

20 25

PRAYER
FOR
ANNIVERSARY
OF
FRANCISCO
DE



PALAUTIAN PRAYER FOR HOPE

We invite you to prepare together with your community this prayer, prepared by Causa de los Santos CMT, to commemorate this March 20, the 153rd anniversary of the death of Francisco Palau.

For this celebration we will need the following materials:

- Image of a tree seedling, attached to this prayer.
- Large candle or small brazier.
- Bowl with salt.
- Souvenir pictures attached to this prayer.
- Music suggested in this prayer resource and media player.



1 *Let's prepare the place*

Place the image of a tree seedling as an altar centerpiece for the time of of prayer.

Prepare a large candle or, if possible, a small brazier with fire, next to a bowl of salt.

The souvenir images to be distributed should be prepared according to the number of participants. The atmosphere should be warm and welcoming.

2 *Invoking the Holy*

Let us begin this prayer space by invoking the Holy Spirit with this Entrance Monition:

Today, in this Year of Hope, we recall the passage of Francisco Palau to the final encounter with his Beloved. We invite the Holy Spirit to come and take up residence among us: the One who is the inexhaustible source of hope, the hope with which we open our eyes each day to face life.

3 *Song "Ruah" (MP3 Attachment)*

Chorus:

Come divine Ruah, come spirit of hope...
Come Ruah divine, come spirit of hope...
Come Ruah Divine, come spirit of hope..

Come Ruah Divine, come spirit of hope...
Come Ruah Divine, come spirit of hope...
Come Ruah Divine, come spirit of hope...

Come and enter into us
think our thoughts,
breathe our breath,
circulate in our blood, Lord

Come, we cry out to you
speak with our voice,
look deeply into our eyes
and palpitate in my heart.

4 *Individual Meditation*

The Latin verb sperare can be translated as "to hope", "to look forward for something to happen". Thus to have hope is to live in the expectation that what we long for, dream of, and believe, will indeed come about. Hope accompanies us throughout life. We experience hope in situations we are living through, or in seemingly impossible dreams. The sick person hopes to recover, the child hopes for his mother to come home after work, the worker hopes for his fair pay, the marginalized hope for acceptance and inclusion. Hope is a daily experience across all facets of life. Hope...



For the ancient inhabitants of what is now Greece, hope arose in a particular way. The first woman created from clay, Pandora, was sent to Earth with a jar containing all the evils of the world. Despite being warned not to open it, Pandora's curiosity was stronger, and removing the lid, she released all the evils it contained, which spread throughout the Earth. When she realized what she had done, she tried to close the jar, but it was too late. However, at the bottom of the jar was hope, the last evil that could not escape.

Why was hope found in the jar of evils? For the Greeks, to wait for something to happen was to waste one's life in fanciful dreams, since destiny was already written. The world was controlled by the gods with their whims, and time was cyclical for them. Everything was always repeated (day and night, the seasons of the year, historical stages, etc.), so hope was useless.

This view of hope clashes directly with the Christian one. The Old Covenant hope of salvation is fulfilled in Christ. Christ said that the Holy Spirit would come and the Spirit did come at Pentecost, and proclaimed the Kingdom. For Christians, to hope has meaning. Hope is a virtue, it is trust in the personal relationship we have with God.

5 Community Reading

Reading on Hope written by Francisco Palau, in Catechism of the Virtues:

"A pilgrim can believe everything that Our Holy Mother Church proposes and yet make a vicious application of the general principles of faith. He can have pure principles and become corrupt in the practice and application of them. A person could believe that God offers the help of grace, mercy and forgiveness to all pilgrims, and to give up believing that God gives them to him. To yield to this practical error is the sin of despair. This sin can come from a merely practical error; and is very often found in erroneous and scrupulous consciences. If the persons who fall into this error do all in the service of God that human frailty permits them, they must put aside their error, and once the cause is removed, the effect will be restrained. Neither our own faults and miseries, nor the most enormous sins, are sufficient reason to despair of God's mercy. It is precisely because we are what we are, fragile, weak, miserable, sinners, that God offers us his grace, forgiveness and mercy." (Writings 357, 23)

9 Final Prayer

We know that you will never abandon us, Church.
We take advantage of this moment
to spend it with you
while things around us seem uncertain.

Sometimes we feel lost
and our worries consume us.
But when we close our eyes and think quietly of You,
we live a moment of peace.

We pray that today those moments
may become minutes or hours.
May your peace drown our doubts
and build hope within us.

Amen.

6 Sapiential Silence

Indications: A time of silence that can be accompanied with background music.

7 Sign to Rekindle

Indications: Participants are invited to throw a handful of salt onto the candle/fire placed on the altar.

Instructions: At this moment you are invited to make this small sign, with the elements placed upon the altar, so as to make the fire crackle and flare up, reflecting our desire to rekindle hope in the world, to never despair of God's love and to hope in it.

8 Song, to sing or recite: "Song of Hope" (Servant of God Esteban Gumucio SSCC. Interpreted by Cristóbal Fones SJ)

They will not steal my hope,
they will not break it!
Come sing with me,
come sing!

I believe in the man of
reason
and not in force.
I believe that peace is a
seed
beneath the earth.

I believe that beyond the
mist
the sun is waiting.
I believe that in this dark
night
stars sleep.

I believe in the nobility of
man
Made in God's image
and in the will of men
who rise up.

I believe in hidden volcanoes
without seeing their fires.
I believe that this lost ship
Shall arrive at its port.

They will not steal my hope,
they will not break it!
The tree that has been
wounded
will soon be reborn.

They will not steal my hope,
they will not break it!
Come sing with me,
come sing!

10 Closing

To close, the pictures of the tree seedlings are handed out.