EUGENE DE MAZENOD 101

"Leave Nothing Undared with St. Eugene de Mazenod"

Daring New Ways to Reach People's Hearts

PRAYER USED BY ST. EUGENE BEFORE MEDITATION:

O Mary Immaculate, faithful adorer of the Father, Mother most admirable of the Son, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, inspire within me the same sentiments that were yours while pondering the revealed mysteries which you treasured in your heart. Grant that I may ever live in union with your Son, my Saviour, together with all who, by meditation, give honor to the most Holy Trinity. Amen.

Presentation 9
The Foundation of the Missionaries

1/ "It is the second time in my life that I am making a decision of the utmost importance as a result of a strong impulse that comes from outside of me."

Eugene was attentive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and was able to discern God's call in his life through concrete events. We have explored those moments when Jesus became real for Eugene, when he discovered who and where the only lasting source of happiness was for him, how he was impelled to share this with others, how he found a model and then the steps to bring it all together.

Look at your own journey and the choices you make to share with others what is important to you: friendship, marriage, celibacy, career etc. and the steps which have directed you. How have you been aware of God's presence and guidance? In your daily life how can you be more attentive to these promptings and how can you help others in discerning the calls of the Spirit?

2/ "Read this letter at the foot of your crucifix"

were Eugene's recommendations to Henri Tempier. Where and how do I focus when I examine the course of my life, my relationships and actions? Which is my "focus" image of God and the Scripture texts I keep turning to?

3/ "You are necessary for the work which the Lord inspires us to undertake."

This is how the Missionary Oblates came to birth - it is the origin of the Mazenodian family. Eugene look at the world in which he was living and responded. He invited Tempier to look at the situation of the people in Provence and respond. For over two hundred years that same invitation has been expressed in over sixty countries and has made a difference in the lives of thousands: look around you, hear and see - and respond.

As we strive to cope with the "new normal" in our pandemic-stricken world, where do we focus, and how does God inspire us respond: personally, in our immediate community, in our society and in our country? What is the Mazenodian response, beginning in our hearts, extending to those immediately around us, and to those we are in contact with through social media…. Our Lord inspires each of us - and we are necessary.

4/ "In the community which we will form… happiness awaits us in this holy Society which will have but one heart and soul."

What does this say about the community to which I belong?

CONCLUDING PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST TERESA OF AVILA:

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.