

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Brothers, let us praise Christ who on this day of prayer for vocations to the Oblates and plead that the Father continue sending missionaries to our Congregation, responding:

Lord, send workers in your vineyard for the harvest

Remember, Lord, your Church,
--preserve it from every evil and make it perfect in your love.

Guide our Holy Father, Pope Francis,
--protect and strengthen him with your Spirit.

Bless our Congregation,
--may we preach by word and deed "who Christ is."

Assist our Superior General,
--may he guide the Congregation in the spirit of St Eugene and be a sign of unity among all Oblates.

Sustain all missionaries of the Gospel,
--may they be faithful and courageous ministers of your Kingdom.

Be with our absent brothers,
--keep them always in your love.

Call others to share in our life and work,
--send laborers into your harvest.

Reward those who make our life possible,
--grant eternal life to all who have done us good for your Name's sake

With confidence and hope together, we say: Our Father...



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I. A 200-Year Anniversary



Preface

"This third year of the Oblate Triennium invites us to reexamine our faithfulness to the charism of Eugene de Mazenod and ultimately our faithfulness to Jesus' mission.

*All the Units of the Congregation are called to review their missionary activity in the light of this Scripture and our CC&RR. The recent documents of Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium* and *Laudato Si'* give us a tremendous impetus to renewed missionary vigor. These writings confirm the Oblate charism and illumine our discernment of mission, creating new missionary ardor among us. Already some Oblate Units have engaged in a courageous process of discerning mission and taking hard decisions for the vitality of Oblate life and faithfulness to the charism. I want to encourage and bless them as they discern new directions. Each Unit should prayerfully review, as a missionary community, how it participates in the mission of the Trinity and discern where it is being called to witness at the present time in light of our charism. We pray for the anointing of the Spirit so that we have free hearts to leave behind ministries where we have done great work in order to respond to the most urgent needs and challenges of evangelization today".*

Fr. Louis Lougen, omi



Prayer for Oblate Vocations

**They were praising God
and enjoyed the good will
of all the people**

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.

All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.



**Honor your important ministry,
living all the religious
virtues!**



Letter of the Founder to the missionaries in Ceylon

Not being able to write to each one of you, I direct myself to all of you dear sons, who have been called by God to such a beautiful mission. Honor your important ministry, living all the religious virtues. Faithfully observe our holy rule, live in a most perfect unity and always act moved by obedience. If a problem arises---which I pray the Lord will spare you of---take care not to complain with some stranger. Later you will repent and it will not be long before you recognize you have caused great harm to our family, a remediless evil which you will have on your conscience all your life. Instead, be sure that instead of obtaining relief which you sought, you will only find bitterness and disappointment.

Love one another, have a proper respect for each other and you will avoid this misfortune. God will bless all your endeavors and you will be recompensed in this life whilst you home in the eternal reward in heaven.

Even though you are now few in number, when you are together make your exercises together as if you were a numerous community. What can I tell you as to how much good you will do with your good example?

