

-all the planets in their great diversity.
All that has been created is gift of God to mankind,
as is my own existence.
To God be given all honor, power and glory from mankind
and all creation.

AMEN

(Instructions et prières...CL 17, 264-265).

**PRAYING IN THE STYLE
OF JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE**

Brother José Luis Hermosilla

2. BOUNTIFUL POSSESSION

INVITATION TO CREATION

The God who has created all and rules over all
is hidden within my inmost being.
With me is the one who will be
my happiness for all eternity.
He is my God and Savior.
If the woman in the Gospel who lost the coin
was so happy when she found it
that she happily told her neighbors
so that they could rejoice with her...
Why should I keep such happiness for myself:
Why don't I ask the rest of creation
to participate along with me
so that we can together give praise to God?

INVITATION:

MY GIFT IS DIRECTED TO ALL MANKIND:

because we should recognize
that only God merits our praise
and adoration;
because no one can compare to him:
all beauty, truth and goodness comes from him.

TO THE ANGELS:

since they already adore God in heaven
and now on the earth within my heart.

TO THE HEAVENS:

it was by the Word of God that
they were created.
This same Word is that which has made possible
the miracle of Jesus living within me.

TO THE EARTH:

which had the honor of supporting the Savior of the world
while he lived as the incarnated one, made man.

TO THE REST OF CREATION:

I ask that they together with me bless the Lord.
-the sun, the moon and the stars.
-the animals that dwell in the sea, on the earth
and in the skies.

DEEP GRATITUDE

What kindness you showed, Lord,
as you cured the ten lepers of their infirmity!
What ingratitude the nine showed
at not telling you of their thanks
for so great a benefit!

Like the leper who came back,
I thankfully recognize your presence within me,
as the God and Lord for whom my soul breathes;
to give life to all things;
you are the spotless Lamb
who takes away the sin of the world
and who saves the world.

In you, Jesus, are encased
all the treasures of the kindness and mercy
of God.
I thankfully recognize your goodness
by the invitation you offer me
to receive your Bread for the soul;
by entrusting within my person such a precious treasure;
by being my great benefactor.

I am before your presence
as an empty vessel
that is waiting to be filled to capacity.
Fix your dwelling place in my heart
and make within it the place of your delight.
May my heart be taken only by you, Lord,
since it belongs to you from now on.

(Instructions et prières...CL 17, 266-268).

TO POSSESS AND BE POSSESSED

Through Communion, Lord,
the stream of my life
has been joined to your sea.
I am now not I but the immense ocean
and delight of your possessions.

I am no longer saddened by feeling small
but I admire your greatness;
I not longer look at myself
but I see you through me.

As my water mixes with yours
it has not increased your abundance
but you have enlarged my water flow
and made it share, without meriting it,
in the treasures that make up the ocean
of your kindness, wisdom and love.

I, beginning today, belong only to you,
who envelops my existence as with a blanket

God is greater than my own heart.
Having you within me,
I say to you Jesus, along with St. Paul:
“It is no longer I who live,
but it is you who live in me”.

(Instructions et prières... CL 17, 270).

“YOU HAVE TOUCHED ME INSIDE”

My heart finds itself satisfied
and content
at having you, Jesus, inside of it.

My daring is great as I attempt
to make the words
of Jacob to the angel my own:
“I will not allow you to go
if you do not bless me beforehand”.

For in uniting me to you,
“you have touched me inside”
with the “delights that intoxicate the heart
and with the interior signs
of your loving presence”.

“Kiss my soul with your mouth’s kiss”,
which is your Spirit of Love.
From now on I will be completely yours
just as you have given everything to me.

May this be my greatest happiness:
that of pleasing you alone,
“the spouse of my soul”.

(Instructions et prières... CL 17, 271-272).

O SACRED BANQUET!

O sacred banquet of the Eucharist
to which the soul is invited by Christ!
• this is the bread of angels.
• a bread which is beyond all understanding.
• a bread which contains within itself God himself,
whom neither heaven nor earth can contain.

The bread that engenders Life
and guarantees eternity.
The bread that more than satisfies all hunger.
The bread that strengthens supernaturally
and which, like it did for Elijah,
helps the soul walk
in the desert of life without faltering.

The bread that strengthens the soul
against the tempter and fills it with grace.
The bread that is the pledge of unending Life.

O sacred banquet
to which the soul is invited every day
by the same Christ!

(Instructions et prières... CL 17, 273).

I EAT WITH A FRIEND

What a great honor it is for man
to converse familiarly with God,
as often Moses did, the guide of the people of Israel.
By prayer you give
also to me, Lord, this happiness.
But it is above all by Communion,
receiving Jesus every day in my heart.

I cannot express completely
the joy that I feel as I receive you, Lord,
since I see that you treat me
as a friend who speaks with another friend:
– you are interested in my concerns;
– you share your most intimate secrets with me;
you look for nothing except the good of my soul;
you place within me the most generous
dispositions to serve you.

God, you are for my soul
– a welcome refuge;
– a benefactor that you look at only
to enrich me with your gifts;
– a support in weakness;
– a strength in my frailty.

Lord, may these feelings
that I experience now,
be etched in my heart in such a way
as to be capable of producing in my life
the fruit that you expect of me.

AMEN.

(Instructions et prières... CL 17, 275-277).

TABERNACLE OF DIVINITY

For the Israelite, the Ark of the Covenant
was everything:
– the sign of the presence of God with his people;
– the privileged place from which the Lord
showed his glory;
– blessing for the family
which had the honor of housing it under its roof;
– precious chest that contained the tablets of the Law.
David danced jubilantly before it
on the day it was moved to Jerusalem.

By Communion, Lord,
my body envelops and contains you.
In truth, I become a living temple;
you make my heart your sanctuary;
the center of your delight.

May the fact of your presence within me
be noted by the signs you leave in my heart:
-the treasure of your Grace;
-and the gold of the purest charity.

May I, Lord, adorned with the virtues
that you desire shine like a light before others
in the mission to which I dedicate my life.

(Instructions et prières... CL 17, 278-280). •