



## Open Wide Our Doors ~ Share Our Resources

*Music suggestions:* “Table of Plenty” by Dan Schutte; “There is a Longing” by Anne Quigley; “My Trust Lies in You” (Je mets ma confiance, v 1), translation by Lorna Cooney, SNJM

### **“My Trust Lies in You” (“Je mets ma confiance,” v 1)**

Refrain: O Virgin most holy, my trust lies in you.  
I pray you’ll protect me now and all my life through.

Verse 1: My heart is full of hope as you guide me on my way,  
Be ever my companion, each moment of the day.

*Translation by Lorna Cooney, SNJM*

*Ambiance suggestions:* Symbols of commitment – ring(s), symbols of love – heart-shaped items, photos of loved ones and/or ministry; symbols of life – plants, flowers, picture of cosmos; copy of community Constitutions.



### **Introduction/opening prayer:**

Creator God, we gather with hearts full of gratitude for the treasures You have given our world. We thank You for Your Love, for Your gifts of our families and our faith, for the many people You have brought into our lives, and for the majestic cosmos in which we find ourselves on our Home Planet, Earth. We thank You for the gift of Your Son, who has revealed You to us, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit, in whose presence we are immersed as we live the life revealed to us by Your Son. Today we come to You, asking to open our hearts even more as we walk among Your people with whom we share our Earth.



## Reading 1

“When two of you get together on anything at all on earth and make a prayer of it, my Father in heaven goes into action. And when two or three of you are together because of me, you can be sure that I’ll be there.”

Matthew 18:20, The Message

## Reflection questions:

During the life of our Congregation:

- ♥ Where has the Spirit called us to gather?
- ♥ Who were the people to whom we were called?
- ♥ How did they invite us to be with them in their local setting?
- ♥ What challenges did we face with them in their daily lives?
- ♥ What resources did we together have ... and not have?
- ♥ What were/are the graces we received with and through them?
- ♥ Are we still at that place or were we called to gather somewhere else?



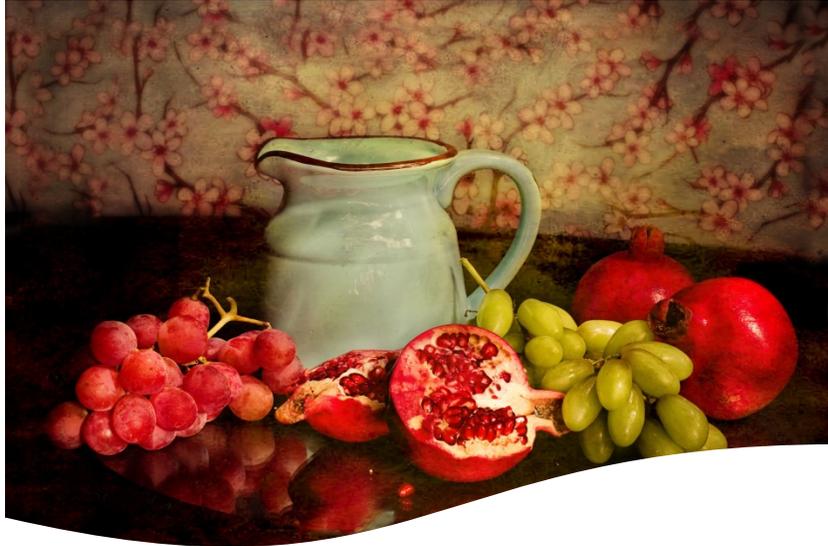
## Time for reflection/sharing

Those present could name particular responses to all/some of the questions or focus on one setting and describe responses to some of the questions.

## Antiphonal Response

- Side 1 All material goods, all the riches of our minds and hearts, are gifts from God.
- Side 2 We receive them with gratitude, as persons who are poor, and use these gifts in the service of others.
- Side 1 The limited resources of creation are destined for the entire human family. In a spirit of faithful stewardship, we use them responsibly.
- Side 2 We place all our material, human, and spiritual resources in common, in order to share both within and outside the Congregation.
- Side 1 We thus express our interdependence and our solidarity with the whole human community.

SNJM Constitutions, Article 30, p 26-27



### **Reading 2**

God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you are ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done. As one psalmist put it, “He throws caution to the winds, giving to the needy in reckless abandon. His right-living, right-giving ways never run out, never wear out.” This most generous God who gives seeds to the farmer that becomes bread for your meals is more than extravagant with you. He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way producing with us great praise to God.

2 Corinthians 9: 8-11, The Message

### **Reading 3**

[When considering the Congregational Financial Resources, the] Chapter requests that the Congregational Leadership Team and the leadership teams of the Provinces and Sector collaborate on an analysis of all financial and property resources across the Congregation, including the future financial needs of each region.

Acts of the Thirty-Fourth General Chapter, p 20

### **Reflection**

At this time in our congregational life

- ♥ To whom is the Spirit calling us?
- ♥ In what ways can we use/share our resources to minister globally and locally?
- ♥ How can we do good on behalf of others while providing for our sustainability?
- ♥ What do interdependence, solidarity, and collegiality look like within the global family and the congregation?
- ♥ How do socially responsible investing, share-holder activism, community development lending, cross province/sector sharing and projects allow us to leverage missional change?

## **Sharing**

Those present could focus on one area to share about at this time.

## **Closing Prayer (All)**

We place all our materials, human and spiritual resources in common, in order to share both within and outside the Congregation. We thus express our interdependence and our solidarity with the whole human community.

SNJM Constitutions, Article 30, p 27

## **Closing Hymn:** Our Father (recited or chanted)

The Chapter Prayer, “Adventure with the Spirit,” could also be used (attached).

“Je mets ma confiance” and “I Place My Trust in You” (attached)



Prayer service created by: Beth Liebert, Sarah Lucier and Fran Kearney.

The Spiritual Ministries Network of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM) provides a variety of prayer services for personal and group spiritual nourishment. May your prayer life draw you closer to the Divine.

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2016 Chapter Prayer

God of our past, our present, our future,

You call us to a future abundant in grace,

full of challenge,

and rich in possibility.

You invite us to leave the familiar,

to forge new paths,

to risk moving forward with the destination uncertain.

Grant us continually renewed fidelity

to the radical call of the Gospel and

to our founding charism.

Help us to listen deeply as we

discern together our response

to the needs of our community,

the church, and the world today.

Launch us anew with passionate love.

Give us a daring spirit.

Fill us with hope.

**My Trust Lies in You**  
 Translation of *Je mets ma confiance*  
 (By Lorna Cooney, SNJM)

**Refrain**

O - Vir - gin most ho - ly, my - trust lies in you, I -

Fine **Fin**

pray you'll pro - tect me now and all my life through. 1. My  
 2. You  
 3. Fol-  
 4. And

heart is full of hope as you guide me on my way, Be  
 are a lov-ing moth - er, and Je - sus is your son, Speak  
 low - ing your ex - am- ple, I vow with all my heart, To  
 when my life is o - ver, I'll breathe my fi - nal breath, Pray

ev - er my com - pan - ion, each mo - ment of the day.  
 to him of your chil - dren, your daugh - ters and your sons.  
 be a true dis - ci - ple, 'til this world I de - part.  
 that I will be blest with a ho - ly, peace-ful death.

*Je mets ma confiance,  
 Vierge, en votre secours.  
 Servez-moi de défense.  
 Prenez soin de mes jours.*