

### The power of the Word

What will one gain  
by winning the whole world  
if he destroys himself?

So that no obstacle will ever make us lose  
that sense of you calling,  
grant us, Father,  
an attitude of intent and good judgment.

Our joy will always consist  
of the glory of God  
and of doing in all things  
the will of the Father.

So that nothing and no one  
will make us live

surrounded by superficiality and noise,  
grant us, Father,  
an attitude of depth and silence.

The love of Christ has been poured over us  
and it moves us to share it.

The Spirit of the Lord sends us  
to proclaim the gospel to the poor.

So that no habit of ours keeps us  
in a passive and routine state,  
grant us, Father,

a bold and creative missionary attitude.

### O Virgin, Mother of God

O Virgin, Mother of God,  
you know that we are your children and ministers,  
fashioned by you yourself  
in the forge of your mercy and love.

We are like an arrow  
put into your powerful hand.

Move us, dear Mother,

against everything that opposes the Kingdom of God.

Trusting in your protection,  
we undertake the proclamation of the Gospel  
without any weapons other than the Word,  
without any titles other than that

of Sons of your Immaculate Heart.

Share with us the way

and give us your joy and fidelity.

Yours, Mother, will be the victory.

Amen.

### In thanksgiving for my vocation

Father, from you we have received  
the grace of vocation.

We have been called by you,  
we are called by you every day  
to be servants of the Word  
among our sisters and brothers.

We want to live from the very roots  
your gift and your call

because we know that this is the way of happiness.

So we ask you to help us to discover together

what you offer us and what you want from us

Give us the ability to overcome obstacles

that prevent us from giving a generous response.

Visit us with your joy

so that we do not falter along the road.

Heat us in the forge of your love until we are fashioned  
according to your Son Jesus Christ,

whose love moves us all to proclaim the gospel.  
Amen.

### Invocation to the Spirit

Spirit of Jesus,

You know me and you sustain me.  
In the midst of my days and nights,  
you continue leading me to the knowledge  
of the one God.

You breathe into me the greatest desire.  
You know what I have and what I need.

There is nothing worthy in me  
other than the fruit of your love.

On the way to all truth,

be my strength and my guide.

Help me to be ready like the iron bar,  
which is heated in your love

until it is not I who live,

but Christ who lives in me.

Make flexible my rigid convictions,  
warm my cold attitudes,

straighten out my deviations,  
and make me a disciple

in the school of the Gospel.

Put me in communion with my brothers  
and the rest of the world,

so that I will never feel alone

in this journey that I am beginning.

Be with me always, Spirit of Jesus,  
who know me and sustain me.

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Amen.

Amen.

when everything will be as you want.

There will come a day

that hamper your arrival.

In spite of us and all the obstacles

Remain committed,

and works of justice.

with words of truth

of the kingdom,

to radiate the love of God,

and proclaim the beautiful news

to fly accurately to wherever needed

Transform us into sharp arrows

the shape of Christ the missionary.

so that we come to be

on the anvil of prayer and of shared life

with gentle strokes of light

Mould us patiently

of our tired and exhausted lives

in our efforts as missionaries

and put it in the fire of your love.

Never stop drawing near.

Remain committed to taking

the worn iron

continue to insist on coming to us,  
on becoming a permanent guest  
in our community.

Don't give up, Lord,  
Forge Prayer

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### Intercessions (to add to lauds or vespers)

(Lauds) On giving thanks, Father, for the day we are about to begin,

— we ask you that the Forge project that we are living

might also be a future of hope for all of us.

(Vespers) On putting into your hands, Lord, the day that is now ending,

— we thank you for this special time of renewal that you provide us,

so as to become men who are on fire

with love and better servants of the Word.

You, Father, who have called us to the Clarean vocation,

— help us to live out the Forge as a personal

and community experience of conversion

and as a fresh impetus to us as missionaries.

Help us, Lord, to find the best possible way

of entering into the forge of your love,

— so that we may be shaped in Christ

and, consequently, bear joyful witness to him in the world.

### Mother of Divine Love

O Mary, my Mother,  
Mother of Divine Love!

I can ask for nothing more pleasing to you  
nor for anything you are more ready to grant  
than the love of God.

Grant me this,

my Mother and my love.

Help me satisfy my need.

O Heart of Mary,

furnace and instrument of love,  
kindle in me  
the love of God and neighbor.  
Amen.

