



As I Have Loved You

Sr. Vicky Victorino, PDDM

In the 2022 documentary film *With This Light*, we are introduced to the inspiring life of the Franciscan nun Maria Rosa Leggol (1926-2020). Sr. Rosa dedicated her life to saving over 80,000 abandoned and deprived children in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, giving them hope and new life by providing shelter, care, and education. What force of spirit enabled Sr. Rosa to do this?

Sr. Rosa was one of the examples of the modern-day disciples of Jesus caught up in the power of love. In today's Gospel, Jesus continues his farewell discourse and assures his followers that his physical absence is not the end. In giving them a new commandment, "Love one another as I have loved you," he is foreseeing the continuation of the "movement" that he has started. The engine of the movement is love, and it is new because it is not just a command to "love your

neighbor as yourself." The new measure of love is Jesus' standard: "to love as I have loved you." The total, self-effacing love that Jesus enacted in his earthly life—through his public ministry, his passion, death, and resurrection—was to be the mark of everyone who wants to follow him. Jesus' love empowers the disciples to be new persons, with new strength, new purpose of life, and new identity: "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have your love for one another."

While it sounds as if this love is only for the intimate circle of the disciples, we know in real life that love expands to embrace all. And that is the witness of Christian love which we have seen in the past and which continues to the present. The commitment of Jesus' disciples has always been to empower persons, especially the least, the last, and the lost.

Sr. Rosa's life was proof of the power of this love that encourages and inspires others. But at times, the same act of Christian love can call Jesus' followers to total self-offering, to the point of the shedding of blood. On 10 September 2023, the Church beatified a Polish family murdered by the Nazis in 1944 for assisting and sheltering Polish Jews. The Ulma family—made up of the couple Josef and Wiktoria together with their seven children, including the unborn child Wiktoria was carrying at that time—became a model of absolute love in the manner of Christ's total self-offering.

Indeed, we might not know what ultimate expression of Christian love will be asked of us to show our true identity as followers of Christ. Be that as it may, the call for us is to remain consistently in the love of Christ from which we draw the power to choose to love and serve as the need arises.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 98[97]:1-2)

(Recited when there is no opening song)

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Greeting

(The sign of the cross is made here.)

P—The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All—**And with your spirit.**

Introduction

(These or similar words may be used to address the assembly.)

P—At the Last Supper, before his departure, Jesus leaves a sign by which the disciples will be known as his very own: their love for one another. The measure of this love is the love of Jesus for them which makes Jesus stoop to wash their feet and to die on the cross.

The seal of our belonging to Christ remains the same: our love for the Lord and for one another. May we remain faithful to this commandment.

Penitential Act

P—Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries. *(Pause)*

P—Have mercy on us, O Lord.

All—**For we have sinned against you.**

P—Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All—**And grant us your salvation.**

P—May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All—**Amen.**

P—Lord, have mercy.

All—**Lord, have mercy.**

P—Christ, have mercy.

All—**Christ, have mercy.**

P—Lord, have mercy.

All—**Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria

All—**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect

P—Let us pray. *(Pause)*

Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All—**Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD



First Reading

(Acts 14:21-27) *(Sit)*

Luke describes the end of the first missionary journey of Paul and Barnabas. The seed of the Word that they planted now starts to grow.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

AFTER Paul and Barnabas had proclaimed the good news to that city and made a considerable number of disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch. They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and

exhorted them to persevere in the faith, saying, "It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God." They appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had put their faith. Then they traveled through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. After proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia. From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now accomplished. And when they arrived, they called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.

—The word of the Lord.

All—**Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 145)

R—**I will praise your name forever, my king and my God.**

Allan A. Puno

1. The LORD is gracious and merciful,/ slow to anger and of great kindness./ The Lord is good to all/ and compassionate toward all his works. **(R)**

2. Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD,/ and let your faithful ones bless you./ Let them discourse of the glory of your kingdom/ and speak of your might. **(R)**

3. Let them make known your might to the children of Adam,/ and the glorious splendor of your kingdom./ Your kingdom is a kingdom for all ages,/ and your dominion endures through all generations. **(R)**

Second Reading (Rev 21:1–5a)

At the end of the age, the people who remain faithful will be delivered from all trials and suffering. They will become a new people, radiant as they are presented before the Lord Jesus.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

THEN I, JOHN, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away.”

The One who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.”

—The word of the Lord.

All—Thanks be to God.

Alleluia (Jn 13:34) (Stand)

All—Alleluia, Alleluia. I give you a new commandment, says the Lord: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel (Jn 13:31–33a, 34–35)

P—A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
All—Glory to you, O Lord.

WHEN JUDAS had left them, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have

loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

—The Gospel of the Lord.

All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily (Sit)

Profession of Faith (Stand)

All—I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, (At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow) who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

P—Father, keep us close to your loving heart so that we may be faithful to the new commandment you have given to us, through which we shall be known as followers of your Son, Jesus. With confidence, let us pray:

R—Lord, keep us safe in your love.

C—Empower Church leaders to promote the dignity of every person. May they continue witnessing to genuine love before our brethren. We pray: **(R)**

C—Guide the leaders of nations to foster compassion so as to promote peace and love. Through the Spirit’s

counsel, may they put an end to hatred, indifference, and war. We pray: **(R)**

C—May Christ’s love be the sure foundation and sustenance of couples who are preparing for marriage as they look forward to sharing their life as husband and wife, as father and mother of their household. We pray: **(R)**

C—Provide our land with more witnesses of Christ’s love: Christian spouses and families, those called to the ordained ministry and religious life, single persons, and widowed. May the risen Lord be their source of spiritual and emotional strength. We pray: **(R)**

C—Welcome our beloved dead, who carried the hope of your Son’s Resurrection in their hearts, into eternal life. We pray: **(R)**

C—Let us pray for the urgent concerns of our community and our personal intentions (*pause*). We pray: **(R)**

P—God our Father, we, your children, come before you. Renew our hearts so that we may abide in your love and be genuine witnesses of your love toward a life of discipleship.

Grant this through Christ, our Resurrection and Life.

All—Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts (Stand)

P—Pray, brethren...

All—May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

P—O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected

in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life.

Through Christ our Lord.
All—Amen.

Preface II of Easter

P—The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

P—Lift up your hearts.

All—We lift them up to the Lord.

P—Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All—It is right and just.

P—It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, at all times to acclaim you, O Lord, but in this time above all to laud you yet more gloriously, when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

Through him the children of light rise to eternal life and the halls of the heavenly Kingdom are thrown open to the faithful; for his Death is our ransom from death, and in his rising the life of all has risen.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, every people exults in your praise and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts, sing together the unending hymn of your glory, as they acclaim: **All—Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. (Kneel)**

Acclamation (Stand)

All—When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

All—Our Father...

P—Deliver us, Lord...

All—For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Setting the GOLD standard in PILGRIMAGES JUBILEE YEAR, MARIAN, HOLY LAND

**FAITH & FUN JOURNEY TO THE
SAFARIS AND SACRED SHRINES OF AFRICA (Aug 12-30, 2025)**
Tanzania - Kenya - Uganda - Rwanda with Fr. Gerardo Ma. de Villa, OSB

ENTHRALLING EASTERN EUROPE (Sep 11-25, 2025)
Austria - Slovakia - Hungary - Poland - Czech Republic
with Fr. Arvin Soriano

**JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE
FAITH & FUN MARIAN JOURNEY (Sep 18-Oct 3, 2025)**
Portugal - Spain - France - Italy with Fr. Perry Peralta, CM

ADRIATIC COAST WITH MEDJUGORJE (Oct 2-15, 2025)
Austria - Slovenia - Bosnia Hercegovina - Croatia - Montenegro
with Fr. Rey Daguitera

**JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE
FAITH & FUN MARIAN JOURNEY (Oct 6-21, 2025)**
Portugal - Spain - France - Italy with Fr. Renie Villalino OAR

JOURNEYS TO THE LAND OF THE BIBLE (Nov 10-22, 2025)
Jordan-Israel-Egypt with pilgrimage chaplain

WE HAVE PILGRIMAGES TO THE HOLY LAND, MEXICO, & MORE.
CONTACT US FOR FULL DETAILS AND SCHEDULES.

To book, call or message us:

+63919-0736359, +63919-0736315,

+63917-5616440, +63919-0688335

+(632) 89290144 or 89290155

May 2025



JOURNEYS
OF FAITH

join@journeys.com.ph

www.journeys.com.ph

Invitation to Peace

Invitation to Communion

(Kneel)

P—Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All—Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

(Cf. Jn 15:1, 5)

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

(Stand)

P—Let us pray. *(Pause)*

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life.

Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P—The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

Solemn Blessing

P—Bow down for the blessing.
(Pause)

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son was pleased to confer on you the gift of redemption and of adoption, give you gladness by his blessing.

All—Amen.

P—May he, by whose redeeming work you have received the gift of everlasting freedom, make you heirs to an eternal inheritance.

All—Amen.

P—And may you, who have already risen with Christ in Baptism through faith, by living in a right manner on this earth, be united with him in the homeland of heaven.

All—Amen.

P—And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, (+) and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

All—Amen.

Dismissal

P—The Mass has been offered. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All—Thanks be to God.