CONCLUSION
Let us all pray the Lord’s prayer:
“Our Father in heaven…”

Closing Prayer
Prayer of a Lasallian

Father in Heaven God of Love,  
All I have and am is Yours  
Grant that I may become a living sign  
Of your compassion in this world.  
Grant me the faith to live my life always  
In the Awareness of Your loving presence.  
Grant me the seal to serve, without thought of reward,  
those to whom You send me.  
Grant me the charity to bear the burdens  
Of my brothers and sisters.  
Teach me to seek Your Son’s Face In the last,  
The lost and the least/ In whatever I undertake,  
May I seek above all things,  
To procure Your glory as far as I am able  
And as You require of me.  
Strengthen me by your Holy Spirit,  
To follow Jesus,  
By living the commitment I make this day.  
Amen.

I will continue O my God …

…to do all my actions for the love of you.

St. John Baptist De La Salle, pray for us.

Live Jesus in our hearts, forever.

+ In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen


CALL TO PRAYER
Let us remember that we are in the Holy presence of God.

+In the name of the Father , and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Prayer

God, give us grace to accept with serenity  
the things that cannot be changed,  
courage to change the things  
which should be changed,  
and the wisdom to distinguish  
the one from the other.  
Living one day at a time,  
Enjoying one moment at a time,  
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,  
Taking, as Jesus did,  
This sinful world as it is,  
Not as I would have it,  
Trust that You will make all things right,  
If I surrender to Your will,  
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,  
And supremely happy with You forever in the next.  
Amen.

The Serenity Prayer
By Reinhold Niebuhr
A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke (15: 1-32)

"THE PARABLES OF THE Lost Sheep, The Lost Coin, and the Lost Son"

The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them he addressed this parable... Then he said, A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the Father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but no body gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father’s hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I dying of hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat any of your hired workers."' So got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He said to him, "Sheer joy of mind of you a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your properties with prostitutes, for him you slaughtered the fattened calf,'" he said to him, 'My son, you are with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

From the meditations of St. John Baptist de La Salle on the conversion of St. Augustine

God, all good and merciful, for a long time and in many ways, urged St. Augustine to be converted and to change his manner of living radically, yet for many years this saint led a disorderly life. He was not always resting grace, but he was not consenting to its movements, and he was constantly hesitating to follow them. Now he wanted to change; now again he no longer wanted to change. He remained for a considerable length of time in this disturbed state of mind, and he was surprised to see himself so indecisive. On the one side, his disorderly behavior, and on the other, the strong urging of grace made him shed tears in abundance. The effect this produced made him still more irresolute and unsettled. As he said, vanities and trifles held him back and prevented him from giving himself entirely to God.

Is grace not urging you to live according to the perfection proper to your state?

The day finally arrived when God, having gradually softened St. Augustine’s heart, caused him to hear a voice saying to him clearly, Take and read. Upon opening a book of the Epistles of St. Paul, he was moved and converted by the reading of a single passage. It poured into his heart, he says like a light that filled it with a deep peace and scattered all the darkness of his doubts. From that moment he renounced forever all worldly aspirations, and he suddenly found inconceivable joy and pleasure giving up the pleasures of worldlings and all their vain amusements.

Pause for a short moment of reflection:

Have you been thoroughly converted to God?

What concrete steps have you taken steps in order for you to be closer to God, especially when you have done something that moves you far from him?

What are the readings challenging you to do?