

N° 189 JANUARY 2025

CONTENTS

P. I : Editorial / Spiritual post by Fr. Gervais Raoul N'Sougan.

P. 2 : Greetings from the EIAI/ Pope John Paul I and John Paul II on hope.

P. 3 : Letter from the ERI read at the Turin gathering/ Testimony from the Turin gathering continued.

P. 4 : Testimonies 24 hours of intercession / General intention, EIAI Announcements.

INTERCESSORS' QUARTERLY LETTER

LIKE THE DISCIPLES OF EMMAUS, THE INTERCESSORS ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD WITH BURNING HEARTS TO ANNOUNCE, WITNESS AND GIVE THE DISCOURAGED, HOPE.

« Who will I send? Who will be our messenger? » And I answered I then heard the voice of the Lord saying: « Here I am: send me!» (Is6, 8)

Dear Intercessor friends, *sent* : this is what we are. In response to the Lord's call, here we are in the mission, our hearts burning to announce, testify and tell the discouraged that God is always faithful to his promises.

The mission is above all the work of the Holy Spirit. This Spirit that Christ poured out on the Church at the beginning of his mission, he still sends into our hearts today. He sends him so that with our lives transformed in his, we can bear witness to him and give hope to the discouraged.

At the start of the year 2025, let us open ourselves more to the Spirit who intercedes for us with inexpressible groans., so that our intercession can touch the heart of God.

SPIRITUAL POST BY FR. GERVAIS RAOUL : INTERCESSORS, WITNESSES OF HOPE TO THE DISCOURAGED



On May 9, Pope Francis placed the 2025 jubilee under the sign of hope: « Hope will also be the central message of the next Jubilee that the Pope proclaims every twenty -five years, according to an ancient tradition.».

(Rf. Pope François, *Spes non confundit*, on the inauguration of the ordinary jubilee of the year 2025 n°1).

Faced with difficulties, the human being seems paralyzed, disoriented, lukewarm, inert... But when divine hope passes, carried by the word of God, it says to him, like Peter to the cripple and Jesus to the paralytic: « *Get up and walk !* » (Mk 2, 11). Then, the human being jumps up and finally enters the heart of the Church or society, in a new and joyful way, ready to take on the tasks and responsibilities that Providence

asks of him. (Rf. Raniero Cantalamessa, fourth Lenten sermon of the year 2024).

Witnesses of hope, trust in God: «All things work together for the good of those who love God» (Rm 8, 28). They know how to wait patiently for God's time, since they are sure of his faithfulness. They know that they have a future: it is not that they know in detail what awaits them, but they know in general that their life does not end in nothingness.

To light the fire of hope, we must ensure that the Word of God is proclaimed in time and out of season. Which means that the Intercessors, even the team members, must increase in their daily lives the time they give to reading the word of God, for a life of interior transformation.

. It is therefore important to emphasize the practice of prayer: without this, we cannot be true

« sent » of God in the world.

Fr. Gervais Raoul N'SOUGAN, Spiritual Advisor to Intercessors

LA NOUVELLE E.I.A.I 2024-2030



POPE JEAN-PAUL I « THE POPE WITH A SMILE» : HOPE IS AN OBLIGATORY VIRTUE



Hope is an obligatory virtue

During his very brief ministry, John Paul I devoted a catechesis to hope, in which he affirmed that it « is an obligatory virtue for every Christian» which is born from trust in three truths: « God is almighty, God loves me immensely, God is faithful to promises. And it is He, the God of mercy, who kindles confidence in me; this is why I feel neither alone, nor useless, nor abandoned, but involved in a destiny of salvation, which will one day come to Paradise».

General Audience, 20 September 1978.

SAINT JEAN-PAUL II : CHRISTIANS ARE WITNESSES TO HOPE



Saint John Paul II invites us to rediscover the theological virtue of hope, which « on the one hand, exhorts the Christian not to lose sight of the final goal which gives meaning and value to his entire existence and, on the other hand, offers him solid and deep motivations for his daily commitment to the transformation of reality in order to make it conform to God's plan» (*Tertio millennio adveniente*).

We must accept the gift of the Holy Spirit who « arouses in us a certain hope that nothing can ever separate us from the love of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord» (Rom 8, 39). For this reason, the God revealed in the

"fullness of times" in Jesus Christ is truly « the God of hope», who fills believers with joy and peace, causing them to abound « in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit » (Rom 15, 13). Christians are therefore called to be witnesses in the world of this joyful experience, « always ready to answer anyone who asks them the reason for hope» who is in them(1 P 3, 15).



« When Christ unites a man and a woman through his Sacrament, it is to found a sanctuary, this sanctuary which is a Christian home, where He, Christ, can celebrate, with this couple, by this couple, the great worship filial of praise, adoration and intercession that he came to establish on earth».

TURIN 2024: LETTER FROM THE ERI AT THE TURIN GATHERING

The letter from the ERI read in Turin is, for all, and for the Intercessors in particular, a call to bear witness, following the disciples of Emmaus, to the Risen and living Christ, who becomes close to the tried, the discouraged, the suffering, the injured, the most fragile. The intercessory prayer is a response to this call launched by the Notre-Dame Teams:

We are called to live in communion with Christ: such is the call received by all the team members and Intercessors in Turin. We recognize Christ who walks alongside us and, nourished by his Word and his presence in the bread and wine, we come out of our selfishness to witness, serve and intercede.

We are called to live in communion with our spouse, and with him, in the grace of our sacrament of marriage, we move forward to open our hearts to the love of God and our neighbor, in hope and trust.

We are called to live in communion as a family: to live as welcoming families radiant with the love received and shared, not only internally, but also externally. This is one of the ten original obligations of the founding charter of Equipes Notre-Dame.

May we, Intercessors, make this program our own, so that, guided by the Holy Spirit who dwells in our hearts, we are truly attentive to the needs of those around us, to their requests for prayer and support.

Fr Henri Caffarel.

That we know how to truly be "Watchers", whose lamps are always well lit, to live from intercession and pray constantly for team members, for suffering couples, for priests, for families.

CHRIST WITH US ON THE WAY IN INTERCESSIONAL PRAYER



The month of July in the year of our Lord 2024 was a breath of fresh air for us during the international gathering of the Notre-Dame Teams in Turin, in our walk with Jesus on the path of holiness where he awaits us in intercessory prayer.

The daily meditation on the gospel of the disciples of Emmaus and its fruits, during this week of pilgrimage, revealed to us our fragility at first glance, "Jesus said to them: what are you discussing as you walk? So, they stopped, sad" (Lk 24:17). This awareness of our weakness in prayer, through this question that Jesus asks us at this moment, shakes us from the inside. The visible reflection deep within us of our lack of zeal, of our missed encounters with Jesus, of our lukewarmness towards those who need spiritual assistance in the corners of the world and all our moments of deserts spiritual.

Jesus lovingly accompanies us in the fragility of our prayer, he invites us into

the urgency of intercession in the storms of our married lives, in the suffering of our family lives and in the moral misery of our contemporary society.

The fruitfulness of our prayer flows from this burning heart, which cannot contain this joy of the very presence of the resurrected Christ who is on the path of our prayer with us. He invites us to bear witness through our lives in fidelity and perseverance in this prayer of intercession, Jesus Christ the Living invites us in the urgency of the intercession of our time.

Josiane and Gilles Martin LONDJI,

Team10, Sector C Yaoundé.

ECHOES FROM THE 24 HOURS OF INTERCESSION ON DECEMBER 8, 2024





Photos Pre–Honduras region, SR Hispano North America.

Dear friends,

We shared with the whatsApp group of Intercessors in Lebanon the international circulars concerning the 24 hours of intercessions while inviting them to choose the prayer timing they prefer between December 7 and 8, 2024. We made an excel table where we have filled in each person's name as well as the selected prayer time. We were happy to complete our table fairly quickly given the great motivation of the Intercessors to join this prayer process...

Each couple (or person) who prays during these 24 hours, shares their prayer corner (icon, candle, statue or gospel, etc.) on the Intercessors WhatsApp group, which has allowed us to walk peacefully - all together in a prayer chain.

We celebrated mass on Sunday, December 8, 2024 at noon in Ghosta in union with the Intercessors of the world. We put on the altar all our intentions as well as our movement. This mass celebrated by the advisor of the Intercessors, the E.N.D couples and their children was followed by a small convivial sharing (coffee and cakes, etc.) to reinforce the spirit of conviviality between the Intercessors.

The 24-hour prayer chain as well as the mass were particularly touching... These are real highlights where we feel deeply united in fraternal love and charity.



GENERAL INTENTION

We pray for those who despair, that they find faith and trust in God. Correspondents of the Intercessors for the Lebanon region

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

January: February: March: For the right to education of migrants. For priestly and religious vocations For families in crisis.

EIAI ANNOUNCEMENTS

We invite you to remain in communion of prayer with the EIAI which is holding its first meeting on January 11, 2025.

Contact us: EIAIFATIMA2018@GMAIL.COM Find us: https://equipes-notre-dame.com/en/who-are-theintercessors/