



Congregazione dei Missionari di San Francesco di Sales

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MESSAGE OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL ON MAUNDY THURSDAY

My beloved Confreres,

On this sacred day of Maundy Thursday, we are once again drawn into the heart of our priestly and missionary calling—a calling rooted in the Eucharist and humble service. Let us remind ourselves of three things:

1. **Jesus redefines greatness**
2. **Availability for others is a prophetic act**
3. **“This is my body” is an affirmation of my readiness to be broken and shared**

On this day, Jesus knelt before His disciples and washed their feet. In doing so, **Jesus redefined greatness**—not as power or prestige, but as humble service. He made Himself radically available—for the Father’s will and for each of us. **His availability was not mere presence** but a profound readiness to give, to serve, and ultimately, to lay down His life.

In a world increasingly shaped by individualism and busyness, **availability becomes a prophetic act**. It is in the interruptions, the unplanned moments, and the quiet needs of our brothers and sisters that we often find our true mission. Are we present to those around us? Do we listen with our hearts? Do we, like Jesus, bend low in humility and compassion? As Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, we are invited to walk in that same spirit—defined not only by mission and ministry but also by the simple, **daily decision to make ourselves available for others**.

Each time we stand at the altar and say the words of Jesus, *“Take this, all of you, and eat of it... this is my Body... this is my Blood...”*, we are not merely repeating a ritual. We are making a personal and profound commitment **to be available for the other**, just as Christ made Himself available—completely, unconditionally. **To say “this is my body” is to say: I am here for you. I am ready to serve. I am available..**

Let this Maundy Thursday renew in us that core missionary disposition: **a heart open and available**—to God, to our community, and to the people we are called to serve.

I thank each of you for your faithful witness, especially in times of fatigue or uncertainty. May the Lord who made Himself available unto death, strengthen us to do likewise with joy and love. As we renew our priestly promises and draw strength from the Eucharist, may we also renew our **readiness to be broken and shared**, in love, for the life of the world.

Wishing you a grace-filled Holy Thursday and a blessed Easter.

Yours Fraternally in Christ

Fr. Johnson Kallidukil MSFS
(Superior General)



Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

“Do this in remembrance of me.” (Luke 22:19)