



## Prayer in Honour of Bishop Daniel Delany founder of the Patrician Brothers

### Introductory Reading

Bishop Daniel Delany was born in Ireland in 1747. Because of English laws in Ireland he had to study for the priesthood in France. When he was ordained, he stayed in France and taught Theology to other young men studying to be priests.

He returned to Ireland in 1776 and was consecrated bishop in 1783. His dream was to renew the people in his diocese of Carlow in their Catholic faith and practices.

To help him with this he founded the Brigidine Sisters in 1807 and the Patrician Brothers in 1808.

It was on his deathbed in 1814 that he left the Sisters and Brothers with the exhortation to love God and to live together in peace and charity.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Bishop Delany and Trusting in God

In his history of Bishop Delany and the Patrician Brothers, Brother Dermott Dunne writes on Fr Delany's return to Ireland from France:

*He [Fr Daniel Delany] came, he saw, and he wished to return to France....So great was the moral disorder arising from the maelstrom of iniquitous social conditions that Fr Delany, depressed and despairing of effecting any good, decided, in order to save his own soul, to return to France....[His] mother asked, entreated [him to stay], and her son remained in Ireland....He had no illusions as to the magnitude of the evils to be overcome, but he had the consoling promise, "I am with you all days".*

### Hymn: (Trust in the Lord, St Louis Jesuits)

*Trust in the Lord; you shall not tire.  
Serve you the Lord; you shall not weaken,  
For the Lord's own strength will uphold you.  
You shall renew your life and live.*

The Lord is our eternal God.  
He neither faints nor grows weary.  
Our hearts He probes from afar,  
Knowing our ways, knowing our ways. (Ant.)

Young men may grow faint and weak.  
Youth may collapse, stumble and fall.  
They that hope in the Lord will renew their courage.  
They'll soar with eagle's might. (Ant.)

Old men shall dream new dreams.  
Young men will find wisdom in visions.  
The Lord will speak in our life-time,  
Show His face to those who wait. (Ant.)

**Psalm (127):**

*Ant: If the Lord does not build the house, in vain do the builders toil.*

If the LORD had not been on our side—  
let Israel say—  
If the LORD had not been on our side  
when men attacked us,

When their anger flared against us,  
they would have swallowed us alive;

The flood would have engulfed us,  
the torrent would have swept over us,

The raging waters  
would have swept us away.

Praise be to the LORD,  
who has not let us be torn by their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird  
out of the fowler's snare;  
the snare has been broken,  
and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the LORD,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.

Glory be to the Father.....

*Ant: If the Lord does not build the house, in vain do the builders toil*



**A Reading from the Gospel of Luke:**

...the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

*R: The Gospel of the Lord.*

*All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Maxims Attributed to Bishop Delany**

(After every second saying the reader pauses for a few moments and then says: *And so we proclaim*. To which all respond: *Our help is in the name of the Lord*.)

~ Love God and live together in peace and charity.

~ The Cross is the sure way to find Christ.

***Pause - L: And so we proclaim A: Our help is in the name of the Lord.***

~ The force of love will convert the hard wood of the Cross into a bed of roses.

~ Do everything in a spirit of holy love and you will not find your hands empty at journey's end. ***Pause - L: And so we proclaim....***

~ It is not, my dear children, God's consolations but God himself you should seek.

~ What you are those who come after you will be: the fountain should itself be pure in order to have the stream pure. ***Pause - L: And so we proclaim..***

~ From every seed sown and cultivated by pure love we shall be sure to reap a harvest of endless glory.

~ Never entertain yourself or others in speaking of another's faults or failings. You should be no less careful to draw a veil over these than if they actually belonged to yourself. ***Pause - L: And so we proclaim....***

~ For you holiness will not consist in doing great actions, but in doing your least actions with great purity of intention and a genuine desire to please God.

~ By performing the ordinary duties of your day well you will perfect yourself, and your day will be full of merit and good works.

***Pause - L: And so we proclaim....***

~ We cannot possibly stand still in the career of Christian virtue. Not to advance on this road is to recede. Not to go up against the torrent is to be carried down by it. Labour, therefore, with might and main and in full assurance of the Divine assistance, to be daily and hourly advancing in this blessed race.

***Pause - L: And so we proclaim A: Our help is in the name of the Lord***

***All: Glory be to the Father.....***

### **A Prayer in Honour of Bishop Delany**

Lord God, we thank you for Bishop Delany.

Through him you have given us, his spiritual brothers and sisters, a wonderful example of Christian living.

We pray you, through the intercession of Bishop Delany, to grant us an increase of faith, courage, and dedication, to labour unceasingly for the spread of your Kingdom on earth.

May our lives bear witness to the faith we profess by our special devotion to you in the most Blessed Sacrament as exemplified in Bishop Delany.

Help us to serve you as he did, sharing the joy of your love with those who come into our lives in our Christian ministry.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



### **Concluding Hymn: (Antiphon only.)**

*Trust in the Lord; you shall not tire.  
Serve you the Lord; you shall not weaken,  
For the Lord's own strength will uphold you.  
You shall renew your life and live.*