men and women religious, lay people, priests, young people, children, families, may the world feel blessed when they see us, may we bless the whole world with our prayers, our words and our actions.

Prayer for vocations

#### July 12.

# The Prayer of Petition

(Catechesis 18)

#### Opening prayer

**Pope Francis** 

... when Jesus taught his disciples to pray, he did so with the "Our Father", so that we might place ourselves in a relationship of filial trust with God, and ask him all our questions. We implore God for the highest gifts: the sanctification of his name among men, the advent of his lordship, the fulfillment of his will for good in relation to the world.

... we know that God will respond. There is no one at prayer in the Book of Psalms who raises a lament that remains unheard. God always answers: [it may be] today, tomorrow, but he always answers, in one way or another. He always answers. The Bible repeats it countless times: God listens to the cry of those who invoke him.

#### **Personal Prayer**

Father of love, we come before you as children in need, knowing that your goodness is infinite and that you want to fill our lives with the treasures of your grace. Remove from us the fear and doubts that make us to believe that you are not listening to us or that you are busy with the prayers of the rest of the world. Holy Spirit, give us the awareness of being loved, listened to and understood, that there is no reservation in us, but that we present ourselves to the Lord as we are, and we pray with confidence as children of God.

#### Prayer Intention.

We ask you, Lord, with confidence, send us many holy vocations, give those who are discerning the necessary tools to strengthen their path, those who feel weak may receive the strength to get up and walk again, those who are disoriented the light of your Spirit that illuminates their path and those who are not clear what they desire and seek in their lives, give them the will to follow you without fear, recognizing that the strength of the vocation is in hugging you and in walking seeking to please you in everything.

#### Prayer for vocations

# **PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

# Pray always and never tire of thanking God. Col 4:2

Lord of the Church, we thank you for your presence among us and in our hearts. We thank you for your love, and your merciful goodness to our family. We adore you because you are the light of our journey and our choice to listen to you, to follow you, and to love you every day of our lives.

Good Shepherd of our communities, we behold you and pray to you: you know us and you know we want to listen to your voice. Gather together all those whom you have called, like Blessed Antonio Rosmini, to live the charism of charity in religious life, in the priestly ministry and as young people, as lay people, and in marriage.

Jesus, source of all vocations, accompany in discernment all young people and those loved by you, whom you have chosen to bear much fruit through Gospel witness to your humanity and by being missionary disciples, pilgrims of hope. May each of us say to you: "Thank you Jesus, because life is more beautiful with you, in the company of Mary, your and our Mother. Since I have known you, I have been so happy!"

Jesus, true God and true Man, may your joy illuminate the Rosminian family with hope, and guide her brothers and sisters whom you call today to the Love of your Heart. Amen.





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