



21 - 16 - C - 95

## PRAYERS OF A CHRISTIAN TEACHER

(6)

(1: 16-9-C-63; 2: 17-13-C-73; 3: 18-15-C-79;  
4: 19-12-C-81; 5: 20-16-C-90)

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### TO TEACH... TO EDUCATE...

Lord,

You have called us to be ministers  
in the work of education  
To procure your glory,  
To inspire children  
With the spirit of wisdom and light;  
So that they may come to know You.

Our mission is:

To teach and to bear witness,  
To concern ourselves with the spiritual needs  
of our pupils  
To bring them up in the Christian faith,  
each according to his age,  
To take more care  
of the poorer and less-gifted pupils.

Lord, you wish us to be

True professionals in the field of education,  
But above all, to be Christian educators;  
To teach our subjects competently,  
And give a Christian education through faith.

We will never become true Christian teachers

Till we dedicate ourselves, body and soul,  
To the work of giving a complete education  
To young people and children.

We need to fill ourselves with God  
In order to make him known.

We need to continue our own education  
In order to teach others worthily.

We need to give our time  
To be able to go forward together in the faith.

Forgive us, Lord,

For all the times we have neglected  
To prepare our catechisms properly;  
For all the times we have sought ourselves  
Instead of seeking your Kingdom;

for all the times we have not shared  
Our time and affectionate care  
Because we were too concerned about ourselves  
And our own comfort.

Lord,

Give us the strength to watch over  
The conduct and behaviour of our pupils:  
We are responsible for these children  
For their persons and for their faith.  
We must guide them  
So that they live as good Christians.

Lord,

To be a Christian teacher  
Is to do and say everything  
For God and for the good  
Of children and young people.  
It is to do this without seeking  
The approval or gratitude of others  
But thinking only of serving God.

To be a minister of the Gospel implies:

- Zeal for teaching,
- Virtuous living and witness
- Prudence and moderation,
- Patience and affection,
- Control over one's passions,
- Good judgment  
when reprimanding or punishing.

**We wish to work**

**for the extension of the Kingdom.**

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### THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Lord,

Thank you for the Christian school,  
Because, thanks to its existence,  
Children and young people grow in faith and piety.  
Thank you, Lord,  
For bestowing the gift of the Christian School  
Upon your Church,  
And through it, extending your Kingdom.

Lord,

Your goodness is so great,  
That you have sent us as your apostles and teachers  
To bring about the salvation of souls.  
Our greatest prize and reward, Lord,  
Is to know you and love you.  
It is our joy to make others know you,  
And to make children and young people follow  
you.  
We are your servants,  
But you have made us your sons.  
You have sent us to work in your vineyard

To preach your Kingdom.  
Give us the generosity and the dedication we need  
Not to bury your talents  
But to sow your seed open-handedly.

Lord,  
What joy it is to see you loved  
By those who have received our message.  
For it is in you alone, Lord,  
That we wish to glory, as the Apostle says.  
We are happy to extend your Kingdom  
And to preach your Gospel freely.  
Count on us to instruct children and young people  
In the truths of the Gospel.  
Count on us, even though we know  
this is difficult to do.

Your work, Lord,  
Cannot be completed in one day,  
In a period of time:  
It is a life's work.  
It is not enough for us, Lord,  
To proclaim the Gospel only to children:  
We must work also  
With young people and adults.  
To persevere in piety and faith in Jesus  
Needs much time:  
Time to sow, to water, to hoe and to fertilize.

Teach us, Lord,  
To proclaim YOUR word and not our own.  
Teach us, Lord,  
To speak the words of YOUR Gospel  
and not those of our own.

Lord,  
You founded the Christian Schools  
To instruct children and young people:  
Send us, Lord,  
New teachers and new De La Salle Brothers  
So that we can pursue the work of salvation  
Among the children and young people of our day.

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### STARS

Lord,  
We are happy to be your apostles,  
We are happy to work for your Kingdom.  
We could never be happy to save simply ourselves.  
The joy of sharing  
In the education of children and young people.  
Makes up for all the problems  
We experience in teaching.

Our mission is to instruct and educate  
Children to be pious;  
Our mission is to train them in the Christian spirit;  
Our mission and our glory  
Is to make them know and love you,  
Christ Our Lord.

Lord,  
The prophet Daniel said:  
«**Those who instruct many people to be just  
Will shine as stars for all eternity.**»  
Our glory and our joy are not measured  
By external results,  
But by the children and young people  
That we lead to God.

Our joy, Lord, is to proclaim your message;  
Our joy, Lord, is to see children and young people  
Believe in you;  
Our joy, Lord, is to pursue our God-given vocation;  
Our joy, Lord, is to see children and young people  
Going to you;  
Our joy, Lord, is to share your Word.

In this life, you fill us with your joy by your presence.  
How boundless will our joy be  
In the glory of Heaven;  
You, Lord, enter into the very depths of our soul.  
Fill us, Lord, with yourself  
So that we can share you with others.

Teach us to keep our pupils innocent;  
Teach us to share in the salvation of their souls;  
Teach us to be their guardian angels;  
Teach us to work generously for their salvation.

When we die, Lord,  
And find ourselves in your presence  
Surrounded by those  
Who reached your Kingdom before us,  
We hope you will welcome us by saying:  
«**These men – these De La Salle Brothers,  
Are the servants of the Most High.  
They have worked for the Kingdom,  
Proclaiming the way of Salvation.**».

At that decisive meeting, Lord,  
You will judge us by the love we have shown:  
– By our dedication to the work of education;  
– By our generous sharing;  
– By our willingness to announce your message;  
– By our fraternity and community life;  
– By the time we have devoted  
To being with young people;  
– By our example and the witness we have borne.  
Thank you, Lord,  
For my vocation as a De La Salle Brother.

**Brother Celestino Hernando**