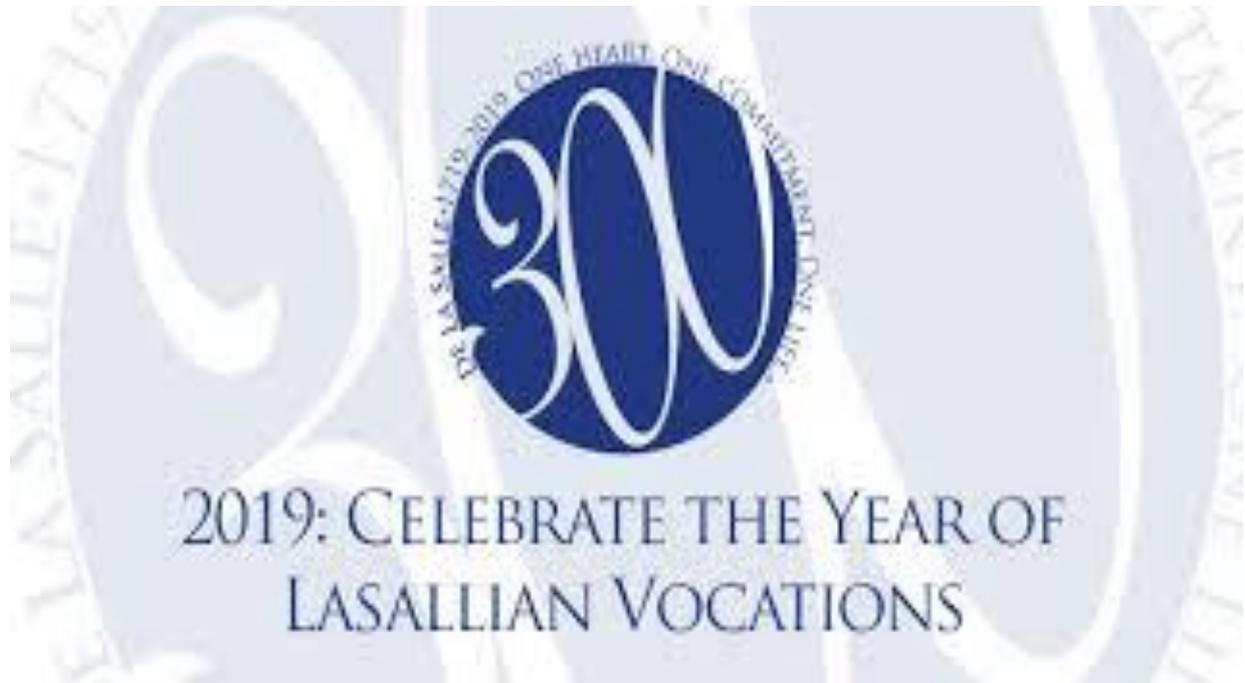


# **Lasallian Vocations Prayer – 25<sup>th</sup> of February**

*Catholic Church Calendar: Monday of the seventh week in Ordinary Time*



## **Introduction Prayer:**

Loving God,

*As we begin this new year for the Lasallian Tercentenary, we ask for the grace to encounter people in sharing your goodness, peace and hope with them. Bless our actions with the gift of faith and zeal to inspire others to respond to your calling to a Religious vocation. May your love bless the young with courage to “come and see” the joys of the Gospel and to work for the charism and mission of the Church. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!*

## **Gospel for Today - Mark 9:14-29**

*As they were rejoining the disciples they saw a large crowd round them and some scribes arguing with them. At once, when they saw him, the whole crowd were struck with amazement and ran to greet him. And he asked them, 'What are you arguing about with them?' A man answered him from the crowd, 'Master, I have brought my son to you; there is a spirit of dumbness in him, and when it takes hold of him it throws him to the ground, and he foams at the mouth and grinds his teeth and goes rigid. And I asked your disciples to drive it out and they were unable to.' In reply he said to them, 'Faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me.' They brought the boy to him, and at once the spirit of dumbness threw the boy into convulsions, and he fell to the ground and lay writhing there, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the father, 'How long has this been happening to him?' 'From childhood,' he said, and it has often thrown him into fire and into water, in order to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us. 'If you can?' retorted Jesus. 'Everything is possible for one who has faith.' At once the father of the boy cried out, 'I have faith. Help my lack of faith!' And when Jesus saw that a crowd was gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit. 'Deaf and dumb spirit,' he said, 'I command you: come out of him and never enter him again. Then it threw the boy into violent convulsions and came out shouting, and the boy lay there so like a corpse that most of them said, 'He is dead.' But Jesus took him by the hand and helped him up, and he was able to stand.*

When he had gone indoors, his disciples asked him when they were by themselves, 'Why were we unable to drive it out?' He answered, 'This is the kind that can be driven out only by prayer.'

## **The Gospel of the Lord**

## **Reflection Reading:**

### **Vatican Document 2016: IDENTITY AND MISSION OF THE RELIGIOUS BROTHER IN THE CHURCH:**

#### **Prophets for our time**

Every era needs its prophets. We have already referred to various prophetic services that Religious Brothers offer to society and the Church today, in order to contribute to a greater humanisation of society and to respond to the search for spirituality. We now note some others that the present moment of great social change requires and that constitute a challenge for Religious Brothers:

*The prophecy of the meaning of life. The service of dialogue and gentle listening to which many religious devote much of their time helps people to discover the essential, in the face of the vacuum that exists in the welfare society.*

*Institutes of Brothers are urged to develop new structures and initial and continuing formation programmes which can help new candidates and current members to rediscover and value their identity in the new ecclesial and social context.*

**We will now take some time for quiet reflection – 5mins**

**How do you see your ministry as a Religious Brother?**

**How can you encounter others with the search for the meaning of life?**

## **Prayers and Intercessions**

Response: **Lord hear our prayer**

For young people in schools, universities and in places of work – *may they hear and receive the joy of the Gospel to follow Christ. (R)*

For teachers and partners working in the Lasallian mission – *may they be enliven to witness to the values of the Gospel and to “touch hearts” each day. (R)*

For parents, care givers and guardians – *may they bring and share the gift of faith with young people and inspire them to be the best they can be. (R)*

For the poor, the lonely, the mentally ill, the sick and the abandoned – *may they receive compassion and mercy from those supporting them (R)*

For the needs of the Lasallian Institute – *may the gift of association inspire with unity and peace (R)*

- **And for whom and for what else shall we pray**

**Our Father**

## **Concluding Prayer**

Lord Jesus, You love us all and make us your brothers and sisters. You call us to follow you. You invite us to announce the Good News.

Lord, grant us the courage to live our commitment. Teach us to go beyond our borders. Teach us to discover you in the lowliest. Teach us to see with the eyes of faith. Teach us to share our mission with all Lasallians throughout the whole world.

We make this prayer through the intercession of Mary, Queen and Mother of the Christian Schools, and through the intercession of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, patron of teachers. Amen.

**St John Baptist de La Salle – Pray for us**

**Live Jesus in our Hearts – forever!**

