

CHEVALIER YEAR July 2023

from Fifteen Days of Prayer with Jules Chevalier, Fr. Andre Mayor, MSC, Fifth Day



CHEVALIER, IN HIS TIME...

His life: In the seminary in Bourges, Jules had befriended a few of his fellow students, Emile Maugenest and Charles Piperon among others. He was convinced that a fervent group, well trained and possessing a solid spirituality, would be capable of “*fighting the egoism and indifference*” which outraged Christ’s heart. (Rules 1857; *Meditations for each day of the year, according to the Spirit of The Sacred Heart, vol.1*)

His words:

Even though it consists of different members, humanity nevertheless is made up of the same blood and forms but one body, the same body. The Heart that gives life to all the members of this body is the Heart of Jesus. Only this Heart unites us with God. As soon as we break away from one another, we lose, together with the divine life of which Jesus is the source, the true feeling of human kinship...That divine Heart is thus the centre around which gravitates all other hearts (Article in The Messenger of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, vol. 7, June 1865; p. 529).

CHEVALIER, FOR TODAY...



“To show the Heart of God” to all people, that is indeed what Jesus, the Word Incarnate, did throughout his public life...Chevalier says: “...Everywhere, He displays an unfailing gentleness, a compassionate tenderness, capable of touching the most hardened hearts; He does not drive away anyone; the little ones, the powerful ones, the poor, the sinners, all gather around Him...” (Manuscripts on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Fontes MSC, series 1, vol. 4, p.147). Jesus came to show us God’s love, a marvelous and transforming love; to empower us to believe that God is a loving God (*Fifteen Days Prayer with Jules Chevalier, p.20*).



a man with a heart on fire for mission!

1824-2024

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After responding to the “Come” which calls the disciples, Chevalier and his brothers are ready to “Go” everywhere to share this love of the Heart of Jesus, “*Ametur ubique!*” (*Meditations I*, p.517). And as the members of the Chevalier Family, we are also called to live our motto like them. Responding to this call includes challenges of uncertainty and insecurity, of moving out of our comfort zone. Often, we face various limitations of our reality and our weaknesses. When facing such challenges, what empowers us to continue our mission? Do we trust the love of God or rely on our capacity? Today, we’re invited to answer the call of the Heart of Jesus with a deeper faith in the love of God. With Fr Chevalier we say: Just like Mary...“*Here is the hand maid of the Lord, may Your will be done.*” And like St. Peter, “*At Your command, I will throw out the net.*” (*Missio ad gentes*, p.94).



PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Lord, Jesus Christ,
may your Spirit give us a share in your love
for the Creator and for all humanity,
so that at all times and in all circumstances
We will follow your will
in carrying out your mission
unselfishly and generously.
In moments of crisis,
may your Spirit empower us
to trust God’s love more deeply,
so that our hearts will be full
of passion and love
for God’s mission on earth again.
Amen.

(from 100 Prayers, no.6)



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