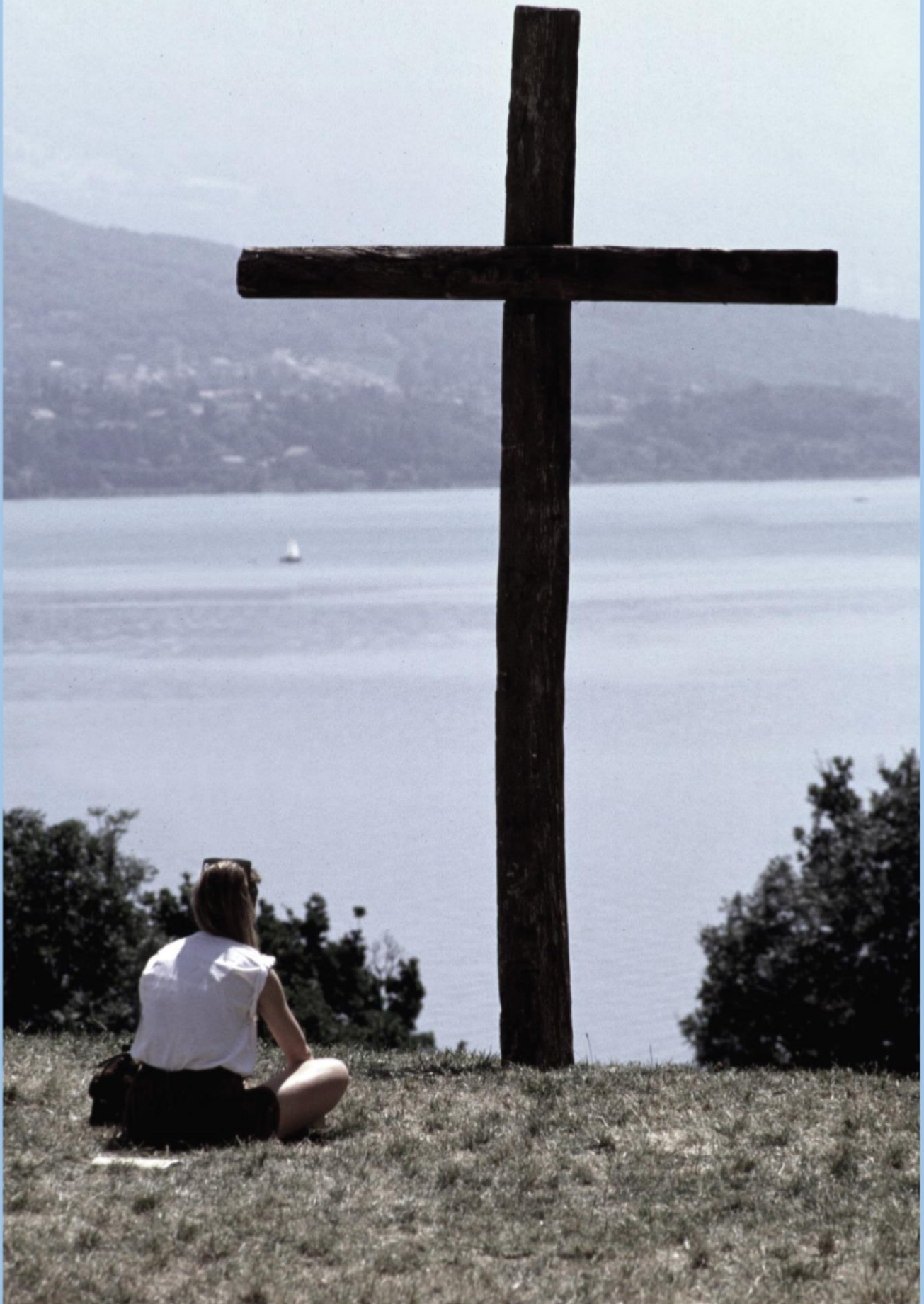


GOD SEEKS INTERCESSORS



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**Behind this window,
someone is praying for others.
Why don't you?
Throughout the world,
men and women, united with Christ
day and night in.
A chain of prayers: Join us!**

Strengthened by this idea that everyone can be called to intercede, the 'Intercessors' Family' invites its members, in line with Father Caffarel's thinking, to find themselves in a Church Movement to pray for Christian marriage and the family.

God counts on our prayer of intercession.

During his talks, Father Caffarel often spoke of it:

"The Christian who prays fulfils the call that Jesus allows him hear in the secret of his soul, the very one that God already addressed to the those under the Ancient Law: My son, give me your heart.

Give me your heart, your lips, your life. I wish to adore the Father in you and through you, to sing his praises, to give him thanks for his great glory and invincible love, to continue my immense intercession for humanity in distress."

(Letters about Prayer – 1961)

But what if intercession was the way God had chosen to save men from death and sin?

And what if the prayer of intercession was the true prayer that the Spirit puts in man's heart to make him cooperate with his plan of salvation?

And what if intercession was every Christian's vocation, and even every person's vocation, in Christ?

IT IS CHRIST HIMSELF WHO ASKS US TO INTERCEDE



“This then is how you should pray: Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come...”(Matt 6, 9-10).

It is Christ himself, following on from Abraham, Moses and the Prophets, who asks us to intercede, to pray to his Father for the world. He promises us,

*“...My Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”
(John 16,23)*

The Church has believed in this promise and throughout its history has strongly incited its members to engage in prayers of intercession. Men and women have dedicated their lives to this calling, calls have been made during troubled times—wars, famines, epidemics—and have been renewed each time new needs appear.

It is in this spirit and well aware of the great difficulties that Christian marriage was going through in contemporary society, that in 1961, Father CAFFAREL called for volunteers to engage in interceding especially for marriages and the Christian family.

And so our family of intercessors was born.



Through intercession, Every one can be involved in the salvation that the Lord offers to all men. You too, let yourself be called on.

“Speak Lord, your servant is listening.” (1 Sam 3, 10)

WHAT IS INTERCESSION ?



Intercession is the exchange between God and man, carried out with love. It is the consent by each to the desire and choice of the other, moved by the Spirit.

Called to intercession, we are co-responsible, as Christians, for the salvation of the world.

Before reacting with our own particular sensibility, our own spiritual feeling, let us try to apprehend the experience of other witnesses to intercession.

Where do we find these witnesses, without being biased or forgetful?

Very naturally, by diving into Scripture, into the very Word of God, and by basing ourselves on the magisterium of the Church.

It is obvious that in the form of commitment to prayer or a fast or even through the bias of the offering up of daily life, intercession is experienced as a gift that takes up an ever-larger place in the dialogue between the intercessor and Our Father.

Through prayers of intercession, we are reunited with Christ's great prayer and it is the Spirit of Christ that accomplishes his work in us. To intercede therefore really means letting the Holy Spirit accomplish in us and with us his plan to save all men. The concern with the salvation of others is one of the most serious responsibilities that He ever entrusted to men...

At the heart of the Eucharistic mystery, we share in the communion of the saints, the communion of the Church of Heaven and of earth.

"For if we continue to love one another and to join in praising the Most Holy Trinity - all of us who are sons of God and form one family in Christ - we will be faithful to the deepest vocation of the Church."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, Article 9, Paragraph 5, 959)

WHO ARE WE TODAY?

The family of 'Intercessors' developed over the years and has evolved in response to new needs. It spread throughout the world, all the while maintaining its specific nature.

Through its members' intercession, a continuous chain of prayer is maintained both day and night, prayer to which a great number of couples are united in love...without mentioning all the other graces obtained. Prayer, fasting and the daily offering up of one's life are the three ways of becoming an Intercessor.

A chain of intercession is thus created thanks to the commitment of the members of this large family as everyone assumes their personal responsibility in complete consciousness of their faith.

Without necessarily knowing each other, the Intercessors feel connected to each other through the Quarterly Letter that they receive along with specific personal intentions. They also get together in France for retreats at Massabielle that are specifically designed for them and where the teachings are oriented around prayer and intercession.

An international organisational team is at the service of the Intercessors and is helped by a Spiritual Counsellor.



"I am so bold to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes"

BECOME AN INTERCESSOR

Intercessory prayer is a service that we do for our family, friends, neighbour, for all those, who are encountering difficult moments in their lives: ordeals, suffering, depression, unemployment, and separation...

We do not know what to do, but Jesus and Mary are waiting for our prayers in order to help those we have entrusted to them.

For those who are no longer able to pray, let us commit to giving a bit of our time, a bit of ourselves.

In practice, we commit to participating actively in a continuous chain of prayer and offering:

- **Either for an hour of prayer a month and preferable during the night,**
- **Or for a day of fasting a month,**
- **Or by daily offering up our joys and difficulties or suffering in union with the Intercessors.**

Don't forget, the Lord helps us with our weakness!

In our commitment, the most important thing is to unite ourselves with Our Holy Mother's YES and we will be filled with graces in the accomplishment of this beautiful mission. The prayer intentions can be sent to via email if you wish on a monthly basis and every quarter, you will receive the spiritual newsletter, The Intercessors' Letter to sustain and help you in your prayer of intercession. Father Paul-Dominique Marcovits, Spiritual Counsellor to the Intercessors, celebrates mass and entrusts all the intentions carried by the Intercessors' prayer to the Lord on the 15th of the month. You are invited to join him in prayer that day.

Intercession is neither a speciality nor a particular mystical state. It is the experience of every Christian who manages to enter into the prayer of the Lord. As such, it is a prayer of communion, with the Spirit, to the Will of the Father who desires all to be saved. It is a prayer attentive to the salvation of all, to the healing of all wounds, from the most hidden and the most secret to the most visible within the breathe of the Spirit.

WHERE DO THE INTENTIONS FOR THE PRAYERS COME FROM?

The secretary's office, integrated into that of the Equipes Notre-Dame, receives numerous intentions. These come from intercessors themselves, from members of the Equipes Notre-Dame, or from people who have simply heard of the movement. Once the intentions are received, they are placed in a basket, at the foot of the tabernacle in the oratory at Rue de la Glacière, Paris and at Massabielle.

The intentions are prayed for during the masses. Every three months, they are copied out, grouped in twos and are sent out with the "Intercessors' Letter".

Thus, each intercession is entrusted to a certain number of intercessors (or intercessor couples) for a three-month period. The strictest anonymity is preserved, so that it is impossible to transmit a message to those for whom one is interceding. The sole reply is prayer.

Intercession is experienced as an offering, or, as Jean-Paul II put it, "as a surplus of love, of spontaneous suffering...which pours out over others and supports them."

Intercession is the exchange among the faithful of spiritual goods obtained from Christ's love. This, offered in abundance, is the sharing in a new life that we receive from Jesus. It is the faithfulness of his open heart.

To intercede means that we are involved in Christ's action of salvation and in particular in his Passion. To intercede means copying Christ and offering our life, our time, our sorrows and our joys.

➤ *Submit a prayer request:*

You are praying for people in your circle of friends or family. You are having difficulties with your spouse or in your family. You would like some spiritual help. **Leave your intention below:**

www.equipes-notre-dame.com - www.intercesseursmobile.org

It will be forwarded to an Intercessor, who will take it on in their prayer.

Together we can mutually help each other.

INTERCESSORS' PRAYER

God, Our Father,

You sent your beloved Son to save the world. He is now seated at Your right hand where he ceaselessly intercedes for his human brothers.

Born by the Spirit, we wish to unite ourselves to his prayer for the salvation of all.

May priests and couples be faithful to their commitments in the service of the Church's communion, by glowing with the love that you have put in their hearts.

May all your children throughout the world discover the happiness you give and may they live in respect, dignity, joy and peace.

God, Our Father, through the intercession of Our Lady and of all the saints, let us Intercessors, fulfil our service out of love for you and out of love for men.

AMEN.



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