

Office for unity

Thursday, March 14, 2024

A Commitment to Christ

"Without action, faith is sterile. God requires works to accompany it. I sometimes say that faith and works must go hand in hand, alternating like the rhythm of a march: first faith, then action, then faith again, then action again, and so on, until you can hardly distinguish one from the other".

[...]

Remain calm and at peace. Rest on God and do not torment yourself. If you have done what you could, that is enough. How few of us have the faith to wait "in rest for the deliverance of the Lord". What would you do if you were put in prison for two years like Paul? And yet it was through this captivity in Rome that the Gospel spread. God's ways are not our ways. He embraces the whole vast field of the world and works in it as he pleases. Our feeble human wisdom has never been able to understand his plans at the moment, but in the course of time it discovers all their wisdom. Let us learn to trust in him - even in the dark - and to rest.

William and Catherine Booth (quoted by Corinne Gossauer-Peroz, in Prier 15 jours avec William et Catherine BOOTH, fondateurs de l'Armée du Salut, Ed. Nouvelle Cité, 2008, p. 98).

Intercessions

To be adapted according to the location

Prepared by the brothers and sisters of Saint Sulpice

1. On 16 February, the Chemin Neuf Community celebrated the Jubilee of our foundation and 30 years of Chemin Neuf in Egypt. It was a time of thanksgiving and fraternal joy. Several bishops from the Eastern Churches were present, as well as religious from various communities, including a Coptic Orthodox monk.

Thank you Lord for blessing and accompanying our growing Community in this country.

2. Lord, we entrust to you the daily lives of our brothers and sisters in Egypt, who are being tested by a very difficult economic situation. Bless this country in its diverse ecclesial and religious realities. Support and protect Coptic Orthodox Pope Tawadros II, who prays daily for Christian unity and who has providentially met members of our Community.

3. On 18 March, a new detention center will open at Fleury Mérogis.

Lord, we entrust to you all the people who will be detained there, and all the professionals and chaplains who will accompany them. May each person receive from your grace hope for the future.