



Celebration of the day of the Calasanz Movement

with Adolescents and Youth





intro

On 31 May 1612, the Venerable Glicerio Landriani began his adventure in the Pious Schools where he left his Heart. Thank you, Glicerio, for saying Yes to the Lord and teaching us that our place is in God and the Pious Schools.

Congratulations on this Calasanz Movement Day to all those who are part of this great family and who continue to seek their Place in the World.

Courage; and may Calasanz and Glicerio help them.

In this Material, you will find:

- » A moment of prayer to help the younger ones to find their Place in the Heart of Jesus, the Master, as Glycerius and Calasanz did.
- » Then we will have an activity that will help us to find our Place in the Pious Schools through the life of Glycerius.
- » We will end by sharing some material to reflect on the life of Glicerio Landriani and that will help us to see how he found his place in the Pious Schools. (For this we will use the book written by Fr. Marcelo Benítez, Sch.P.: Heart and Flight: The Vocation of Glicerio).

First moment

Prayer: Finding our Place in the Heart of Jesus

Objective: That young people have the opportunity to recognise that their place is in Jesus.

Place: This can be either in the chapel or in a room where they have no distractions.

Materials:

- » Bible
- » Image or drawing of a Heart
- » A compass, drawn (to help point the way to the heart), another small compass that they can write on.
- » Other...

For meditation: we suggest the following texts for you to use during prayer.

Reading of the Word

- » **Matthew 6:6-13:** “But when you go to pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father, who is there in secret; and your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you.”
 - If we as young people want to find Jesus in our lives, we must be able to enter into the depths of our hearts and begin the search there.
 - How much time do you dedicate to yourself, without any external distractions, and do you take advantage of those spaces to pray/talk to God?
- » **Psalm 138:1-3:**¹ Lord, you search me out and know me;² you know me when I sit or rise, you penetrate my thoughts from afar;³ you discern my path and my rest,

all my ways are familiar to you.

- Have you allowed yourself to be probed, to be known by the Lord? Have you given him the opportunity to show you his ways?

- » **John 14: 1-6:** At that time Jesus said to his disciples, “Do not lose your peace. If you believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many rooms. If it were not so, I would have told you, for now I am going to prepare a place for you. When I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you with me, so that where I am, there you may be also. You know the way to the place where I am going. Then Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus answered him, “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”.

Some guiding questions:

After having listened to one of the readings and having a space for meditation they can answer the following on a sheet of paper with a compass on it:

- » What have you done to find your place in Jesus, in the Church, in the MC?
- » Have you ever repeated the words of Thomas: “Lord, we do not know where you are going, how can we know the way?”
- » Have you sought Jesus as that way that leads to the heart of the Father, who is your Father?

At the end of the compass you can place it

on the image of the heart, symbolising that desire to find your place in the heart of Jesus.

(Appropriate music can be used)

The prayer concludes with an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

Second moment

Activity: **My Place in the Pious Schools, Calasanz Movement and the Piarist Christian Community**

Objective: With this moment, we seek that young people can identify how they found their place in the Calasanz Movement, through an activity, reflection and sharing.

Main activity: We will do a treasure hunt (each group is free to adapt this activity to their pastoral needs).

Instructions:

- » There will be six clues that the young people will have to collect. Each group will be given a colour that will identify the envelopes they will have to look for along their route. Remember that the clue to the next location should be included in the previous envelope, so that the young people know where to go. They will find in each envelope some reflection questions.
- » The time at each station will be determined by the coordinators of the activity, in order to avoid any group running into another group at one of the stations and thus stopping the flow of the activity.
- » At the end there will be a seventh station that will take you to the image/painting of Glicerio Landriani (It is recommended that you use the new painting of Glicerio).
- » The clues are based on a letter written by Glycerius and adapted by a Piarist, here is the full letter



Texts from the life of Glycerius:

Dear Antonio:

(First Clue) Finally, your letter has arrived. The messenger you sent did not know about my new place of residence. Poor man, we laughed for a while when we remembered his face, almost discomposed, asking for “Father Abbot Glicerio Landriani”. His face was discomposed, as if he could not believe where one of the “promising young men of Milan’s nobility” was.

I am in the Pious Schools in Rome, where up to 800 boys and young men attend and we teach them everything from the basics to the introductory elements of Latin grammar.

I came here without seeking it, only out of pure obedience to my superiors. It is true that my heart desired it very much, but I did not show it by not showing affection for anything, but by being resigned to the will of God, Our Lord.

I reread what I have written and realise that I was too hasty.

(Second clue) First of all, I met someone: a Spanish priest about 55 years old, José de Calasanz, his name. He was already beginning to turn grey, but his gaze conveys a strength and a peace that one cannot remain indifferent to.

When Fr. Dominic, the Discalced Carmelite, with whom I was spiritually directed, took me to the Pious Schools, I met him there. The building was the old Palazzo Maninni. That mansion with its stately façade located in Piazza San Pantaleon. Jesus Christ was waiting for me there, with a surprise that would give my life a totally new orientation.

We entered the Palazzo. I did not find in the inner courtyard any monastic scene of sepulchral silence, or a beautifully manicured garden.

Everywhere I looked I found poor children or boys. I noticed that they came from all parts of Rome. With them were men, of course, the teachers, who wore the clerical habit, of a poverty that almost rivalled that of these boys.

(third clue) And, going out into the courtyard, with a group of little ones, we met him, Fr José. I later found out that they were going out with the children from the school chapel.

We were introduced by Fr Dominic; Fr Joseph looked at me deeply and seriously from his colossal height, augmented perhaps by the smallness of the children around him: **“What occupies the heart of young Glycerius?”** was his question.

My first encounter with him and my heart was suddenly pierced by the gaze of someone who, by cooperating with the Truth, entered into me and enlightened me.

I assure you that those words of Father Calasanz still resound as in the bosom of a cave: **“What occupies the heart of the young Glycerius?”**

(fourth clue) Contrary to all the rules of etiquette I learned from my mother, I answered him with another question, spoken in such a defiant tone that Fr Domingo looked at me in astonishment:

“And what is it that occupies your heart? Father José,” I said, as if returning the thrust and hoping that the matter would remain there.

“My heart - Fr Calasanz told me - is occupied in preserving and caring for the treasure I have found”.

I looked at him doubtfully; in fact I looked at him thirstily. **Yes, young man,**” he continued, **“I found a treasure. I found the ultimate way to serve God by doing good to these little ones. I won’t give it up for the world.**

And the giant P, Joseph, as soon as he told me this, began to bless some little children who came to look for him. The giant suddenly became smaller before those poor children. My heart skipped a beat.

(Fifth clue) I had also found him. I had found him, Calasanz, because I had found them, the children, because I had found Him, God. Or maybe because of the children I met Calasanz and because of him I met God. Or maybe it was because I met God that I came to Calasanz and the little ones. Yes, yes, it sounds like a tongue twister, I just want to show you the unity that this experience has given me.

Everything clicked for me at that moment. All my searches, all my efforts to be Christ's found the best answer there. It was worth it to let myself be guided by those who led me.

I am now convinced that it is God's vocation and I hope that the Lord will want to use me for this work of his.

(sixth clue) I return to that meeting. José insisted on his question: **“I have already told you about me,”** he said, **“so I insist: what occupies the heart of young Glicerio?”**

The emotion flooded me, almost choking my words, which were trying to come out as if they were gushing: “Until now my heart has been occupied with a quest,” I told him, “but I believe that from today my heart will always be occupied with Jesus Christ”.

“Glicerio Landriani, Glicerio of Christ”, was Fr. José's reply, and so I stayed. As I tell you, dear friend, I came here out of pure obedience and with great desire. With sincere affection in Jesus, who occupies my whole heart.

Glicerio Landriani de Cristo

.....

Route

This is the route of the tracks according to each group, so that when the tracks are printed they are arranged according to the colour of the group and so that the groups are not in the same place.

Blue	Yellow	Green	Red	Orange	White
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	1
3	4	5	6	1	2
4	5	6	1	2	3
5	6	1	2	3	4
6	1	2	3	4	5

Tracks:

#1: I am something new/revolutionary that causes surprise to many (Image of St. Pantaleon)

Finally, your letter has arrived. The messenger you sent did not know about my new place of residence. Poor man, we laughed for a while when we remembered his face, almost discomposed, asking for “Father Abbot Glicerio Landriani”. His face was discomposed, as if he could not believe where one of the “promising young men of Milan’s nobility” was.

I am in the Pious Schools in Rome, where up to 800 boys and young men attend and we teach them everything from the basics to the introductory elements of Latin grammar.

I came here without seeking it, only out of pure obedience to my superiors. It is true that my heart desired it very much, but I did not show it by not showing affection for anything, but by being resigned to the will of God, Our Lord.

- What do you think it was that surprised the messenger? Why?

#2: I am a key part of the life of a school/parish (image of the children).

First of all, I met someone: a Spanish priest about 55 years old, José de Calasanz, his name. He was already beginning to turn grey, but his look conveys a strength and a peace that one cannot remain indifferent to.

When Fr. Dominic, the Discalced Carmelite, with whom I was spiritually directed, took me to the Pious Schools, I met him there. The building was the old Palazzo Maninni. That mansion with its stately façade located in Piazza San Pantaleon. Jesus Christ was waiting for me there, with a surprise that would give my life a totally new orientation.

We entered the Palazzo. I did not find in the inner courtyard any monastic scene of sepulchral silence, or a beautifully manicured garden.

Everywhere I looked I found poor children or boys. I noticed that they came from all parts of Rome. With them were men, of course, the teachers, who wore the clerical habit, of a poverty that almost rivalled that of these boys.

- What did Glycerius expect to find that he was not surprised to find? How do you think this first encounter with the children impacted him?

#3: I am what identifies a question as a question (image of a question mark).

And, going out into the courtyard, with a group of little ones, we met him, Fr José. I later found out that they were going out with the children from the school chapel.

We were introduced by Fr Dominic; Fr Joseph looked at me deeply and seriously from his colossal height, perhaps magnified by the smallness of the children around him: **“What occupies the heart of young Glycerius?”** was his question.

My first encounter with him and my heart was suddenly pierced by the gaze of someone who, by cooperating with the Truth, entered into me and enlightened me.

I assure you that those words of Father Calasanz still resound as if in a cave: “What occupies the heart of the young Glycerius?”

- What is your reaction to this encounter? How would you have reacted to this question?

#4: I am someone in search (image of a restless young man).

Contrary to all the rules of etiquette I learned from my mother, I answered him with another question, spoken in

such a defiant tone that Fr Domingo looked at me in astonishment:

“And what is it that occupies your heart? Father José,” I said, as if returning the thrust and hoping that the matter would remain there.

“My heart - Fr Calasanz told me - is occupied in preserving and caring for the treasure I have found”.

I looked at him doubtfully; in fact I looked at him thirstily. **Yes, young man,**” he continued, **“I found a treasure. I found the ultimate way to serve God by doing good to these little ones. I won’t give it up for the world.**

And the giant P, Joseph, as soon as he told me this, began to bless some little children who came to look for him. The giant suddenly became smaller before those poor children. My heart skipped a beat.

- Think about your own story: do you identify with young Glycerius? Why?

#5: I am Spanish and I helped Glicerio to find his way (Calasanz image).

I had also found him. I had found him, Calasanz, because I had found them, the children, because I had found Him, God. Or maybe because of the children I met Calasanz and because of him I met God. Or maybe it was because I met God that I came to Calasanz and the little ones. Yes, yes, it sounds like a tongue twister, I just want to show you the unity that this experience has given me.

Everything clicked for me at that moment. All my searches, all my efforts to be Christ’s found the best answer there. It was worth it to let myself be guided by those who led me.

I am now convinced that it is God’s

vocation and I hope that the Lord will want to use me for this work of his.

- What did Glycerius find? What do you think it was that helped him to find himself?

#6: I am the one who fills the heart of Glycerius (image of Christ).

I return to that meeting. José insisted on his question: **“I have already told you about me,”** he said, **“so I insist: what occupies the heart of young Glicerio?”**

The emotion flooded me, almost choking my words, which were trying to come out as if they were gushing: “Until now my heart has been occupied with a quest,” I told him, “but I believe that from today my heart will always be occupied with Jesus Christ”.

“Glicerio Landriani, Glicerio of Christ”, was Fr. José’s reply, and so I stayed. As I tell you, dear friend, I came here out of pure obedience and with great desire. With sincere affection in Jesus, who occupies my whole heart.

Glicerio Landriani de Cristo

- What was Glycerius’ response, what was it that he found?
- You can identify with Glycerius and shout; I am **N.** of Christ.

Put next to the last track of each group:

You have reached the end of this adventure: now look for the image/painting of the young Glycerius and there share with others your experience of encountering Christ in the Calasanz Movement.

Alternative Text on the Life of Glycerius:

We recommend the use of the book: **Heart and Flight, The vocation of Glycerius** by the Piarist Marcelo Benitez. In particular the following part: **Here is my Place.**

Here is my place

It was still hot in Rome, even though it was already autumn. After accompanying the pupils home, on 29 September 1612, Glicerio wrote to his uncle Federico:

“Deus super omnia Christus

Most Illustrious and Most Reverend Father in Christ:

I am in the Pious Schools in Rome, where there are as many as 800 children and young people, and so far I have taught only grammar. And I have come here without my seeking it, only out of pure obedience to my superiors. It is true that my heart desired it enough, but I did not show it by not showing any affection for anything, but by being resigned in everything to the will of God our Lord and of the superiors. Now I am sure that it is the will of God our Lord, and I hope that the Lord will want to make use of me for this work of his, which is so important that it fills me with astonishment, because these children of the poor, who usually go about the streets without any restraint of fear of God our Lord, being prey to all dishonesty in words and ugly acts, are here withdrawn from idleness and evil, and with divine help are occupied in exercises, not only of the spirit but also of the knowledge of Christian doctrine. Here they are given paper, pens, rosaries, Christian doctrines, spiritual books, ritual books, for the love of God, and the Virgin's parvo-offices, so that they may leave vanities and educate themselves in the service of God; and truly one cannot say how much it matters to these children, who have not picked up a bad habit, to take them in good time. Oh what ease, what sweetness one finds! Glory be to the Father, the

Son and the Holy Spirit!...”.

Fr. Domingo Ruzzola had been right in his orientation and had led him to the Pious Schools. He was now under the tutelage of

P. Joseph Calasanz, renowned in Rome for his life and dedication to the little ones and the poor. Glycerius had not come alone, but had brought with him his faithful Francesco Selvaggi, of course, and four other good friends.

The Pious Schools, from the heart of Rome, sought to educate the children of the people in the Christian life and to give them access to culture. In this way they sought to renew the corrupt customs of the time and to put a good remedy to the vices and evils that were weakening Christianity.

Calasanz, who was beginning to age, had received the gift he had been asking for so long. He was waiting for a successor whom he could prepare in time and then put at the head of the work. And this young man, 22 years old, fervent, well prepared and well disposed, was the perfect answer to his prayers. Moreover, he did not come alone, but brought with him others who enthusiastically joined him in the task.

Glicerio was worth five and came with five more. His arrival was a cause for celebration and Calasanz always considered it a special gift of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Up to that time his collaborators were older and even remarkably old people like Dragonezzi. Gaspar Dragonetti, a Sicilian, had come to the Pious Schools at the age of 90 and educated there until his death at 115. With the young Landriani and his friends, God gave life and future to the Pious Schools.

Glycerius was not only an unconditional collaborator of Calasanz and a generous benefactor of his work, he became his best disciple and his dearest son. The two souls found themselves united by the same gift of the Holy Spirit. They had an affinity

and familiarity that came not from flesh and blood, but from God. It was enough for them to look at each other to understand each other. They complemented each other in a surprising way. The two of them plus old Dragonetti were unstoppable. They proved it by founding, the three of them, against all odds, the Pious Schools in Frascati.

Glycerius found in Calasanz a master of wisdom, who knew how to channel all the torrent of fervour that flowed from his noble heart. From the moment he decided to remain in the Pious Schools under the obedience of Calasanz, there were no more oddities in his young enthusiasm, but a daily, persevering and loving dedication.

Calasanz found in Father Abbot, as he affectionately called him, his best ally in the struggle to win the hearts of children and young people for Christ. He marvelled at all that his creativity brought forth to enrich the Pious Schools.

Thus it was that from the already Piarist heart of Glicerio sprouted novelties rooted in the Calasanctian trunk: the continuous prayer of the students in shifts during classes; the accompaniment in lines to their homes at the end of the school day; the extension of the educational task with the Sunday catechesis in the neighbourhoods.... Glicerio made everything he touched flourish and bear fruit.

He even devised a plan to train the older students as evangelisers by means of a short three-year course in philosophy and theology. He wrote to his uncle: *“For it seems to us an invention inspired by the Holy Spirit this brevity of making these courses for those who wish to know what is necessary only for the glory of God and the salvation of souls”*.

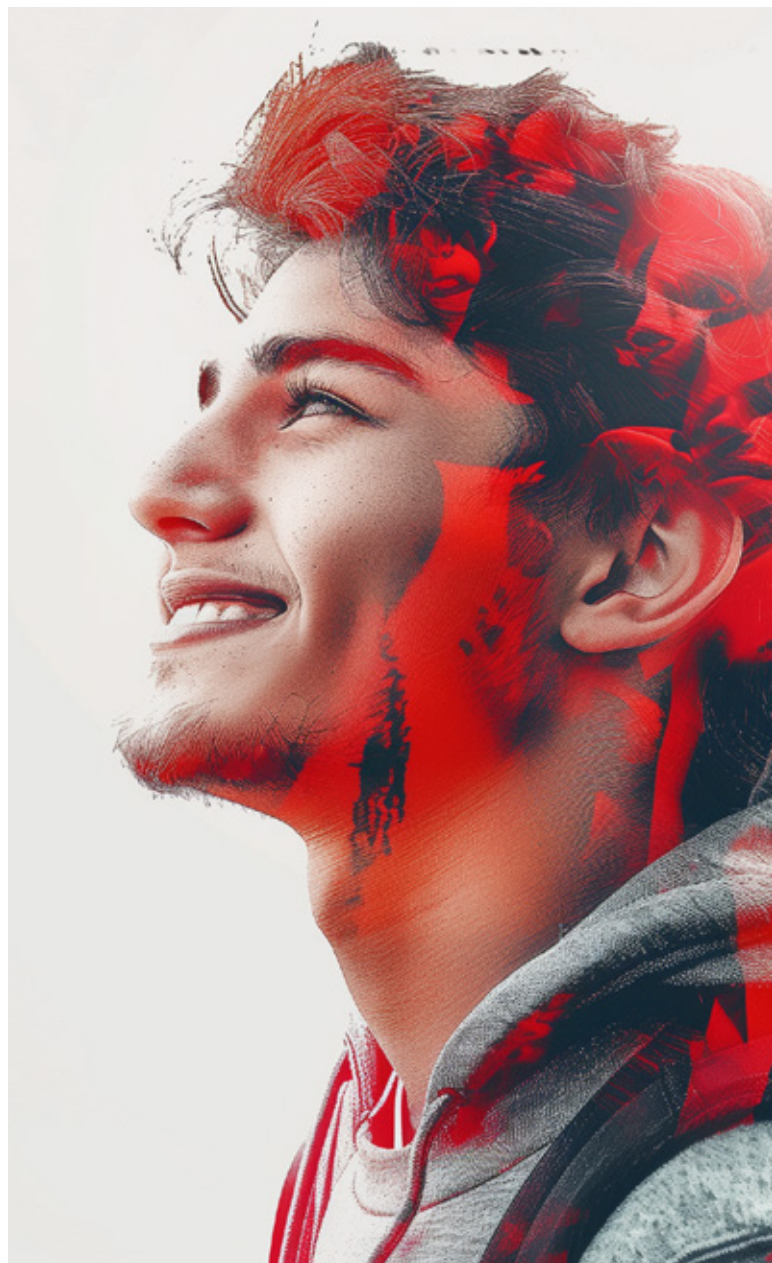
Glicerio was on fire and wanted to ignite many more. He was a born multiplier. He was destined by God to be the first of many young people who would find their place with Calasanz, in the Pious Schools, forever.

Every night, when he reaped the harvest of his day, Glycerius was moved with gratitude: *“What a tremendous place this is: house of God, gateway to heaven! And the next morning, when he woke up, he got up, as all the Piarists have always done, whispering and singing in his heart:*

How desirable are your dwelling places, O Lord of the universe! My soul is consumed and longs for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice for the living God. Even the sparrow has found a home;

the swallow, a nest in which to lay her young: your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, praising you always!

Glycerius had found his place.



We recommend the broadcasting of the song **Motto: My Place**, produced by **Betania Music**.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XDCQ_FThv0Q

Give me a place where I can be me.
Give me a place where they will always wait
for me,
It is the promise of a better tomorrow.

There is a place built of dreams
There is a place that can be widened
There's a place where they count on you
There is a place I want to announce to you.

MY PLACE IS THE WORLD WE WANT TO TAKE
CARE OF
IS THE SAME HEARTBEAT, IN COMMUNITY
MY PLACE, YOUR CALL TO FIGHT FOR PEACE
MY PLACE IS THE DREAM, WHICH CALASANZ
DREAMED.

This place heals my wound
This place illuminates the pain
This place gives meaning to my life
It is the endeavour to live Love.

Come to the place that is a beacon in the
night,
To share what you can give,
To build a home for all,
Come to the place where you will shine.

MY PLACE IS THE WORLD WE WANT TO TAKE
CARE OF
IS THE SAME HEARTBEAT, IN COMMUNITY
MY PLACE, YOUR CALL TO FIGHT FOR PEACE
MY PLACE IS THE DREAM....

One people, one mission,
One world, one heart,
Wake up, it's time to walk.

MY PLACE IS THE WORLD WE WANT TO TAKE
CARE OF
IS THE SAME HEARTBEAT, IN COMMUNITY
MY PLACE, YOUR CALL TO FIGHT FOR PEACE
MY PLACE IS THE DREAM... (Bis)

MY PLACE IS THE DREAM....
MY PLACE IS THE DREAM...
MY PLACE, CALASANZ.





SC^{OL}LOPI



 **Where
I belong**