

**Guide 1 :** Let us reflect personally in silence.

**“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place” (Lk 11:1)**

The Lord Jesus is still present in our life and dwells in it through prayer. Are we aware of his presence? Do we see it in others’ life and among those close to us?



*Silence with background music*

**Guide 2 :** Lord Jesus Christ, you are the visible face of the Father, grant that the Church may show to the world your tenderness and proximity. Together with the whole Church, let us pray for unity.

***Lord graciously hear us.***

Lord Jesus Christ, may come the day in which all those who believe in You dwell in the same house and work together sowing peace, justice and love.

***Lord graciously hear us.***

May come the day in which all your children meet around the same table to share the same bread and to drink at the same cup.

Yes, Lord, may your day come, a day of unity as it is for that day that You came.

***Lord graciously hear us.***

CAs Jesus himself taught us, let us turn together to the Father and pray:

**Our Father...**

**Guide 1 :** “Let us pray with Mary who was «open to the voice of God who guided her heart and her steps where she was needed.

A **silent presence** of a mother and a disciple. Mary did not say: «Come, I shall solve all problems», but: «Do what He will say», leading them to Jesus. This is the typical attitude of the disciple, and Mary was the first disciple and prayed as a Mother and as a disciple. » (Pope Francis, General Audience, 18 November 2020)



***Song to Mary***



**ARTISANS OF FRATERNITY**  
*“in prayer”*



Prayer for the month of January 2023

In the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



***Hymn to the Holy Spirit***

**Guide 1 :** We pray to You, God of truth,  
**who call us to live in fraternity and in prayer.**

Grant us the gift of prayer.

O God, leaving You we fall,  
conversion enables us to stand up again,  
dwelling in You we live,  
O God, faith takes us to You,  
hope leads us to You,  
charity unites us to You.



It is You who strengthen us,  
It is You who make us know the truth,  
It is You who inspire our good thoughts,  
It is You to take us back on Your way,  
It is You who lead us to your door,  
It is You who open to those who knock,  
It is You who give us the bread of life,  
through You we want to drink at the source that shall quench our thirst for ever. (Prayer inspired by St. Augustin)



*Silence with background music*

**Guide 2 :** Prayer is a **mystery**. It is an intimate and personal encounter with God which brings inner peace, that is the fruit of the silent conversation with God.

Prayer is the **inner search for intimacy with the Lord**, turning to Him alone and in Him we learn to love each person.

Prayer is strictly **connected to life**. Day by day, breath after breath,

prayer enables us to transform our daily **life in a shining fragment of eternity.**



*Silence with background music*

**Guide 1 :** With Psalm 41, we ask the Lord to be the guide of our prayer, the one our soul seeks.

As the deer pants for streams of water,  
so my soul pants for you, my God.

My soul thirsts for God,  
for the living God.

When can I go and meet with God?

My tears have been my food  
day and night,  
while people say to me all day long,  
'Where is your God?'

These things I remember  
as I pour out my soul:  
how I used to go  
to the house of God  
under the protection  
of the Mighty One  
with shouts of joy and praise  
among the festive throng.

Why, my soul, are you downcast?  
Why so disturbed within me?  
Put your hope in God,  
for I will yet praise him,  
my Saviour and my God!

By day the Lord directs his love,  
at night his song is with me –  
a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God my Rock,  
'Why have you forgotten me?  
Why must I go about mourning,  
oppressed by the enemy?'

My bones suffer mortal agony  
as my foes taunt me,  
saying to me all day long,  
'Where is your God?'

Why, my soul, are you downcast?  
Why so disturbed within me?  
Put your hope in God,  
for I will yet praise him,  
my Saviour and my God.



*Silence with background music*



*Song or refrain about prayer*

**Guide 2 :** Prayer is an invite to live and remain in the humble experience of a God who searches for those who thirst for Him. It is the **conscience of one's fragility** that urges us to raise our eyes towards God not to be blinded by our misery.

In prayer we become **the hand God offers to those in need.**

**Guide 1: Let us meditate the words of Saint Jeanne Antide on prayer:**

*"As I prostrate myself before your divine majesty, deign to hear my humble prayer. Come to my aid O God..."*

*It is You alone, My God and my Lord that I place all my trust..."*  
(Prayer of 1821)

**Guide 2 :** In the Gospels, Jesus lives an intense prayer at the most difficult and vital times of his earthly existence, in it He experienced a particular manifestation of His filial relationship with the Father; it is always in prayer that He makes important choices after knowing the will of the Father.

The only wish of Jesus is to do the will of the Father and this is possible only in prayer, in it the harmony between human and divine heart is established.

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***From the Gospel according to St Luke 11: 1-4, 9-10***

« One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.'

He said to them, 'When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation."'»

So I say to you: ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. »



*Silence with background music*