

FOUNDATION DAY PRAYER



Introduction

On the morning of the 2nd February, 1808, the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Bishop, having formally received the first four member who wished to dedicate their lives to the service of God under the patronage of St Patrick, offered the Holy Sacrifice in the Old Chapel then assigned as a residence for the Brothers of the newly established Institute. The names of those who entered on Foundation Day were: Patrick McMahon [Br John Baptist], Maurice Cummins [Br John Evangelist], Richard Fitzpatrick [Br Bernard], and Ambrose Dawson [Br Joseph]. The four originals were soon joined [in that same year] by three others...

*- Right Reverend Dr. Delany and the Brothers of St Patrick
by Br Dermot P. Dunne, 1955*

Hymn

Christ be with me, Christ about me,
Christ beside me as I go.
Christ be in me, Christ around me,
Christ within, above, below.
Christ encircle every heart,
Christ encircle every part.
Christ be with me,
Christ surround me,
Christ be near and never far.

Christ to guide me on my journey,
Christ to shield me from the night,
Christ to lead me on each journey,
Christ my hope, my life, my light.
Christ to save me from all sin.
Christ to call me deep within,
Christ to guide me on each journey,
Christ my heart to ever fill.

- Liam Lawton. Published by GIA
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Opening Prayer

All: Lord Jesus,
I give my hands to do your work;
I give my feet to go your way.

I give my eyes to see as you do;
I give my tongue to speak your words.
I give you my mind that I may think of you,
I give you my spirit that I may live in you.
Above all
I give you my heart that I may totally love your Father and all
humankind. (Continues next page)

I give you my whole self so that all that I do
I do for you and your glory.

Reading

Just as the early Christians whose witness to the Gospel was first seen and appreciated within community, so it is for us in Religious Life. Community is a core element to be prized, lived and nurtured.

Our Patrician Community endures because the Lord has brought us together and unites us by a common consecration and mission. We make present Daniel Delany's vision which is renewed in us each day by the Holy Spirit.

What we give to community is nothing less than our whole self. We call each other to growth through trust, respect and challenge. It is where we befriend each other in order to know and imitate Jesus more closely. It is where we can dare to be our truest self.

- Rejoice in Hope

Prayer

All: God of Love, we thank you
for the gift of our Patrician Vocation.
We believe that You call us
as You called our patron, Saint Patrick,
and our founder, Daniel Delany,
to be a light for all:
a sign of Your Presence in the world.

Lead us, the Patrician Family -
To love and to serve all with whom
we live, work, and pray.

Call many men to dedicate themselves
to You as Patrician Brothers. Amen.

Intercessions (Spontaneous)

Renewal of Vows (Said individually before the community.)

For the honour of God, and moved by a firm resolve to renew my consecration to follow Christ more closely in my religious life, I Brother.....renew my vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience.

I give myself with my whole heart to our Congregation so that by the grace of the Holy Spirit and the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I may seek perfect charity in the service of God and the Church. Amen.

Prayer

L: United with all Patricians on this Foundation Day
we commit ourselves:

1. To be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ,
To strive for personal holiness,
2. To live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
To promote the unity of all Christians.
3. To work with all people for peace and justice,
To be accepting of all.
4. To protect the world that God has created,
A world so loved by God.

All: And finally we commit ourselves
To love God and to live together in peace and charity.

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As
it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without
end. Amen.