

Theme Sharing

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Let our talents bear abundant fruits

In choosing the scriptures for today's readings, the Church prepares us for the coming of Our Lord. The first reading praises a diligent and trustworthy wife, who is treasured and pleasing to God. She has utmost respect for God and manifests a deep understanding of her mission in life. In the second reading, Paul encouraged the Thessalonians that they did not live in darkness, and that they were all children of light and children of the day. Therefore they should not fall asleep and let loose their guard. Instead, they should keep awake and be sober at all times.

Today's gospel is on the parable of the "talent" (which in Jesus' time was a coin of great value). We are told how the servant entrusted with a talent fails to invest the money under his care. Having a very negative opinion of his master, he has no faith in the latter and so he hides the talent, keeping it entirely for himself. Jesus has told us time and again that God is never a harsh master. Instead, God is a most loving and generous Father to whom we should render our complete trust.

Therefore we should have complete faith in God, in looking ahead and carrying out of our daily responsibilities. We should pray and discern what they are, bearing in mind that these are motivations, not burdens, for us. In fact, responsibilities in life are marks of respect for us from God who entrusts us with important tasks. And whatever they may be, we should accept them as gifts of love from God. We can rest assured that God will help us by every means so that we can invest wisely the talents entrusted to us, and produce abundant fruits for the glory of God.

2015 Year Of Consecrated Life

Fresh Efforts In The Promotion of Vocations

The mission of the consecrated life, as well as the vitality of Institutes, undoubtedly depend on the faithful commitment with which consecrated persons respond to their vocation. But they have a future to the extent that still other men and women generously welcome the Lord's call. The problem of vocations is a real challenge which directly

concerns the various Institutes but also involves the whole Church. Great spiritual and material energies are being expended in the sphere of vocational promotion, but the results do not always match expectations and efforts. Thus, while vocations to the consecrated life are flourishing in the young Churches and in those which suffered persecution at the hands of totalitarian regimes, they are lacking in countries traditionally rich in vocations, including vocations for the missions.

This difficult situation puts consecrated persons to the test. Sometimes they ask themselves: Have we perhaps lost the capacity to attract new vocations? They must have confidence in the Lord Jesus, who continues to call men and women to follow him. They must entrust themselves to the Holy Spirit, who inspires and bestows the charisms of the consecrated life. Therefore, while we rejoice in the action of the Spirit, who rejuvenates the Bride of Christ by enabling the consecrated life to flourish in many nations, we must also pray unceasingly to the Lord of the harvest, that he will send workers to his Church in order to meet the needs of the new evangelization (cf. Mt 9:37-38). Besides promoting prayer for vocations, it is essential to act, by means of explicit presentation and appropriate catechesis, with a view to encouraging in those called to the consecrated life that free, willing and generous response which carries into effect the grace of vocation. The invitation of Jesus, "Come and see" (Jn 1:39), is the golden rule of pastoral work for promoting vocations, even today. Following the example of founders and foundresses, this work aims at

presenting the attraction of the person of the Lord Jesus and the beauty of the total gift of self for the sake of the Gospel. A primary responsibility of all consecrated men and women is therefore to propose with courage, by word and example, the ideal of the following of Christ, and then to support the response to the Spirit's action in the heart of those who are called. After the enthusiasm of the first meeting with Christ, there comes the constant struggle of everyday life, a struggle which turns a vocation into a tale of friendship with the Lord. In view of this, the pastoral work of promoting vocations should make use of suitable help, such as spiritual direction, in order to nourish that personal response of

love of the Lord which is the necessary condition for becoming disciples and apostles of his Kingdom. Moreover, if the flourishing of vocations evident in some parts of the world justifies optimism and hope, the lack of them in other areas must not lead either to discouragement or to the temptation to practise lax and unwise recruitment. The task of promoting vocations should increasingly express a joint commitment of the whole Church. It calls for the active collaboration of pastors, religious, families and teachers, as required in something which forms an integral part of the overall pastoral plan of every particular Church. In every Diocese there should be this common endeavour, which coordinates and promotes the efforts of everyone, not jeopardizing, but rather supporting, the vocational activity of each Institute. The effective cooperation of the whole People of God, with the support of Providence, cannot but give rise to an abundance of divine gifts. Christian solidarity should abound in meeting the needs of vocational formation in countries which are economically poorer. The recruitment of vocations in these countries should be carried out by the various Institutes in full accord with the Churches of the region, and on the basis of an active and long-term involvement in their pastoral life. The most authentic way to support the Spirit's action is for Institutes to invest their best resources generously in vocational work, especially by their serious involvement in working with youth.

Diocese & Other News

Rise Up Conference coming to

Calgary, Alberta! Catholic Christian Outreach would like to extend an open invitation to university students and young adults aged 18-30 to join us for our Annual Rise Up conference from December 28th 2014 -January 1st 2015. This year's theme is, "Revive this Generation." For more information, pricing, updates, speakers and more, please visit www.cco.ca/riseup.

Join Catholic Connections:

A Restorative Justice Network in Canada: In responding to the call of Christ on the Cross and the example of Pope Francis, Most Rev. Gary M. Gordon, Bishop Liaison for the Correctional Ministry for the CCCB has initiated Catholic Connections: a Restorative

Justice Network in Canada. We invite you to join our Canada-wide community of Catholics involved in prison ministry, re-integration and restorative justice activities. Visit our website at www.ccinrj.ca to find out more.

Parish Activities

Thank you for your support of Catholic Education Sunday

Thank you for your generous support of Catholic Education Sunday last week. We collected a total amount of \$2,320 in donations.
May God bless you and your family!

Breakfast Corner

YAG and Youth Group will be hosting a Breakfast Corner on Sunday, November 30 at OLPH Upper Hall after every Mass. Free complimentary tea and muffins will be served after 8:30 Mass.

Ticket price: \$5.00 each (Western style or Chinese Food)

Tickets are available at the church entrances until November 23.

All Parishioners and friends are welcome. For more information, please contact John Guo (johnld.guo@gmail.com).

2015 Calendar

2015 Parish Calendars are available now. Parishioners can pick them up at church entrances.

Together in Action 2014

".....Faith Working Through Love."
(Galatians 5:6)

Our parish's portion is \$24,300. As of September 9, our campaign has received a total of \$28,680.

Donation envelopes can be picked up from both the front and the side entrances.

Weekly Activities

Wed, Fri Nov 19, 21

OLPH Senior Centre

Time: 9:00a.m.-12:00 noon

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

Wed Nov 19

Perpetual Help Harmony Choir

Time: 7:00p.m.-9:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Church, Upper Hall

Fri Nov 21

OLPH Scout

Time: 6:30pm.-8:30 pm

Place: Upper Hall & Lower Hall

Faith Sharing Group (Sacred Heart)

Time: 7:30p.m.-10:00p.m.

Contact: Doris Ho 403-271-6884

Sat Nov 22

Legion of Mary (meeting)

Time: 9:45a.m.

Place: K of C Room at OLPH Church

Tai Chi Lesson

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Yoga Class

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:15p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

25th Anniversary Dinner –

Matteo Ricci Council 10119

Time: 6:30p.m.

Venue: Upper Hall, OLPH Church

Young Adults choir practice

Time: 6:00 p.m-8:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Lower Hall

Faith Sharing Group (Arbour Lake)

Time: 7:30p.m.-10:00p.m.

Contact: Grace Chan 403-208-1806

Sun Nov 23

Fr. Joseph Birthday Blessing Sunday School and Youth Group

Time: 10:00 a.m. Mass

R. C.I.A

Adult Catechumenate Class

(Cantonese and English)

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Sunday School

Time: 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Place: Office Building

Queen of China meeting

Time: 12:30p.m. - 2:30p.m.

Place: Boardroom

Let There Be Light

Past, Present, and Future

I have been left to think of things past, present and future.

Although I cannot change the past, I can work in the present so that it is not repeated in the future.

I can be humble enough in the present to admit that I have seriously injured people in the past, so that hopefully they can forgive me in the future.

I can forget the past mistakes of others against me and love them both in the present and future.

I can look to the future and pray that the present I am in today is not the past of tomorrow I will regret.

Stories Faith Sharing

Lao Tzu and One Big Tree

Lao Tzu was traveling with his disciples and they came to a forest where hundreds of woodcutters were cutting the trees. The whole forest had been cut except for one big tree with thousands of branches. It was so big that 10,000 persons could sit in its shade.

Lao Tzu asked his disciples to go and inquire why this tree had not been cut. They went and asked the woodcutter and they said, "This tree is absolutely useless. You cannot make anything out of it because every branch has so many knots in it - nothing is straight. You cannot use it as fuel because the smoke is dangerous to the eyes. This tree is absolutely useless, that's why we haven't cut it."

The disciples came back and told Lao Tzu. He laughed said, "Be like this tree. If you are useful you will be cut and you will become furniture in somebody's house. If you are beautiful you will be sold in the market, you will become a commodity. Be like this tree, absolutely useless, and then you will grow big and vast and thousands of people will find shade under you."

Read More Know More

What Does God Expect after You Become a Christian?

Being a Christian requires a lifetime commitment to serve God faithfully. Baptism places us in a covenant relationship as Disciples of Jesus. What responsibilities and duties do we accept when we receive forgiveness of sins?

Baptism is not the end of our service to God, but is the beginning of a lifetime commitment of total dedication to Him. Here is a brief list of a few of the responsibilities Christians should fulfill. One who is considering baptism needs to be aware of what God will expect of Him after he becomes a Christian:

I. Study the Bible Regularly

Diligent Bible study is our only way of learning God's will and avoiding error. Acts 17:11; Psa. 1:2; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16,17.

Are you willing to study the Bible diligently?

II. Pray Frequently

Prayer is our means of thanking God, praising Him, and making known our needs. Phil. 4:6; 1 Pet. 5:7; Matt. 6:9-13; 1 Thess. 5:17.

Are you willing to pray regularly?

III. Commit Yourself to the Local Church

New Testament Christians always were recognized as part of a local church. They committed themselves to be involved and actively participate in the work of that church. See Acts 9:26-28; 11:26; Heb. 13:17; 1 Cor. 1:2; Eph. 4:16.

This church must be scriptural in worship, name, organization, salvation, etc.

IV. Attend All the Assemblies of the Local Church

We should come on the first day to commune and give -- Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1,2.

We should come whenever the church meets to study, sing, & pray -- Heb. 3:12,13;

10:24,25; John 4:24; Eph. 4:16; 1 Thess. 5:11; Acts 11:26; 2:42; 1 Cor. 14.

Are you willing to regularly attend whenever the church meets?

V. Practice Proper Relations with Other People

* In our family -- Eph. 5:22-6:4; Col. 3:18-21; Tit. 2:4,5.

* To those who are in need -- Luke 10:25-37; Acts 20:35; Jas. 1:27; Matt. 25:34-40.

* To civil government -- Rom. 13:1-5; 1 Pet. 2:13,14; Matt. 22:17-21.

* In business -- Eph. 6:5-9; Tit. 2:9,10; Col. 3:22-4:1; Psa. 37:21.

Are you willing to learn & follow Bible teaching about how to treat others?

VI. Help Others Learn the Gospel

All Christians should work to learn how to lead others to Jesus -- Acts 8:4; Prov. 11:30; 2

Tim. 2:2,24-26; John 4:28-30,39; 1:40-46; Heb. 5:12.

Are you willing to share the message of Jesus with others?

VII. Live an Upright Moral Life

Mark 7:20-23; Rom. 1:26-32; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:19-21; etc.

Are you willing to correct any sins in your life as you learn of them?

VIII. Honor Church Discipline

We hope no members would practice sin. But if they do and refuse to repent, then the church must cease association and companionship with them - 1 Cor. 5; Matt.

18:15-17; 2 Thess. 3:6,14,15; Rom. 16:17,18; Tit. 3:10,11.

Are you willing to honor church disciplinary

actions when needed?

VIII. Do All God's Will

Luke 14:26-33; Matt. 28:18-20; 16:24-27; 6:19-33; Rom. 12:1,2; 6:1-18.

Are you willing to forsake all your desires and give your whole life to Jesus?

What should a person do if he sins after baptism? -- Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9.

主日分享

常年期第三十三主日

各盡所能為社會和為教會服務

本主日是常年期第三十三主日，是禮儀年曆倒數第二主日。時光的流逝，令人想到個人的死亡，也念及世界的末日。主基督快回來了。

本主日彌撒中的讀經二告誡我們警覺謹慎，等候主基督的來臨。讀經二取自聖保祿宗徒致得撒洛尼人前書。人人都要死，那是必定的事實。怎樣和幾時死，這卻是很難預料的了。耶穌說，死好比一個賊，是在夜間人們不理會的時間來訪的。聖保祿宗徒援引耶穌的話，教訓我們要警覺謹慎。

讀經一和福音則勸勉我們，在我們各自的崗位上，儘量發揮天主賜給我們的才能，為社會並為教會服務；對“警覺”提出進一步的解釋。讀經一描述猶太社會中的一位賢妻良母。她對自己的家庭和本地社會都有所貢獻，因此博得大眾的一致讚揚。

本主日彌撒中的福音取自聖瑪竇福音內容是講「元寶」的比喻。福音的教訓有積極和消極兩方面。積極方面是鼓勵教會中所有的人，都按照各自從天主那裏接受了聖寵和本性才能，盡力為教會和社會服務；消極方面是警誡我們，不可在信仰和神修生活上抱最起碼主義。 錄自梵蒂岡電台

2015 獻身生活年

推動聖召的新努力氣

獻身生活的使命與修會的活力，無疑地有賴於獻身者對自身聖召的忠誠。但祇要仍有其他男女人士慷慨接納上主的召喚，它們的未來仍是光明的。聖召問題是一項真正的挑戰，它直接關係著修會，也涉及全教會。大量的靈性和物質方面的力量會投入聖召的

倡導，可是所得的結果往往並不與期待和努力相稱。在新興的地方教會，或是極權統治下受到迫害的地區，聖召反倒繁榮昌盛，而在一向聖召充裕的國家，則缺乏聖召，包括福傳工作聖召在內。

這個困難的狀況讓獻身者接受考驗。有時他們自問：我們已失去吸引新聖召的能力了嗎？他們必須信賴主耶穌，因為祂繼續召喚人跟隨祂；他們必須將自己交托給聖神，是祂給與並激勵獻身生活的神恩。所以說，我們一面為聖神的化工而喜樂，祂使獻身生活在許多國家綻放花朵，以使基督的新娘充滿青春活力；我們也必須不停地向庄稼的主人祈求，打發工人來，以便應付新福傳的需要（參瑪九37—38）。除了推動為聖召祈禱外，重要的是要有行動，以明確的展示和適當的教理講授喚醒並鼓舞蒙召者，使他們以自由、切望和慷慨的心回應，使聖召恩寵產生實效。

「你們來看看罷！」（若一39）耶穌的這個邀請即使在今日仍是牧靈工作上推動聖召的金科玉律。追隨創會人的芳表，這工作的宗旨在於呈現主耶穌基督的吸引力，以及為福音而全然自獻之美。所有的男女獻身者的首要責任，就是以言以行勇敢地說明追隨基督的理想，進而支持其他蒙召者回應天主在其心中的工作。

與基督相遇的最初興奮過去之後，接踵而來的是每日生活中的掙扎，而這掙扎使聖召轉變為與基督間的一份友誼。由此觀之，在推動聖召的牧靈工作上，宜善用如靈修輔導這樣的助力，幫助人培養一份答覆主的愛的個人情誼，因為這是成為天國的門徒所必備的條件。再者，如果說某些國家或地區聖召的昌盛帶來樂觀與希望，那麼，在缺乏聖召的地區卻不可因此而氣餒，或者陷入鬆懈而作了不明智的招募。倡導聖召的工作上應該越強烈地表出全教會的共同投入（注一六〇）。所要求的是堂區神父、修會人士、家庭和老師等的合作，就如同教區內的其他整體計劃的要求一樣。每一教區都應有這樣的共同努力，協力並推動每一個人的力量，支助各修會的聖召活動（注一六一）。

天主子民的實際合作，再加上天主上智的照顧定能邀得豐富的恩賜。基督徒的團結應能充實經濟較差窮困的國家聖召培育工作。在這些國家對聖召的招募應由不同的修會執行，但要與當地的教會完全配合，並且是一項主動而長遠的牧靈生涯（注一六二）。支持聖神的工作的最正確之道，便是各修會以最好的資源慷慨大方地投入聖召工作，特別是藉著認真地投身於青年工作。

堂區活動

感謝支持天主教教育主日

多謝大家上週在天主教教育主日的慷慨奉獻，我們共籌得\$2,320。願主與你們同在！

早餐交流會

青年團聯同青少年團將於十一月三十日（星期日）合力籌辦早餐交流會。八時三十分彌撒後會有免費茶點招待。

時間：當日每台彌撒後

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

費用：每位 5 元（中式或西式食品）

請於即日起至十一月廿三日，到教堂入口處購票。

歡迎所有會友及朋友光臨。

詳情請與 John Guo

(johnld.guo@gmail.com) 聯絡。

2015 年月曆

本堂 2015 年月曆開始派發，教友可於教堂入口處索取。

2014 教區公益金

「讓我們一起來行動」

主題：「...以愛德行事的信德。」迦

拉達書：第五章六節

截至 9 月 9 日，捐款已累積至 28,680

元。捐款信封可在聖堂入口處索取。

就讓我們立即行動，慷慨解囊！

活動一週

星期三、五 11 月 19, 21 日

永援聖母松柏軒

時間：上午 9 時至正午 12 時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

星期三 11 月 19 日

永援聖母歌詠團

時間：晚上 7 時至晚上 9 時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

星期五 11 月 21 日

永援聖母堂童軍

時間：晚上 6 時 30 分至 8 時 30 分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂及下禮堂

信仰小團體 (Sacred Heart)

時間：晚上 7 時 30 分至 10 時

聯絡：Doris Ho 403-271-6884

星期六 11 月 22 日

聖母軍

(聖母軍聖母無玷聖心支團)

時間：早上 9 時 45 分(開會)

地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室

楊式太極班

時間：上午 10 時至 12 時

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

瑜珈初班

時間：下午 2 時至下午 3 時 15 分

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

利瑪竇騎士會廿五週年晚宴

時間：晚上 6 時 30 分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

永援聖母大專青年團練習聖詩

時間：晚上 6 時至 8 時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

信仰小團體 (Arbour Lake)

時間：晚上 7 時 30 分至 10 時

聯絡：Grace Chan 403-208-1806

星期日 11 月 23 日

阮神父祝福生日的主日學及

青年會會員

時間：10 時彌撒

成人慕道班 (粵語及英語)

時間上午 9 時 30 分至 12 時 30 分

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

主日學

時間：上午 10 時至下午 12 時 30 分

地點：寫字樓大廈

中華聖母會開會

時間下午 12 時 30 分至 2 時 30 分

地點：會議室

聖言的力量

一封來自天主的情書

我親愛的孩子：

我愛你。(若 3:16)

我以你的名召叫了你，你是我的。(依 43:1) 我還沒有在母腹內形成你以前，我已認識了你；你還未出離母胎以前，我已祝聖了你。(耶 1:5) 不是你們揀選了我，而是我揀選了你們。(若 15:16) 因為你在我眼中是寶貴的，是貴重的，我愛你。(依 43:4)

我怎能捨棄你？我心已轉變，我五內已感動。(歐 11:8) 婦人怎能忘記她吃奶的嬰孩，不憐恤她所生的兒子？即或有忘記的，我卻不忘記你。看哪，我已把你刻在我的掌上。(依 49:16) 因為是我，上主，你的天主提攜著你的右手。(依 41:13) 你不要害怕！因為我救贖了你。(依 43:1) 不要害怕，因為我同你在一起。(依 43:5) 你要確信，我與你們天天在一起，直到今世的終結。(瑪 28:20)

你心裏不要煩亂；你要信賴天主，也要信賴我。(若 14:1) 我必協助你。(依 41:14) 你從深水中經過，我必與你同在。困苦必不能淹沒你。艱難的試煉也不會將你摧毀。(依 43:2) 不要憂慮吃什麼、穿什麼。(路 12:22) 就是你們的頭髮，也都一一數過了。所以你不要害怕。(瑪 10:30-31) 大山可以挪開，小山可以遷移；但我對你的仁慈永遠不會移去。(依 54:10) 來，我要引導你到曠野，對你的心說安慰的話。我必以坦白、忠誠待你。我要持續的愛你，聘你永遠歸我為妻。我會信守我的誓言，你就必認識我，遠超過你從前對我的認識。(歐 2:14-22) 我是自有者。(出 3:14) 我就是上主，你的天主！(歐 13:4)

永遠愛你的天主

心靈小品

求主改變我們醜陋的心靈容貌

印度加爾各答特蕾莎修女，容貌憔悴，皺紋滿面，躬身駝背，但是她卻成全了人類最偉大的壯麗事業，她 1950 年創建的仁愛傳教女修會僅 60 年的時間就遍及世界天涯海角，現擁有

淨資產 5 億美金。然而，1997 年她去世時的全部個人財產，就是一張耶穌受難像，一雙涼鞋和三件舊衣服。她獲得 1979 年度諾貝爾和平獎，世人看到她的容貌是那麼的光輝燦爛。法國雅爾斯堂區的維亞納神父，身材矮小、面容較醜，但是，他以宣講、克己、祈禱和愛德的神修生活使信仰冷淡的雅爾斯堂區奇妙地復蘇和發展，馳名遐遠。教宗庇護十一世立他為普世神職人員的主保。維亞納神父並不英俊的面龐也閃耀出基督的光輝。主耶穌期望我們改變容貌，期望我們也能效法祂在信仰實踐中改變我們的靈魂容貌，讓世人一眼就能認出我們是祂的信徒。

你是普通教友嗎！請信賴耶穌，熱心祈禱，從我做起，從身邊做起，改變我們自私、驕傲、憤怒、嫉妒…的面容，請展現我們仁愛、謙遜、含忍、包容…的面容。

您是牧者嗎！也有改變自我容貌的義務，那就是恒信耶穌，熱心福傳，善牧羊群，忠貞共融、從骨子裏服從教宗，而不是口口聲聲服從教宗，行動上卻又參與獨立自辦、自選自聖。更不是時而紅臉時而白臉的兩面人。親愛的弟兄姐妹，當你作為學生乘坐巴士給老者讓座的時候，當你作為菜農賣菜時總是將秤杆提的高高的時候，當你作為公務員在辦公桌前和諳廉潔的履行公職的時候，當你作為牧人忠貞教宗勇敢地向獨立自辦自選自聖說‘NO’的時候……，親愛的弟兄姐妹，你是否意識到在你的面容已經改變、你的臉上正在閃耀著基督的光輝呢！

親愛的弟兄姐妹們，讓我們彼此關愛、相互祈禱，求主改變我們醜陋的心靈容貌，煥發出相似基督的光輝容貌，讓周圍的人認出我們是基督徒、讓世人在我們臉上看到光耀奪目的基督榮耀吧！

靈修小故事



該你發光了

有一個老先生，到市集買了一支蠟燭，蠟燭看著老先生，好奇地問：「老

公公，你需要我為你做什麼呢？」老先生說：「我要把你給放在燈塔上，給海面的船隻指引方向。」原來，這個老先生是一座小燈塔的管理員。

蠟燭嚇了一大跳！趕忙惶恐地對老先生說：「不！我不行，我只是個小蠟燭。」老先生回應：「別擔心，你祇管努力以赴，我有我的安排與方法。」晚上到了，老先生拿著蠟燭爬到了燈塔上，只見燈塔頂端早已放了好幾面光亮的鏡子，老先生把蠟燭擺上，點燃它，奇妙的事發生了！蠟燭微弱的光，經過老先生幾面鏡子的一再反射，竟成為耀眼的光團……。海面上船隻的船員們看著發亮的燈塔，個個露出了感激的微笑。

聖經：『沒有人點燈放在窖中，或置於斗下的，而是放在燈台上，讓進來的人看見光明。』路 11：33

知多一點點

教友二字的意義

這裏所謂的教友，指的就是在神職人員及教會所規定的修會人員以外的所有基督信徒；也就是說，教友們以聖洗聖事和基督結為一體，成了天主的子民，以其自有的方式，分沾基督的司祭、先知及王道的職務，在個人份內，執行整個基督子民在教會內與在世界上的使命。“在俗”是教友的特點。因為聖職人員，雖則有時也可以從事俗務，甚或執行世俗職業，但他們的特殊使命，主要地是專務神聖職務，同樣，修會人員，也是要用他們的身份，顯著地證明，沒有真福的精神，不能改造世界而奉獻予天主。反之：教友的本有使命，是要在世俗事務中，照天主的計劃去安排，而企求天主之國。他們生活在世俗中，就是說他們從事世界上的各式各樣的職業與工作，他們的生命和一般的家庭社會環境，交織在一起。天主把他們召喚到這種地位上，要他們以福音精神執行自己的職務，好像酵母，從內部聖化世界，以生活的實證，反映出信望愛三德，將基督昭示給他人。所以，為使一切世俗事務得按基督的旨意而進行，並為造物主救世主的光榮而發展存在，就要靠與這些事務密切相連

的教友們去發揚領導。