

Sixth Day  
October 18<sup>th</sup>

## Great Evangelizer of the Culture

### Preparatory Reading:

“We cannot fail to evangelize. There are so many regions, so many cultural environments that remain oblivious to the good news of Jesus Christ. I think of the cultures of vast regions of the world still on the margins of the Christian faith. But I also think of the broad cultural sectors in countries of Christian tradition that, today, seem indifferent - when not obstinate - to the Gospel. [...] The Church respects all cultures and imposes on no one her faith in Jesus Christ, but invites all people of good will to promote a true civilization of love founded on the Gospel values of brotherhood, justice and dignity for all.”<sup>1</sup>

“ ‘As an evangelizer, Christ first of all proclaims a kingdom, the kingdom of God. As the kernel and center of his Good News, Christ proclaims salvation, this great gift which is, above all, liberation from everything that oppresses man but which is, above all, liberation from sin and the Evil One.’ (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 8-9)....

The Church, an expert in humanity, faithful to the signs of the times, and in obedience to the pressing call of the last Council, wishes to continue today her mission of faith and defense of human rights. She calls upon Christians to commit themselves to the construction of a more just, human, and habitable world, which is not shut up within itself, but opens to God.

To construct this more just world means, among other things, making every effort in order that there will be no children without sufficient food, without education, without instruction; that there will be no young people without a suitable preparation; that, in order to live and to develop in a worthy way, there will be no peasants without land; that there *will* be no workers ill-treated or deprived of their rights; that there will be no systems that permit the exploitation of man by man or by the State; that there will be no corruption; that there will be no persons living in superabundance, while others through no fault of their own lack everything; that there will not be so many families badly formed, broken, disunited, receiving insufficient care; that there will be no injustice and inequality in the administration

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<sup>1</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Speech to the members of the Pontifical Council for Culture* (01/15/1985).

of justice; that there will be no one without the protection of the law, and that law will protect all alike; that force will not prevail over truth and law, but truth and law over force; and that economic or political matters will never prevail over human matters.

But do not be content with this more human world. Make a world that is explicitly more divine, more in accordance with God, ruled by faith, and in which this latter inspires the moral, religious, and social progress of man. Do not lose sight of the vertical dimension of evangelization. It has strength to liberate man, since it is the revelation of love. The love of the Father for men, for one and all; a love revealed in Jesus Christ. *For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life* (Jn 3:16).

Jesus Christ manifested this love above all in his hidden life—*He has done all things well* (Mk 7:37)—and by proclaiming the Gospel; then, by his death and resurrection, the paschal mystery in which man meets with his definitive vocation to eternal life, to union with God. This is the eschatological dimension of love.

Beloved Sons: I conclude by exhorting you always to be worthy of the faith that you have received. Love Christ, love man through him, and live devotion to our beloved Mother in heaven, ... May she help you to walk towards Christ, preserving and fully developing the seed planted by your first evangelizers.”<sup>2</sup>

## Prayer:

Eternal God, who in your divine providence have given us Saint John Paul II as example and guide, grant that we may be grateful for this gift by being faithful to his magisterium, by living his teachings and by entrusting our prayers to his intercession.

May he, who in union with the bishops of the whole world consecrated the Church and the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, obtain for us the grace to be faithful to this kind Mother. And may we repeat each day as he taught us:

“Virgin Mother of my God, make me all yours!  
Yours in life, yours in death;  
yours in suffering, yours in fears and in misery;

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<sup>2</sup> SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Homily from his Apostolic Journey to the Dominican Republic* (01/25/1979).  
[http://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/homilies/1979/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_hom\\_19790125\\_santo-domingo-vescovi.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/homilies/1979/documents/hf_jp-ii_hom_19790125_santo-domingo-vescovi.html)

yours on the cross and in painful discouragement;  
yours in time and in eternity.

Virgin Mother of my God, make me all yours!”

*Totus tuus Maria.*

Amen.

*Request the particular grace desired through this novena.*

*Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. Then pray the litany.*

## LITANY IN HONOR OF ST. JOHN PAUL II

Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy

*Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy*

Christ, hear us  
Christ, graciously hear us

*Christ, hear us  
Christ, graciously hear us*

God the Father of Heaven  
God the Son, Redeemer of the World  
God the Holy Spirit  
Holy Trinity, One God  
Never Evasive to the Missionary Adventure  
First Global Missionary  
Dagger of Justice  
Full of Profound Knowledge of the Second Vatican Council  
Conqueror of Communism  
Gleaming Joy and Feast for Souls  
Leader of the World

*Have mercy on us  
Have mercy on us  
Have mercy on us  
Have mercy on us  
Pray for us*

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world

*Spare us, O Lord*

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world

*Graciously hear us, O Lord*

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world

*Have mercy on us*

