

Together, Beyond Borders...



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Background Music Introduction

Together with our holy foundress, who arrived in Ville-Marie with “La Grande Recrue” on November 16, 1653, we celebrate, for the 18th consecutive year, CND internationality.

In solidarity with all the sisters and associates of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame, we are invited to live this prayer centred on mutuality and interculturality.

United with consecrated persons during this year of consecrated life,
and thinking of the migrants and of all the situations of misery that this crisis causes,
in the presence of God, let us sing with all our heart :

Go to the World!

1. Go to the world! Go into all the earth;
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth
Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia!
2. Go to the world! Go into every place;
Go live the world of God's redeeming grace;
Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia!
3. Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
The nights of tears give way to joyful day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia!
4. Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry “Amen.” Alleluia!

(Catholic Book of Worship III, No. 508)

Gesture Presentation of Flags

Lord, by presenting the flag of Cameroon, we wish to find a just and peaceful solutions to the problems of safety and violence created by Boko Haram, particularly in northern Cameroon;

During this year of consecrated life, we give thanks for the many religious vocations in this country, especially in the CND.

Lord, when unfurling the flags of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, we think of the Tierra Nueva community and the great detachment resulting from the rapid abandonment of a house due to landslides;

We give thanks for the kindness and proximity of the associates and friends who have showed great solidarity under these difficult circumstances.

Lord, by presenting the Canadian flag, we wish for the unbridled pursuit of profit to give way to a greater respect for human rights in areas of health, education, housing and work;

We give special recognition to the efforts made by organizations working for human dignity, liberating education and the environment.

Lord, as we unfurl the flag of the United States, we implore your mercy for all the gun violence and violence perpetrated by racism and war;

We give you thanks for the generosity of a country that has welcomed immigrants throughout its history.

Lord, by presenting to you the flag of France, we carry our worries for CND succession to the place of birth of Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys.

We are filled with wonder at the commitment of the French to far-reaching projects and to charitable works that solicit them regularly.

Lord, by presenting to you the flag of Japan, we think of the effects of the Tsunami: four years have already passed and there is still much suffering, displacement and struggling against nuclear pollution;

We give thanks for the honesty, respect and courage of the people.

Contemplative silence 5 minutes

Psalm 113

No one can properly express the merciful grandeur of God. Even the heavens are below it. The grandeur of God's mercy may seem intimidating. In fact, it can only do good. God's hand gently raises up the poor.

One voice: Praise God, you servants of God;
praise God's name.
Let the name of God be praised,
both now and forevermore.
From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets,
the name of God is to be praised.

Together: God is exalted over all the nations,
God's glory above the heavens.
Who is like our God,
the One who sits enthroned on high,
who stoops down to look
on the heavens and the earth?

One voice: God raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ash heap;
God seats them with princes,
with the princes of God's people.
God gives the childless woman a home
making her the joyous mother of children.



Praise the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit...

Contemplative Silence

Reflection and Word of God

How beautiful are those cities which overcome paralysing mistrust, integrate those who are different and make this very integration a new factor of development! How attractive are those cities which, even in their architectural design, are full of spaces which connect, relate and favour the recognition of others!
(The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis)

God creates difference. Therefore difference is GOOD. We do not survive despite our differences, but within them... We should also look at what we have in common: the same humanity, the same faith tradition, the same belonging to a Congregation, the same spirituality.

(Anthony J. Gittens, CSSP)

St-Paul and St-Peter invite us to progress further:
(Text interspersed with musical breaks)

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Gal 3, 26-28

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united in Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but to the interests of the others.
In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus. Ph 2: 1-5

For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of God's household. Ep 2:18-19

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 P 4:8-10

Contemplative silence

Universal Prayer

Sisters and friends in God, let us travel together the five continents.

Let us travel to Africa embracing its joie de vivre. It will greet us with its hospitality and its great respect for the elderly, its dance rhythm and its trust in life lived from day to day. Let us pray for our sisters and brothers in Africa.

Together: Spirit of Unity, give us life.

Let us travel to Asia embracing its mystery. It will teach us its profound spiritual and artistic sense, its refined courtesy and its hard work. Let us pray for our brothers and sisters in Asia.

Together: Spirit of Unity, give us life.

Let us travel to Europe discovering its openness to the universal, its welcoming of diversities, its spirit of solidarity and of sharing.

Together: Spirit of Unity, give us life.

Let us travel to Oceania listening to its song. We will learn about its ever present thirst for God. On this continent of islands of a thousand colours and of diverse cultures, we will learn about a concern for reconciliation.

Together: Spirit of Unity, give us life.

Let us travel to America to let ourselves be astonished by its efforts to safeguard our common home; it will share with us its ongoing battle for the liberation of all people.

Together: Spirit of Unity, give us life.

(Brief Pause)

Together, beyond borders, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us.



Our Father (All rise)

Prayer of Pope Francis

One Voice: Triune Lord,
wondrous community of infinite love,
Awaken our praise and thankfulness for every being that you have made.

Together: Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is. God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.

One Voice: Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.

Together: O Lord, seize us with your power and light,
help us to protect all life,
to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom
of justice, peace, love and beauty.
Praise be to you!
Amen.

Final Hymn

Magnificat (Robert Lebel)

Magnificat, Magnificat!
Mon cœur exulte d'allégresse,
Magnificat, Magnificat!
Mon cœur exulte d'allégresse.

Magnificat, Magnificat!
My heart exults with songs of great joy,
Magnificat, Magnificat!
My heart exults with songs of great joy.

Magnificat, Magnificat!
Ko-ko-ro yo-ro-ko bini mi-tsu,
Magnificat, Magnificat!
Ko-ko-ro yo-ro-ko-bi ni mi tsu.

Magnificat, Magnificat!
Mi co-ra-zon se re-go-ci-ja,
Magnificat, Magnificat!
Mi co-ra-zon se re-go-ci-ja.

Blessing

Together, beyond borders,
may we become for others, in community
and with our sisters and brothers in humanity,
a blessing of peace and of joy!

May God give us this grace!
Amen!

