

## Morning Prayer

### Celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Foundation

#### Praying with the Preamble to our *Rule of Life*

*To rescue young people from ignorance, to prepare them for life, and to give them a knowledge and love of religion, ...*

Lord, the needs of young people today are the same as in the days of Father Coindre. Keep us aware of those needs, especially among youth at the margins.

*...Father Andre Coindre, in 1821, founded the Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.*

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of Father Coindre—a gift to us, to the Church, and to the world. Thank you for gifting him with faith, courage, confidence, and a deep love for and commitment to young people.

*In the spirit of evangelism that marked the period,...*

Lord, today's young people, including those in our schools, are in need of evangelization so that they can come to know their God and to know how much they are loved by their God.

*... the founding of the Institute expressed a response to the needs of the time and place on behalf of neglected and dechristianized youth.*

Help us, Lord, to be sensitive to the needs of **our** time and place so that we can respond with generosity and creativity.

*Father Coindre wanted the members of the Institute to be brothers...*

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of our vocation as Brothers of the Sacred Heart; and thank you for the gift of perseverance. Continue to bless us with the graces we need to live faithfully and generously as your Brothers.

*... living the values specific to the religious life...*

Lord, strengthen us so that we may continue to grow in a spirit of brotherhood as we share our lives of prayer, community, and ministry as consecrated religious men.

*...and committing themselves in a stable way to the service of the Church and society.*

May our lives of service, Lord, individually and communally contribute to the building of Your kingdom here on earth. May we be witnesses that Your kingdom has already begun.

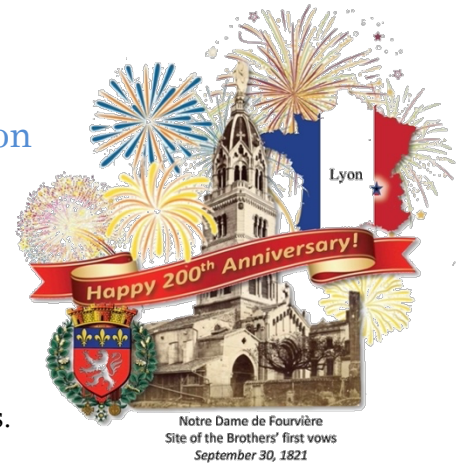
*Brother Borgia, Brother Xavier, and Brother Polycarp took care to preserve the heritage of the founder. ...*

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of all of our predecessors who have gone before us in fidelity to our charism and dedication to the welfare of young people.

...

*The Spirit who inspired our founding and who has sustained us throughout our history remains constantly active in the Institute....*

Thank you, Lord, for that same Holy Spirit who remains active among us Brothers and partners in mission. May we always be open to the Spirit's inspiration so that the mission begun by Father Coindre 200 years ago will continue and flourish for years to come.



## Psalm 111 – A Psalm of Praise for God’s Goodness

I will extol the LORD with all my heart  
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.  
Great are the works of the LORD;  
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Glorious and majestic are his deeds,  
and his righteousness endures forever.  
He has caused his wonders to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.  
He has shown his people the power of his works,  
giving them the lands of other nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.  
They are established for ever and ever,  
enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.

He provided redemption for his people;  
he ordained his covenant forever—  
holy and awesome is his name. Glory to the Father...



## Closing Prayer

Gracious God, as we celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our congregation, we praise and thank you for the marvelous ways you have blessed our Institute, its members and partners in mission, our graduates, students, parents, and friends. Thank you for the ways you have blessed our ministries through the years and for the good that has been accomplished on behalf of your beloved young people.

We pray for all those who believe in and support our efforts; may we always be faithful to their trust in us as we strive to remain faithful to the charism we have inherited from Father Coindre.

We offer our prayer of thanks and praise in the name of Jesus, your son and our brother. Amen.