

# The Prayer



Prayer expresses what we experience and what we ought to experience in our daily lives. At least that is true of prayer that is not self-centered or merely for show.

Prayer makes us put into practice, or examine our consciences about, what we have prayed for in the Psalms. We are the hands of the God who “lifts up the poor from the dust” (Ps 112:7).

We work to turn what is dry and barren into the joy of fertile ground. We cry out that “precious in the eyes of the Lord is the life of his faithful ones”.

We are those who fight, speak up and defend the dignity of every human life, from conception to old age, when our years are many and our strength fails.

Prayer is the reflection of our love for God, for others and for all creation. The commandment of love is the greatest way for the missionary disciple to be conformed to Jesus.

Union with Jesus deepens our Christian vocation, which is concerned with what Jesus “does” - which is something much greater than mere “activities” - with becoming more like him in all that we do.

The beauty of the ecclesial community is born of this union of each of her members to the person of Jesus, creating an “ensemble of vocations” in the richness of harmonic diversity.

*Pope Francis*