

When Jesus started to announce the Kingdom, crowds of poor people followed him: did He not say: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he anointed me and sent me to bring the Good News to the poor" (Lk. 4,18) The poor have a chosen place in God's heart... The poor have a chosen place in Jeanne Antide's heart.



 Refrain to Jeanne Antide

- "We have heard the voice of the poor..." **Refrain**

- "Serve Jesus Christ in the person of the poor"

Refrain

- "The poor, these precious members of the suffering Jesus Christ".

Refrain

OUR FATHER

Guide: this journey of fraternity also has a Mother, whose name is Mary.

In the power of the risen Lord, she wants to give birth to a new world, where all of us are brothers and sisters, where there is room for all those whom our societies discard, where justice and peace are resplendent.

And in imitation of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, "we want to be a Church that serves, that leaves home and goes forth from its places of worship, goes forth from its sacristies, in order to accompany life, to sustain hope, to be the sign of unity... to build bridges, to break down walls, to sow seeds of reconciliation". (FT 278 - 276)

 Final Song to Mary



Fraternity involves service

Prayer for the month of April 2021



Guide : Today, the 11th April anniversary of the foundation of our Congregation, we thank God for the Gift of the Spirit who has instilled the missionary and generous ardour in Saint Jeanne Antide, her love for the Church and her immense tenderness.

 **LET US SING OUR THANKSGIVING!**

Guide : Jeanne Antide repeats the words she was told at Landeron, the day when she was sent to the mission

" You will gather the youths whom you will form as you have been formed and you will come to Besançon to set up an establishment for the instruction of youth and to assist the sick ."

 Refrain

Guide : Foundation Day :

" I opened at Besançon, rue des Martelots,, a school free of charge to teach the young girls...I was alone to teach, but the Good God deigned himself to lavish on me His Blessing..."

 Refrain

Guide : Later, in 1805, Jeanne Antide wrote :

"If we established ourselves at Besançon, we did not ask for it: we established ourselves through Providence and because of the repeated invitations that had been made to us."

 Refrain

Psalm 121 Ant. *The Lord, your guardian, is near you.*

I lift my eyes to the mountains
Where is help to come from?
Help comes to me from the Lord
Who made heaven and earth

Not letting our footsteps slip,
This guard of yours, he does not doze
The guardian of Israel
Does not doze or sleep

The Lord guards you, shades you,
The Lord at your right hand,
Sun cannot strike you down by day,
Not moon at night.

The Lord guards you from harm,
He guards your lives.
He guards you leaving, coming back,
Now and forever always. Glory be

Guide : The work of grace very often begins humbly.. without noise... It passes by un-perceived. When a seed falls on the ground, it is invisible, it cannot be seen at all...

It seems as if it died in the soil. But it is then that it begins to germinate. The seeds penetrate the grain's covering and begin to appear. The same thing happens with God's Kingdom and his works.



From the gospel of St. Matthew, 13, 31-32..

“Jesus put another parable before the crowd:
« The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter on its branches.»

From the Enciclique *Fratelli tutti* n° 115

And service in great part means “caring for vulnerability, for the vulnerable members of our families, our society, our people”. In offering such service, individuals learn to “set aside their own wishes and desires, their pursuit of power, before the concrete gaze of those who are most vulnerable... Service always looks to their faces, touches their flesh, senses their closeness and even, in some cases, ‘suffers’ that closeness and tries to help them. Service is never ideological, for we do not serve ideas, we serve people”.



Silence accompanied by music



Song

Today, Lord Jesus, your Spirit is preparing the hearts so that the Word may bear fruit.

Today, Lord, you send your Church along the roads of the world. With St. Jeanne Antide let us love the Church and pray for her:

Lord, listen to us. Lord, hear us.

- Lord, grant to the youth, to let themselves be guided by you on the path where you are sending them!

- Grant to all the christian to attentive to your presence already at work in the heart of all peoples!

- Blessed are you for the Gift of our Congregation, for all the sisters everywhere, for the Friends of Saint Jeanne Antide!



Silence accompanied by music