

Kaya Idalangin

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Prayer Aid for Vocations

April 2015

Intention of the Month:

Persecuted Christians. That persecuted Christians may feel the consoling presence of the Risen Lord and the solidarity of all the Church.

Word of God:

Jesus said to all, "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself? Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels." (Luke 9:18-26)

Reflection:

Dear brothers and sisters who courageously bear witness to Jesus in the land blessed by the Lord, our consolation and our hope is Christ himself. I encourage you, then, to remain close to him, like branches on the vine, in the certainty that no tribulation, distress or persecution can separate us from him (cf. Rom 8:35). May the trials which you are presently enduring strengthen the faith and the fidelity of each and all of you! ...That is why I wanted to write to you, to encourage you and to let you know how precious your presence and your mission are in the land which the Lord has blessed. Your witness means much to me! Thank you! I pray for you and your intentions every day. I thank you because I know that, amid your sufferings, you also pray for me and for my service to the Church. I do hope to have the chance to come to you in person and to visit and to comfort you. May the Virgin Mary, the All-

Holy Mother of God and our Mother, accompany you and protect you always with her tender love. (*Christmas Letter of Pope Francis to Christians in the Middle East, 25 December 2014*).

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, your Resurrection gave new life, meaning and purpose to all of us! Thank you for loving us so much! By your Resurrection, you gave us strength to proclaim the Gospel to all nations. O Lord, many of us experience being threatened by violence and persecution on the account of our faith. May we remain steadfast in these difficult times, where our fidelity to the Gospel is being tested. May the sufferings experienced by our brothers and sisters in the faith bear fruit through the blossoming of holy vocations. May their witnessing renew our commitment to love and serve you all throughout our lives. Amen.

Suggested Activities:

Spend an hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament, remembering those who suffer and died because of violence on the account of faith. Offer one holy Rosary for the intentions of the persecuted. Offer three (3) holy communions for all missionaries who work to establish peace and reconciliation between people. Know the Church's teachings on religious freedom by reading *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Contact your Parish Priest on how you and your fellow parishioners can help sustain the peacekeeping mission done by religious organizations and government leaders. Post a picture or quote in Facebook or Twitter displaying your support for peace and forgiveness.

May 2015

Intention of the Month:

Openness to mission. That Mary's intercession may help Christians in secularized cultures be ready to proclaim Jesus.

Word of God:

And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him. He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart. He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." (Luke 1:46-55)

Reflection:

This maternity of Mary in the order of grace began with the consent which she gave in faith at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the cross, and lasts until the eternal fulfillment of all the elect. Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this salvific duty, but by her constant intercession continued to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation. By her maternal charity, she

cares for the brethren of her Son, who still journey on earth surrounded by dangers and cults, until they are led into the happiness of their true home. Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked by the Church under the titles of Advocate, Auxiliatrix, Adjutrix, and Mediatrix. This, however, is to be so understood that it neither takes away from nor adds anything to the dignity and efficaciousness of Christ the one Mediator. (*Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, Lumen Gentium, #62*)

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, at the very youth of Mary, she already implored for the spreading of your glory and kingship. May her example serve as our guide too in following your call to evangelize secularized cultures which threaten the dignity of worship and of life. Grant us holy vocations responsive to the needs of the new evangelization. May they be gifted with enthusiasm and zeal to spread the Gospel in season and out of season. Be with them always. Amen.

Suggested Activities:

Learn, meditate and pray the Magnificat with Mary after you say your Rosary. Coordinate with your Parish Priest on how you can support missions locally and abroad. Offer three (3) holy communions for the progress of the renewal of missionary efforts of the Church.

June 2015

Intention of the Month:

Vocations. That the personal encounter with Jesus may arouse in many young people the desire to offer their own lives in priesthood or consecrated life.

Word of God:

After Jesus had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish

and their nets were tearing. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them. They came and filled both boats so that they were in danger of sinking. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed

him. (Luke 5:1-11)

Reflection:

Here I would say a word of encouragement and gratitude to those of you who choose to follow our Lord in his poverty through a vocation to the priesthood and the religious life; by drawing on that poverty you will enrich many. But to all of you, especially those who can do more and give more, I ask: Please, do more! Please, give more! When you give of your time, your talents and your resources to the many people who struggle and who live on the margins, you make a difference. It is a difference that is so desperately needed, and one for which you will be richly rewarded by the Lord. For, as he has said: "you will have treasure in heaven" (Mk 10:21). *(Undelivered Message of Pope Francis on his encounter of the youth At the University of Santo Tomas, Manila)*

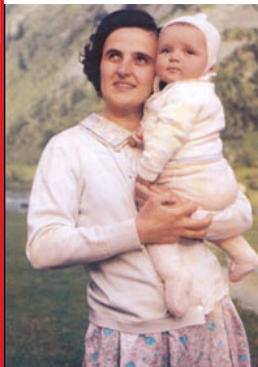
Prayer:

Lord Jesus, you once said, "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few; pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest". Your

command to promote holy vocations came from your compassionate heart, as a result of your efforts to bring the reign of God to others. Your ministry favored the poor, the abandoned, sick, suffering, oppressed and despised; may many vocations spring as fruits of their groanings and sighs. May these good laborers be able to reflect the Good News which you so intend to bring to all. May they be able to see the importance of giving preference to the poor. May everything they do bring glory to your Name forever. Amen.

Suggested Activity:

Read and reflect on the biography of St. Hannibal Mary di Francia, Apostle of the Prayer for Vocations. Distribute the "Vocation Prayer Habit". Do you know someone who considers entering the seminary or convent? Invite him/her to a vocation orientation organized by the diocese and the religious congregations. Continue praying, "*Send, O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church*". Organize a vocation campaign within your Parish Community.



Featured Saint: St. Gianna Molla

Gianna Francesca Beretta was born in Magenta in Italy. She was the tenth of thirteen children in her family, only nine of whom survived to adulthood. When she was three, her family moved to Bergamo, and she grew up in the Lombardy region of Italy.

In 1942, Gianna began her study of medicine in Milan. She received a medical diploma in pediatrics in 1949. In December 1954, Gianna met Pietro Molla, an engineer who worked in her office. They were officially engaged the following April, and they married in September 1955. The couple had Pierluigi, born in 1956, Maria Zita, in 1957 and Laura, was born in 1959. Gianna suffered two miscarriages after this.

In 1961, Gianna was once again expecting. During the second month, Gianna developed a fibroma on her uterus. After examination, the doctors gave her three choices: an abortion, which would save her life and allow her to continue to have children; a complete hysterectomy, which would preserve her life, but take the unborn child's life, and prevent further pregnancy; or removal of only the fibroma,

with the potential of further complications. Roman Catholic teaching would have allowed her to obtain a hysterectomy, but would forbid an abortion. Wanting to preserve her child's life, she opted for the removal of the fibroma.

After the operation, complications continued throughout her pregnancy. Gianna was quite clear about her wishes, expressing to her family, "**This time it will be a difficult delivery, and they may have to save one or the other -- I want them to save my baby.**"

On April 21, 1962, Good Friday of that year, Gianna went to the hospital, where her fourth child, Gianna Emanuela, was successfully delivered via Caesarean section. However, Gianna continued to have severe pain, and died of septic peritonitis 7 days after the birth.

Gianna was beatified by Pope John Paul II on April 24, 1994, and officially canonized as a saint on May 16, 2004. Gianna's husband Pietro and their last child, Gianna, were present at the canonization ceremony.

(Source: Catholic Online)

Proposed Schema:
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS

Introduction:

Jesus taught us to continue praying for good laborers of the harvest by promoting a culture that promotes the dignity of life. May there may be persons who are ready to offer their lives at the service of the Gospel.

Eucharistic Hymn: *Bless the Lord, My Soul*

Eucharistic Greetings:

Leader: Lord Jesus, your felt compassion for the crowds, lost like sheep without shepherd... May we learn how to bring compassion to others, cultivate the spirit of prayer, and generous towards missionary availability and evangelization so that holy vocations come...
Praise and thanks every moment...

All: To the most holy and most divine sacrament.

L: Glory to the Father...

A: As it was in the beginning...

L: Send, O Lord,

A: Holy Apostles into Your Church!

Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come to me spiritually. I welcome you and unite myself entirely with you. Do not permit me ever to be separated from you. Jesus, I believe in you, I hope in you, and I love you.

Personal Moments of Adoration

Gospel: **Matthew 9:37-38/Luke 10:2**
[or Gospel reading for the next sunday]

Sharing/Personal Reflection/Song

Community/Personal Prayer:

[Here, the community gathered may compose their own set of prayers for vocations. Preferably, they may use the "vocation prayer habit" as model. Or each one may spontaneously pray for vocations according to one's context, e.g., parish, congregation, diocese, missionary work, evangelization, pastoral care for the sick and the suffering, migrants and refugees, etc.]

Tantum Ergo/Benediction/Blessed be God...

Final Hymn: *O Sacred Heart, O Love Divine*

Concluding Prayer:

Leader: Lord Jesus,

All: deliver us from every evil.

L: Praise and thanks every moment,

A: to the Most Holy and Most Divine Sacrament.

L: St. Hannibal Mary, *Patron of Vocations,*

A: pray for us.

L: Send, O Lord,

A: Holy Apostles into Your Church!

Help us spread the prayer for **Holy Vocations...**

UPCOMING EVENTS!

April 26 - **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**
June 1 - **Feast of St. Hannibal Mary di Francia**

Help us promote a **culture of vocations** by supporting our publication of *Kaya Idalangin*.

We hope that you have wholly benefited with our **free issue** of *Kaya Idalangin*. We are happy to have you as our collaborator in **praying for vocations**.

However, if you may wish to help us defray our mailing expenses, please let us know by contacting us at **info@rogate.ph**, or you may send us any amount according to your generosity at:

ST. HANNIBAL ROGATE CENTER

#24 Calcutta St., Merville Park,
Paranaque City, 1709

*Are you considering a life
"more closely united with Christ"
through priesthood and religious life?*

COME AND SEARCH WITH US!

We are happy to invite you to our vocation orientation on **APRIL 6-10, 2015** which will be held at **Rogationist Seminary-Manila (#65 Saint Hannibal St., Merville Park, Paranaque City)**. For details, contact us at: **(02) 828-3415/16** or **09494986744 / 09054184137** (Vocation Promoter)

For copies of *Kaya Idalangin* issues, please send the details of your request, including your contacts and mailing address to: **info@rogate.ph**

or **write** to us at:

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St. Hannibal Mary di Francia, pray for us! Send, O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!