

**SALVATORIANS:
PRAYER AND APOSTOLATE**



Joint International Charism Commission - 2008

PRAYER

*(Combination of various texts from the
Spiritual Diary of Father Jordan)*

Burning Torch

Lord Jesus Christ,
Sun of Justice,
illumine and enlighten my soul,
in such a way that my footsteps
may be like the morning light
till it reaches perfect day.

O Savior of all,
Let me always burn
With great love for you
So that I inflame all!

Lord Jesus Christ,
Take my prayer and all that I have.
Here I am, send me.
Show me the ways to guide all to you.

O Savior of all people,
You are our Savior!
AMEN

SALVATORIANS — PRAYER AND APOSTOLATE

“The witness of Father Jordan and Mother Mary inspires us to be persons of prayer, to embrace the Cross for the sake of our mission, to have an unshakeable trust in Divine Providence and to live a simple lifestyle, and to have a special devotion to Mary as the Mother of the Savior. We manifest the goodness and kindness of God both in our mission and in our way of relating as a Salvatorian Family. In prayer and dialog, we seek to understand one another and are ready to forgive.”
*(Charter of the Salvatorian Family,
Chapter Three, para. 11 and 12)*

Icon for reflection on the theme:

√ After having read the Spiritual Diary, the Christian author Alessandro Pronzato describes Father Jordan as a “person animated by the divine fire, like a seismograph, measuring the movement of his own personal feelings and his spirituality, or like a compass, indicating the direction.”

Bible Texts: We connect the Pentecost experience of the disciples of Jesus With this example: Acts 1: 12-14 and Acts 2: 1-4.

Key elements of the Salvatorian Spirituality

Referring to the theme “Prayer and Apostolate”, we interpret the word “prayer” in a wider sense as the orientation of our lives versus God. If we carry inside the deep joy of belonging to God, of being united with Him and accepting His will, i.e. trying to reach holiness, our lives will always be determined by apostolic dynamism, the fire of love and apostolic zeal.

Living Holiness As A Vocation And Helping Others To Do The Same... (3rd key element)

The fire of divine love, the Holy Spirit Himself, is urging us to holiness, to perfect love. This love is made visible through Jesus Christ.

√ SD I 79,2: “It is the will of God and it is likewise true, that we should all become holy; consequently, it is also true that we can become holy. If, then we believe this to be true also in regard to ourselves and, consequently, make the determined resolution to become holy, striving for holiness with all our strength of body and soul, we than correspond with the divine Truth.” (Grundkötter)

√ SD III 23, 5: “Just as charity alone makes apostles, it alone also makes saints.”

√ Please also refer to SD 52, 2; SD I 46,4 and to SD III 22, 1, 3rd line.

***Manifesting the goodness and kindness of the Savior
(Titus 3:4)... (4th key element)***

If we believe in God, we know that He grants us His kindness day after day. This kindness appeared in His son, Jesus Christ, and fills us with confidence and humility. If we carry the image of Jesus in our hearts, we will become His witnesses.

√ SD I 80,4: “With God’s grace, accustom yourself also to recognize the goodness of God, even in the smallest things.”

√ SD I 80,1: “Be completely convinced that of yourself you are only evil and indeed worse than your fellowmen, and that therefore all the good which God has bestowed on you or which he works through you are, in a high degree, gifts of grace from God, for which countless other persons would be worthier than you. Live especially in this conviction, because the good God bestows his grace on you, so that you undertake and accomplish great things for his glory.”

√ SD II 78, 5 (September 11, 1904): “Oh, how good you are, O God! Oh, help me to glorify your name everywhere and to save souls.”

√ Also refer to SD IV 37, 6a: “The goodness and loving kindness

of God, our Savior, has appeared....”

Having apostolic zeal(7th key element)

Deeply touched by God, F. Francis is encouraging himself and us to be kindled by the fire of faith, confidence and apostolic zeal and to set others on fire.

SD I 200,2 (Holy Chrysostomos): “One man, who is enflamed with zeal for the faith, suffices to set aright a whole people.”

√ SD II 1, 7: “Let no betrayal, no infidelity, no coldness, no abuse lessen your zeal!”

√ SD II 20,4b: “Be a trumpet! Elias rose up ... like a fire and his words blazed like a torch...!”

√ SD IV 36: “The fire of confidence in God! ... without this, Don Bosco could have done absolutely nothing.” (March 6, 1917)

√ Also see the prayers SD I 137, 5-10 and SD I 138, 1 & 3.

√ From Jordan’s Chapter Talks (Jan. 5, 1900): “Prayer is where you should get fire...!”

SOURCE MATERIAL

In addition to the *Spiritual Diary* and *Exhortations and Admonitions* of F. Jordan:

√ Joseph Lammers, SDS (ed. 2006):
The Spirituality of F. Jordan

√ Arno Boesing, SDS *Salvatorian Key Elements, Charism, Mission, Spirituality, Identity, Part I*: “SDS Spirituality”

√ Mario Agudelo, SDS: *Salvatorian Key Elements, Charism, Mission, Spirituality, Identity, Part III*: “Some Essences of our Salvatorian Perfume”