

PRAYING WITH OUR SPC ROLE MODELS
Celebrating 325 Years of Life and Mission
AUGUST 2021



Theme: INTERCULTURALITY - “ALL TO ALL”

Grace: Lord Jesus, I beg for the grace of openness and availability, so that I may welcome everyone without distinction, recognizing that “God is the God of everyone.”

Scriptural Text: “To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people that I might by all means save some.” 1 Cor 9:22

Points for Reflection:

A. INTERCULTURALITY - “ALL TO ALL” in the life of St. Paul

Paul has become “all things to all people” in order to save some by leading them to faith in Christ. This indicates his willingness to continually change his behavior, setting aside his own rights, in order to lead as many as possible to Christ. He did all this for the sake of the Gospel and encouraged others to do the same.

An important mark in Paul is his perception of the universal character of salvation. He is a man of universality. In a world marked by divisions and barriers between peoples and cultures, he realizes that Christ’s message is for every man and woman of whatever culture or religion, nationality or social condition. He realizes that “God is the God of everyone.” (Benedict XVI)

B. INTERCULTURALITY - “ALL TO ALL” in the life of our Sisters

SISTER CLEMENT XAVIER ROLA (1917 – 2016)

Province of Indonesia

In a predominantly Muslim country like Indonesia, the presence of a nun seems strange indeed! But **Sister Clement** had her special way of approaching people. In the beginning, she devotedly visited the sick in their homes, even if some Muslims did not welcome her. She cared with her gentle touch and was wholeheartedly attentive to the patients: young or old, rich or poor, and those with different religion or ethnic backgrounds.

SISTER DOMINIQUE BARRY (1915 – 1994)

Region of United Kingdom-Ireland

Sister Dominique’s missionary life began when she was sent to Hong Kong at the age of 22. Absolute obedience to the call of Christ motivated and sustained her in all the hardships of learning the culture and

living in a foreign country. She brought the Word of God to those she served in Hong Kong, Philippines, and Vietnam, both by her teaching and example.

C. INTERCULTURALITY - "ALL TO ALL" in our life

1. Our Book of Life, article 52, indicates that "The apostle is available to all without distinction. She adopts the language and adjusts herself to the culture and customs of different peoples or of different social environments. By preference, she attends to the most needy and underprivileged..."

I consider the above-mentioned qualities of an apostle, and prayerfully reflect on my life and relationships. How am I being invited to grow and mature in terms of "being all to all." I bring my realizations to prayer.

2. What cultural prejudices and mindset do I need to let go in order to embrace an attitude that is "all to all" and manifest in my relationships that "God is the God of everyone."
3. Share your significant faith experience on the points given.
4. As a community, decide on three specific actions that will concretely manifest your being "all things to all people," and so move towards becoming an intercultural community.