

**PRAYING WITH OUR SPC ROLE MODELS**  
*Celebrating 325 Years of Life and Mission*



**JANUARY 2021**

**Theme:** GRATITUDE

**Grace:** Lord Jesus, I beg for the grace of deep gratitude that I may acknowledge and celebrate your gifts, whether they maybe significant or seemingly insignificant.

**Scripture Text:** "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." *1 Thes 5:18*

**POINTS FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION:**

**A. Gratitude in the life of St. Paul**

"For Paul, gratitude is not only the act of giving thanks constantly to the countless graces that he received daily from the Lord. For him, gratitude is a **deeply rooted, interior, overall attitude and disposition** in itself. With this virtue, we learn to go out of our way to be ever sensitive to the gifts that we receive daily (whether they may be very significant or seemingly not so significant gifts), knowing well that being gifted and blessed in the way we are gifted and blessed - is no accident at all." (*Fr Ramon Bautista, SJ*)

**B. Gratitude in the life of our Sisters**

**SISTER MARIE DES ANGES COUERON (1912 - 2006)**

*Province of France*

Kindness is a word that best describes **Sister Marie des Anges**. Kindness that springs from a grateful heart! She did ordinary things in an extraordinary way: welcoming at the door the families, relatives, and friends of the Sisters with kindness, discretion, and friendly smiles; always available to do errands for the community with simplicity, dedication, and joy...all these for 50 years!

**SISTER AGNES DE SAINT JOSEPH NGUYEN THI HIEN (1915 - 1996)**

*Province of Saigon, Vietnam*

As the first Vietnamese Provincial Superior, **Sister Agnes** led the Province of Saigon in a period of renewal, after Vatican Council II and during a period marked by many changes in the society of Vietnam. She surmounted all difficulties with faith, full of courage and humility, putting all her trust in God and striving to adapt to the new situation with supernatural spirit, openness, and serenity. Sister Agnes de Saint Joseph

always found the reason to give thanks to the Lord, even in the worst situation, as expressed in her own words: *"How much we must give thanks to the Lord!"*

**C. Gratitude in our life**

1. Examining my own life now, what do I consider to be my TOP 10 blessings? What am I most grateful for, right now? Why these in particular?
2. True gratitude leads to **radical trust** in the Lord.  
What area (s) in my life now, do I still need to grow and deepen my trust in the Lord?
3. Dialogue with the Lord on the points above.
4. Share in community your top 10 blessings.