CALASANCTIAN JUBILEE YEAR . MARCH 25 2017

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE NOVICES OF THE ORDER
“With grateful hearts, we shall receive into the Piarist family those who, moved by the Holy Spirit, come to us with the desire to share our life and apostolate. Above all, by the happy testimony of our lives, we shall try to incorporate them with us and help them always to respond sincerely and generously to their vocation”. (C 104)

1. Maciej Lewczuk  
2. Rafał Łabroszewicz  
3. Krzysztof Świderski  
4. Szymon Kawała  
5. Antonius Wijaya  
6. Borja de la Rúa Ruiz  
7. Juliao de Oliveira Amaral da Silva  
8. Adrianus Tikneon  
9. Ignasius Norberto Teme  
10. Robertus Belarminus Meak  
11. Yohanes Dadi  
12. Egidius Maneno  
13. Heribertus Ngalu  
14. Yulianus Nguru  
15. Paulinus Kerowe Llein  
16. Gregorius Dedimus Luan  
17. Robert Ibarrola  
18. Nguyen Hong Ha  
19. Antonio D. Fidelino  
20. Rolan A. Manalo  
21. Jaffarson Jeffrey Opaon  
22. Nguyen Van Phuc  
23. Gerysan M. Andrino  
24. Norbertus Maneno  
25. Jeffrey R. de la Vega  
26. Stephen T. Lam Tuang  
27. Lucas Ferrera  
28. José Emmanuel Campa Gándara  
29. Daniel Cruz Santos  
30. Ángel Díaz Rosas  
31. Miguel Ángel Montejo González  
32. Arbey Zurizaddaí Maldonado G.  
33. Nabor Reyes Irineo  
34. José Ángel Gómez Palma  
35. Jesús Guadalupe Martínez Céjudo  
36. José Alfredo Hernández Pérez
37. José Hernandez Dueñas
38. Rolando José Hernández H.
39. Luis Demetrio Castillo
40. Jesús Carmona
41. Dianny José Prado Oyarzabal
42. Dilan Leal
43. Heyder V. da Conceicao
44. Mauricio Alejandro Cárdenas
45. David Villada López
46. Ron-Pierre Nguema
47. Bertrand Ategha
48. Paulin Tokono
49. Hermann Konga
50. Jose Emilio Esono
51. Chrysantus Yvesinbom
52. Noel Tantoh
53. Rene Kechah
54. Elvis Tata
55. Eric Ngu
56. Vesta Tomla
57. Austin Kanjo
58. Isidore Chinemelu
59. Desmund Ngwa
60. Abraham Numen
61. Elohim Zola
62. Joseph Runiga
63. Eric Amuche
64. Elvice Bingo
65. Louis Lougbegnon
66. Denis Basile Dione
67. Frank Worawotcho Coulibaly
68. Janvier Diango Diatta
69. Herman Baudoin Brou Assi
70. Yannick Malack
71. Emmanuel Kouame Abissa
72. Kolman Bernard Bada
As an aid for reflection and meditation on the Novitiate, we offer some texts of our institutional documents.

**Directory of Formation and Studies of the Piarist (numbers 42-45)**

The Novitiate, as an initiation to the religious life within the piarist community, is the period for vocation’s maturation, during which the personal option is clarified. It’s a special stage, both intense and challenging, but, far from moving away from reality, it must help to start in it a new life-style.

Objective of the stage. At the end of the Novitiate each candidate in formation is able to discern, in an atmosphere of spiritual serenity, the call to following Jesus Christ through a real experience of piarist religious life, aimed to shape his personality with the Gospel’s values and according to the life project as proposed in the Constitutions to be freely assumed with the first profession’s commitment.

1. Requirements for admission to the Novitiate:
   - health and absence of canonical impediments;
   - vocational decision based on an adequate experience of faith;
   - capacity regarding the option for celibacy, obedience and poverty with an adequate equilibrium in psychological and affective terms;
   - ability for piarist community life;
   - skills for the exercise of our mission.

2. Conversely, the Piarist community undertakes to:
   - welcome candidates with joy and cordiality;
   - accept them as they are, with their initiatives and concerns, with their experiences, strengths and weaknesses;
   - appoint as Master of Novices an expert, full time available religious;
- make available a Novitiate House and a team of religious with whom to integrate a community;
- help them to respond, with free will, to the call of God within the Church;
- ensure what is required for a meaningful experience of faith in community;
- be welcoming to new members in the community;
- discern candidates’ vocation.

**From our Constitutions**

“For, if the selection is not performed with great care in the admission of novices, and their formation is not diligently carried out, any Institute, no matter how holy, will easily collapse” (C. 10)

**From Calasanz Constitutions**

“We must warn the Master of Novices about the following: to discern wisely in each novice the deep inclination or direction of the Holy Spirit who teaches the humble to pray with groans and without words. The Master must make every effort to lead each novice through this way to the summit of perfection” (CC 23)
We share some testimonies of the deep experience of our novices.

(We have received personal testimonies from many of the novices of the Order, but we publish only a few paragraphs that can help us to get closer to the experience our novices are having. Thank you all, brothers, for your testimony and your calling!)

“In this time of the Novitiate, and even a few months before starting it, I experienced a deep freedom within me as I had not felt it ever in my life, and from that experience I noticed, deep inside me, that God is giving me a lot of gifts”.

“I’ve known more in depth the charism and spirituality of the Order, especially after the Constitutions, and thus I have been identifying myself more with Calasanz’ project”.

“I hope, with God’s grace, to live my novitiate with authenticity to respond to God’s call to love and serve”.

“There are fears, I cannot hide them, but I feel so safe and so happy to be living this experience that they become a way to realize and strengthen my vocation.”

“I feel that before I knew Calasanz by hearing and that, although his courage, patience and hope impressed me, I did not know more than a little of what he actually is.” “The study of the Constitutions, community life and the experience of accompanying children and poor in the school allowed me to know him more closely from the heart of the Pious Schools”.

“I know that my life experience has been much wounded, but in the midst of these wounds I feel now that I’ve discovered a God who saves me, gives me joy and transforms my wounds into love. He invites me to be more authentic, more complete, to let me be surprised and to give all of me”.
“I practically grew up in this House, because I am native of this place. But now that I am inside, I remember when I was a child and saw novices passing and when I see myself now as the novice that children greet, I feel a great emotion and I tell myself that this is a gift from God”.

“This time has helped me to know myself more and to learn more about Jesus and learn to live in the community”.

“I discovered the love that God has for me and that I have been giving during my lifetime. I feel chosen by God in this opportunity to know Him and be with Him”.

“In these months I’ve lived in the Novitiate, I had a deeper experience with Jesus Christ and that, coupled with the Piarist charism, has led me to identify myself with the mission of being with and for the poor. This vocation I received, which is a gift of God, helps me to realize my smallness. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit I feel that I am given strength, encouragement and zeal to continue doing his will being simply an instrument in his hands”.

“I discovered that when God calls, He gives the means and puts beside the people indicated to carry out his plan”.

“I feel deeply lucky and grateful to have this great opportunity and to be able to form part of the Pious Schools”.
“The time lived in the Novitiate House is truly unique for me. After several months, I start to understand that the Novitiate is the time and the place for many changes in me and in my vision of life. The experience of leaving behind my old way of life allowed me to look closely at my vocation.”

“I had never experienced before such grace of God. It is clear to me that He wanted me here, and the longer I’m here, I see more his presence in my life and in my history.”

“Through a deep sacramental and spiritual life, daily work and study and living in the community, I have discovered that God invites me to follow Him further.”

“It was not easy for me to adapt to the life in the Novitiate. Many times I questioned myself whether I was really called to this life. But the opening to the formator and the help of my brothers were decisive for me to react and discover the joy of the Piarist life”.

“There are times in which I feel dry in my spiritual life and in my relationship with God, but I am convinced that I can never stop meditating the Word and try to God to be alive in my heart.”

“The journey of self-emptiness is not easy. To separate myself from my old ways of life, even of my own ideas, to own Christ as the hidden treasure and the most valuable Pearl, is not an easy thing to navigate way.”

“The life in the novitiate is both a gift and a fight”.

“I sometimes feel that I live this Novitiate as a roller coaster, with moments of all types. Finally I discovered that it is about living a process of purification. All the difficulties have led me to mature”.

“I never had a feeling so deep and so clear that God loves me.”
“This year I have found a new family and a new hope. More than once I have been close to resign, but now I know that God has a plan for me”.

“I know that all what I do is forging in me the Piarist identity. Community life, prayer, study, closeness to children, change my heart. I feel that I understand what it means to put off the old and to open up to the new.”

“What I value most of the Novitiate is to learn about myself, to discover my reality and limitations. And that helps me to better understand my vocation.”

“I would sum up my experience thus: I have discovered Christ through our charism and the example of our Founder. But I’m still far away to live the project of Calasanz”.

“I’m very happy because I learned to meditate. I meditate and pray without realizing the elapsed time. And that makes me very happy.”

“Until now, I was committed only in part. But I start to understand what it means to commit the whole life, what consecration means. I’m beginning to understand what it means to spend my life without waiting for any other reward than knowing I am doing God’s will”.
Father God, we present each and every one of the young men whom you have called to live the Piarist religious vocation and who spend their year of novitiate in the Pious Schools.

We put into your hands their lives, their hopes, and their vocation. We present them with love and hope, being aware that you send them for the sake of the children and young people, to build with us a Pious Schools more devoted to the mission and with stronger desire to live intensely the charism of Calasanz.

We pray for all and each one of them that this year of the novitiate may be for them an opportunity of meeting with Christ, your Son and our Lord, who has called them to the Piarist religious life according to the charism of Calasanz.

May this encounter with Christ be source of life, of living their vocation with dedication, of love for the Order, of deeper knowledge of their heart, of growth, of loyalty and, if it is your will, of true desire of consecration of their life to the only Lord.

Give each of them the Spirit that you gave to Calasanz, so that they can develop in plenitude the call they received, and they may become a new Calasanz, father and teacher for the children and young people to whom you will send them.

Mary, Mother of your Son, and Queen of the Pious Schools, may protect them with her love. AMEN.
ANNUS IUBILÆI SCHOLARUM PIARUM
400 ANNI 1617-2017