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



Theme: DEVOTION

Grace: Lord Jesus, I beg for the grace of generosity and spirit of collaboration so that I may give myself fully in devoted service to the Church.

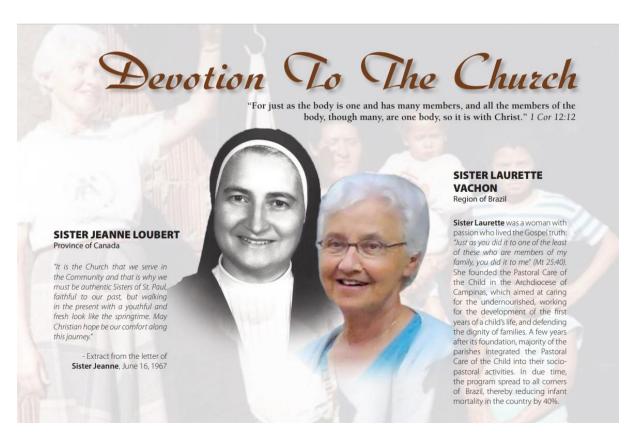
Scripture Text: "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." 1 Cor 12:12

POINTS FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION:

A. Devotion to the Church in the life of St. Paul

St. Paul has undertaken 4 missionary journeys in order to proclaim Jesus Christ and to establish churches. His deep love for the church kept both his pen and his feet moving. He wrote letters, he labored, and he visited the Christian communities he formed. In his letter to the Galatians, St. Paul compared himself to a mother: "You are my children and I am experiencing the pain of giving birth to you all over again until Christ is formed in you." (Gal 4:19) St. Paul's devotion to the church and his love for the communities emanated from his conviction that the church is Christ's own body. (cf 1 Cor 12:12)

B. Devotion to the Church in the life of our Sisters



SISTER JEANNE LOUBERT (1916 - 2000)

Province of Canada

"It is the Church that we serve in the Community and that is why we must be authentic Sisters of St. Paul, faithful to our past, but walking in the present with a youthful and fresh look like the springtime. May Christian hope be our comfort along this journey."

-Extract from the letter of Sister Jeanne, June 16, 1967

SISTER LAURETTE VACHON (1938 -2019) Region of Brazil

Sister Laurette was a woman with passion who lived the Gospel truth: "Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Mt 25:40). She founded the Pastoral Care of the Child in the Archdiocese of Campinas, which aimed at caring for the undernourished, working for the development of the first years of a child's life, and defending the dignity of families. A few years after its foundation, majority of the parishes integrated the Pastoral Care of the Child into their socio-pastoral activities. In due time, the program spread to all corners of Brazil, thereby reducing infant mortality in the country by 40%.

C. Devotion to the Church in our life

- 1. I bring to prayer St Paul's image of the Church as the Body of Christ. How does this imagery affect me? What feelings are evoked in me? Why these feelings?
- 2. How is our personal and communal participation in the building up of the Church in our local context?
- 3. As a community, are we visibly active in the life and mission of the local Church? How do we relate with the other members of the parish church?
- 4. Bring the points above into prayer.
- 5. Share in the community your reflection and come up with a concrete action on how you all can participate and collaborate in the parish church.