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Jesus Living in Mary

Association of Mary Queen of All Hearts



GAMO –
FRIENDS OF MONTFORT GROUP

Covid-19:
Father Philip and the time of quarantine

"The Lord is near to all who call upon him"

By Pierrette MAIGNÉ

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

PSALM 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R/ *The Lord is near to all who call upon him.*

Every day will I bless you,
and I will praise your name forever and ever.
Great is the LORD and highly to be praised;
His greatness is unsearchable.

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
The LORD is good to all
and compassionate toward all his works.

The LORD is just in all his ways
and holy in all his works.
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,
to all who call upon him in truth.

This psalm, of which the liturgy of the 25th Sunday in ordinary time offers us only a few verses, is an «Alphabetic psalm». It's a psalm of thanksgiving for the Covenant of God with his people. It is called «Alphabetical psalm», because each stanza begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet, a way of expressing that our whole life is bathed in the love of God and in his tenderness, from A to Z (from aleph to taw for Hebrew). This psalm is recited daily by our Jewish brethren during morning prayers. It is a hymn to the glory and goodness of God.

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It is truly an invitation to praise the Lord at all times, always and forever, for the greatness of God has no limit, he is good for all, he is righteous and faithful in everything. We can ask ourselves: is praise present in our prayer? Do we know how to recognize the blessings of God?

«The LORD is gracious and merciful»: it is a reminder of the very way that God revealed his Name to Moses at Sinai after the episode of the golden calf. Yes, the greatness of God is the greatness of his Love and Mercy which is expressed through forgiveness. To people unfaithful to the Covenant, God responds with fidelity and forgiveness. This is the case for each of us. So how can we not praise him and give him thanks?

“” We can ask ourselves: is praise present in our prayer? Do we know how to recognize the blessings of God?



«The LORD is near to all who call upon him»: God is not distant, insensitive, indifferent, he is near and compassionate, he is the Savior of his people, of his faithful in distress, as he manifested it during The Exodus and the crossing of the desert before entering the Promised Land and throughout history. God is God with us: Emmanuel.

It is also up to us to sing, to bless, to give thanks, responding to the invitation of the psalm.

I will extol you, my God and king; I will bless your name forever and ever.
Every day I will bless you; I will praise your name forever and ever!

Why not pray this entire psalm at this time of the beginning of our activities after summer, it can help us enter into praise and put this «new year» of work under the sign of our desire to recognize the fidelity of God and His desire to live with us this Covenant, which is Life and Happiness. ■

“” God is not distant, insensitive, indifferent, he is near and compassionate, he is the Savior of his people



Covid-19: Father Philip and the time of quarantine

By Dola Dhanush



Father Philip Arockiaraj (44) who serves in the parish of Megamalai, Tamilnadu, India, is a creative Montfort Missionary. For him, the quarantine period caused by Covid-19 is an opportunity to carry out several very useful activities, not only for himself but also and above all for the people he serves.





To name just a few of his activities, for example, he first took advantage of this quarantine opportunity to pray regularly at the same hour before the Blessed Sacrament. Through his prayer, Philip felt in his heart the encouragement of the Lord Jesus to become the voice of the voiceless, to heal and protect the wounded in life.



Second, he translated the book of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort "Treatise on True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin" into Tamil language. In this regard, Philip needs to pick up here and there certain words that Montfort uses in his work and find their true meaning: for example, the words "reprobate, heretic, schismatic, predestined ...". For this, he must refer to the existing translations into Tamil which have been given to him among others by the laity who live in Tamilnadu and are active in the spreading of the spiritual teaching of Montfort.



Third, Philip composed 16 hymns, including hymns for Christmas this year. He himself has produced many spiritual hymns recorded on CD and widely distributed in the Christian community, especially among those who speak Tamil.





Fourth, Philip coordinates charitable relief activities for families in need of basic necessities in these difficult times. He does this in the parish he serves himself of course, but also in the parish of Kadamalai Kundu, which is in the mission area entrusted to the Jesuits.

To do this, Philip received help from the Archdiocese of Madurai and various lay associations, including the one headed by Mr. Venkadesh of Kadamalai Kundu Theni. Thanks to their helping hand, Philip was able to provide 10 kg of rice and various other food items to vulnerable people: stroke victims, mentally handicapped, deaf, elderly, physically handicapped who desperately need this help.

There are two possible ways to distribute these basic necessities: residents come to the parish at the appointed time or Philip visits the homes of residents already registered as potential beneficiaries.

In fact, these people are still in need of help, and Philip continues his search for benefactors willing to save what little they have for those most in need.

So some of these activities are "internal" and others are "external"; some are "personal" or "social"; some are "spiritual", or "artistic" or "charitable"; some are "vertical", others are "horizontal". Nothing is impossible. May this be a source of inspiration for others! ■

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MEGAMALAI, TAMILNADU

GAMO - FRIENDS OF MONTFORT GROUP

A mission, a family!

By team of GAMO's Councillors



The Friends of Montfort Group – in Portuguese: GRUPO AMIGOS DE MONTFORT (GAMO) - is the union of people of faith, of the people of God who unite as Church to live and share the love of Jesus, Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom, through spirituality and the teachings of Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort.

The GAMO seeks the knowledge of Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom through a sincere PRACTICE of prayer, but also by studying the writings of Montfort Spirituality, without forgetting the reading the Word of God. The group reads also the biographies of Saint Louis-Marie and Blessed Marie-Louise Trichet, the materials of animation and brochures furnished by the Latin American Coordination (COORLAC) and, in addition, the various materials that sustain the growth and the Christian, social and human formation of the group.

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The first meeting of the GAMO took place in the city of Passos, Minas Gerais, in 1995. It was the beginning of a very beautiful bond of the Montfortian Family in Brazil. Currently it is represented by eight GAMOS, present in three states of Brazil, specifically in Minas Gerais, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.

The GAMO is formed by the union of the Montfortian Family, that is to say, the Company of Mary (Montfort Missionaries), the Brothers of Saint Gabriel and the lay Montfortians.



The objectives of the meetings and activities carried out by GAMO are: to seek knowledge and experience of Montfortian Spirituality, based on the mystery of the Incarnation of Eternal Wisdom in the womb of the Virgin Mary; to promote a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom; to value the sacrament of Baptism; to bring together and promote the fraternal experience of the participants; to sensitize communities on the missionary emergencies of the local reality; to discern and present the proposals of the Montfortian Congregations: to Jesus through Mary, using the method of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort.

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These same activities are developed with the annual meeting of the coordinators of the GAMO, the meeting for new members, meeting inter-GAMOS, the Marian retreat, the pilgrimage to Marian shrines, the Mission à la Montfort, the Latin American and Caribbean meeting of Montfortian Spirituality and, above all, the local meetings which maintain and promote the continuity of the activities of each group.





It's party !

In this year 2020, GAMO celebrates its Silver Jubilee: 25 years of sharing and faith as the Montfortian Family which continues today in the footsteps of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort by announcing to communities and groups the value and significance of mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom.

The Friends of Montfort Group - GAMO - is today as a sign in its communities, of the capacity that Father de Montfort has, after 300 years of his «Passover», to still unite communities and people, convert hearts to the Gospel, expressing the presence of the Virgin Mary in the life of Christians and recalling the personal vocation of each member by the recognition of his own Baptism.

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The Friends of Montfort Group remembers, among so many virtues that Saint Louis had, the ability to unite people in a beautiful and deep bond that occurs through friendship. Montfort was a friend of Jesus, Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom, and also he was a friend of the people, of the poor and of the most needy.

Among the GAMOS we affectionately emphasize the group of Passos, Minas Gerais, which, since 1995, has been carrying out and experiencing an intense and beautiful work of evangelization.

The GAMO Passos is made up of thirty members who meet regularly on the third Friday of each month at the parish of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort, the local community of their respective members. The works are planned and developed in unity with each member of the group by the prayer of the rosary in the families, the missionary visits, the realization of the charity lunches, the participation in the Week of the Family for the novena of the Patron saint, and also the study of brochures, materials on the life and work of Montfort.

As the fruit of this group of good soil and fertile seeds, there has also been, since 2012, the GAMO for youth formed only by children and adolescents who come together with joy and disposition to animate the Masses of the communities with the harmonious “Heart of Saint Louis-Marie”, to spread and strengthen the values of the Montfortian charism in families and in the community.

To Jesus through Mary,
God Alone! ■



Hymn 25

PLEASING FRAGRANCE

OF MODESTY



“” Admire the modesty
And gentleness of Our Lord (H 25,5)



1st Point : its excellence

1

Gaze at this face and these eyes
So gentle, docile and joyful,
Behold the virtue of Modesty;
Behold the traits of the overflow
Of virtues that fill the soul
And its inner glory.

2

Modesty is the adornment
And the most noble attire
Of truly sublime virtues;
It is the virtue of the perfect,
Those untroubled and sinless,
Those filled with mildness and peace.

3

It is the Holy Spirit's fruit,
As the great apostle writes:
"The Holy Spirit in a soul,
Makes His gentle flame's glow
Gush forth onto the body,
From the inner, they light up the outer."

4

Be modest with everyone,
For the Lord is nearby;
He knows all things by His light,
Nothing is hidden from Him.
He is watching you right now,
So be modest and sinless.

5

Admire the modesty
And gentleness of Our Lord;
It is His shining weapon
Which ravishes on sight;
It is his eloquent mouth
Which convinces by its silence.

6

He had this sacred brilliance
To such a sublime degree,
His modesty was so striking
That Saint Paul regularly
Preached and implored with modesty
And so persuaded mightily.

7

Even the Lord's fuming slayers
Veiled His face and eyes,
Fearing the appeal of His charms,
Fearing His wise and meek air
Would make them stop the torture
In spite of their rage and anger.

8

They say that Heaven's Queen,
While she was here on earth,
Was so wise and modest,
Anyone who gazed on her
Felt the celestial flame
Burning within her heart.

9

Great Saint Denis affirms
His soul was so ravished
When contemplating her,
Had he not known the truth,
He would have thought
She was some great divinity.



10

By this virtue, saints have
Disarmed all, conquered all
Without any violence,
Trouble, yelling or shouting;
Their modesty and silence
Gently ravished hearts.

11

Since modesty everywhere
Is so lofty and rich in God,
It puts in the heart, the sage says,
Fear and love of the Lord,
Glory, life, plus the promise
And pledge of happiness.



12

The modest man is a winner,
His modesty, a fragrance
Speaking more loudly than his mouth.
Oh! how eloquent the preacher
Speaking in silence yet touching
The eye and heart of his hearers!

13

Look at great Saint Francis
Preaching at full volume
Yet only making an appearance.
Just seeing him, people are ravished,
He becomes the saintly master
Of all hearts, without making a sound.

14

Without modesty how vain our work
To sanctify our neighbor,
Which as most people know,
Happens more through eyes than ears.
Modesty is so necessary
To raise hearts to heaven.

15

Often, far from curing evil,
We cause horrible scandal
Through lack of modesty,
Though we preach holiness;
If the appearance does not edify
How much time is wasted.

16

It is a brightness teaching us,
The rind protecting the fruit,
The beautiful glow confirming
The soul is truly healthy.
It is the hand of the clock
Telling us it's working.

17

Without modesty we are unhinged,
Our poor heart is assaulted
By innumerable trifles.
Modesty is sanctity's bastion
Where all faithful souls
Preserve their purity.

18

It is the sign of the chosen,
The elect's brilliance arrayed
By the inspiring Spirit;
Often, the carefree reprobate
Has immodest, sinful ways
Etched on his brow and in his eyes.



“”

*The modest man is a winner,
His modesty, a fragrance
Speaking more loudly than his
mouth. H 25,12*

2nd Point : Qualities of modesty

19

But what are Modesty's traits?
I will tell you, listen well:
This supernatural virtue
Seeks only to please the Lord,
For natural wisdom
Has no value before God.

20

Either in manner or posture,
In look or in speech,
It is always edifying
And without affectation,
It is gentle, it is pleasing
Without any dilution.

21

Everywhere, a godly man
Is modest, even when alone,
For God sees him there;
He flees useless pastimes,
He is unruffled and restrained
Everywhere, at all times.

22

The sage seems so serene,
Always unflappable
In his gait, gestures, speech,
In his body, behavior;
Nothing appears childish,
Not even his smile.



3rd Point : Practices of modesty

23

Chosen soul, we must heed
The advice given to us
By great and holy people,
If we are not learned
Let us try to be wise
By observing the following:

24

Acquire a gentle and joyful air,
Never haughty or disdainful;
Do not hold your head high
With pride or arrogance,
Hold it straight, a bit lowered
But not turned aside.

25

Be modest when you blow your nose,
Even when you cough or spit;
Whistling is undignified,
Laugh little, never bursting out,
Your brow you must not wrinkle
And try not to scratch.

26

Do not be too serious,
Be somber, also full of joy
And have a certain polished air,
No harshness nor vanity,
No affectation nor smirking,
Full of gentleness and kindness.

27

Don't fidget like fools
Constantly in motion,
Let your hands be well arranged,
But never at your sides,
Rarely stretch out your hands
Unless the necessity is urgent.

28

Stand up straight ordinarily,
Without slouching indecently,
Never should you cross your legs
As the proud people do,
But keep them gently posed,
Not stretched out lazily.



“” Do not speak too much nor too little
For both displease God. (H 25,29)

29

Do not speak too much nor too little
For both displease God.
Never interrupt anyone;
Listen before responding,
Speak in a kindly manner,
But before speaking, reflect.

30

Do not speak in too low a voice
But at the same time, do not shout;
Do not take a pedantic tone,
Imperious and contemptuous,
Do not use a rustic tone,
Nor saccharine or languishing.

31

Leave aside amusement,
Laughter and buffoonery,
Silliness and bagatelles
Which sully the ear and the heart
And all sorts of novelties
Spoken by the deceiving world.

32.

Afin d'être un homme parfait,
Soyez sourd, aveugle et muet
A mille petits badinages,
Faits pour les enfants et les fous;
N'ayez pour eux, comme les sages,
Que des mépris et des dégoûts.

33.

Parlez avec simplicité,
Sans artifice ou vanité;
En vos avis, soyez modeste,
Ne les donnez pas hardiment;
Cédez lorsque l'on vous conteste,
Pour surmonter plus noblement.

34.

Soyez modeste en vos habits,
Qu'ils ne soient pas d'un fort grand prix;
Passez-vous même des dentelles,
Des draps lustrés et des draps fins,
De ces airs et modes nouvelles
Qu'on voit aux habits des mondains.



35

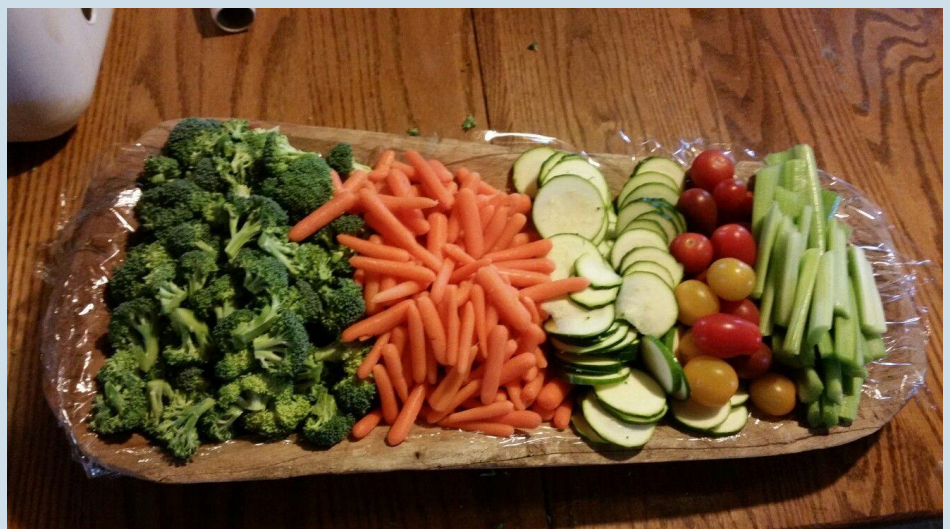
Walk without rushing,
Unless avoiding
A menacing danger;
Walk without affectation,
Sloth and daintiness
And without emotion.

36

Everywhere preach humility,
Wisdom and holiness;
When you walk through the towns,
Avoid laughter and childish games,
The many useless amusements
And the thousand cheeky things.

“” Be modest at
meals.

H 25,38



37

Wisdom and cleanliness
Are two sisters of holiness
Which always go together;
Flee then disorder,
For it tarnishes modesty,
But avoid pompous cleanliness.

38

Be modest at meals,
Eat what is set before you,
Without complaining or grumbling
And without rushing.
Observe good posture
And speak rarely at table.

39

Be filled with piety,
Respect, devotion
And modesty in church;
With a serene and gentle expression,
Head bent submissively,
Try to pray on your knees.

40

Before the Blessed Sacrament
Bow profoundly,
Without saying a word,
Unless it is necessary,
Without doing anything childish
Before the God of majesty.

GOD ALONE ■



Monthly Newsletter of Formation & Information



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