

## Precursors

A PRAYER MEDITATION FROM *AMBASSADORS OF JESUS CHRIST*

“Remember that you are obliged ... to prepare the way of the Lord in the hearts of your students.” (Meditation No. 162.2)

### FIRST MOVEMENT

1. **Take a few minutes to be quiet and recall the presence of God in the place where you are.**

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! ... The Lord is near.” (Phil 4:4-5).

2. **Now, once again, offer yourself into God’s hands to do his will, especially as it concerns the care of those who have been entrusted to you.**

“O Lord, remember how faithfully and wholeheartedly I conducted myself in your presence, doing what was pleasing to you!” (Is 38:3)

### SECOND MOVEMENT

3. **Contemplate the Mystery of God’s Love at Work in the World**

Read the following Scripture passage a few times slowly. What word or words especially catch your attention? Let these words gradually draw you further into the mystery of God.

“The crowds, who were gathering to be baptized by John, asked him, ‘What should we do?’ In reply John said to them, ‘Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.’ Even tax collectors came to be baptized; and they asked him, ‘Teacher, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.’ Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusations, and be satisfied with your wages.’ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into

his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, John proclaimed the good news to the people." (Lk 3:10-18)

#### **4. Reflect on the Mystery of God's Love at Work in Your Own Life**

What are the expectations, the questions, and the concerns of the people who come to you in need and with whom you work and interact every day?

The word that you speak to those entrusted to you, is it good news for them? What is the advice that you give? Do you invite them to be people of integrity? Do you encourage them to be all that they can be in Christ?

Who has helped to prepare the way of the Lord in your own heart? When have you been helped to see and understand more clearly the direction that God has been inviting you to follow in life?

Are you willing to be a font of living water among those for whom life, unfortunately, seems to be parched and dry? Do you try to bring hope to the troubled, refreshment to the weary, and new vision to those who seemingly wander in darkness and confusion?

### **THIRD MOVEMENT**

#### **5. Resolve to Be More Open to the Spirit Who Works in and Through You Today**

Has any one thing particularly stirred in you during this time in prayer? What response, if any, to Christ and God's movement in you do you feel inclined to make today?

Ask God's pardon for those times that you have been less than you have been asked to be in Christ.

Thank God for giving you again today the opportunity to love and serve him in others.

This prayer meditation is an excerpt from *Ambassadors of Jesus Christ: Prayer Meditations for Christian Educators* (1995) by Brother William Mann, FSC, Brother Henry Dissanayke, FSC, and Brother Isaias Tzegay, FSC. This book contains 35 meditations that invite one to enter into the three movements of Saint John Baptist de La Salle's *Method of Interior Prayer*.