



Feast of Blessed Nicolas Barre Founder's Day Mass

Theme: God's call to us to move beyond self to reach out to others and God assures us that He is with us always wherever He sends us

Opening Prayer

Celebrant :
Let us pray

Almighty Father, we gather here today to thank and praise you for the great love you have shown to your IJ family over the past years. Your promises have been the inspiration of our lives and our mission especially to those in need. May we always bear witness to the reality of our faith in you and move forward in joy, hope and fidelity to the vision of our Founder, Blessed Nicolas Barre. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord Amen

First Reading

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah (1:4-10) – The Call

A message came to me from the Lord. He said, "Before I formed you in your mother's body I chose you. Before you were born I set you apart to serve me. I appointed you to be a prophet to the nations."

"You are my Lord and King," I said. "I don't know how to speak. I'm only a child."

But the Lord spoke to me, "Don't say, 'I'm only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to. You must say everything I command you to say. Do not be afraid of the people I send you to. I am with you. I will save you" announces the Lord.

Then the Lord reached out His hand. He touched my mouth and spoke to me. He said, "I have put my words in your mouth. Today I am appointing you to speak to nations and kingdoms. I want you to pull them up by the roots and tear them down. I want you to destroy them and crush them. But I also want you to build them up and plant them."

The Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Responsorial Psalm

Response:

This day was made by the Lord,

Let us rejoice, let us be glad

This day was made by the Lord,

Let us rejoice in salvation

1) I thank you, your love is eternal,
You have given me life, (you have given me life),
I will proclaim the wonders you do!

2) Your hand raised me up in triumph,
you have given me life (you have given me life).
I will proclaim the wonders you do!

3) You opened the gates of heaven,
you have given me life (you have given me life).

I will proclaim the wonders you do!

4) You are my strength and my Saviour,
you have given me life (you have given me life).
I will proclaim the wonders you do!

Second Reading

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (Romans 12:9-16)

Brothers and sisters:
Let love be sincere;
hate what is evil,
hold on to what is good;
love one another with mutual affection;
anticipate one another in showing honor.
Do not grow slack in zeal,
be fervent in spirit,
serve the Lord.
Rejoice in hope,
endure in affliction,
persevere in prayer.
Contribute to the needs of the holy ones,
exercise hospitality.
Bless those who persecute you,
bless and do not curse them.
Rejoice with those who rejoice,
weep with those who weep.
Have the same regard for one another;
do not be haughty but associate with the lowly;
do not be wise in your own estimation

The Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
Anyone who follows me
Will have the light of life.
Alleluia!



Gospel

Celebrant: The Lord be with you
All: *And also with you*

Celebrant: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
(5:13-16)
All: *Glory to you O Lord*

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way, your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: Jesus came into the world to serve and not to be served, to proclaim the good news of the kingdom and to make the whole of creation new.

Lord may your power working in us help us do more than we can ever ask or imagine.

Leader : Lord as we celebrate the feast of our founder, Nicolas Barre, grant us the grace to remain faithful to his vision of serving others especially the poor with love generosity, love and humility.

Lord hear us

Response :Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: We pray for all the Infant Jesus Sisters who have served in our schools, in our homes and centres, and in the community since 1854. May their example of selfless commitment, generosity in service and their fidelity be an inspiration to all of us today and may you inspire young women to respond to your call as sisters. Lord hear us.

Response: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: We pray for all those who have served with generosity and zeal in our homes and centres, our schools and our mission. May the Lord, the giver of all good gifts reward their courage and dedicated service. Lord hear us

Response: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: We pray for all the children present here today. May they experience the joy of God's presence in their lives and find in Him their security and their hope. Lord hear us.

Response : Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: We pray for our own families and friends and for one another. May we always put our trust in You, O God, the source of all goodness. Lord hear us

Response: Lord graciously hear us

Leader: We pray for all who are commemorating founder's day and who are celebrating and rejoicing in the true Spirit of IJ. May we be messengers of hope, joy and peace so that those seeking meaning in their lives may find answers in Christ. Lord hear us.

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

Leader: We pray for our Church leaders and our parish community, that we may show forth the love of God and the presence of Christ in our daily lives.

Lord hear us

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

Celebrant : Father hear these prayers made in faith for your people. Keep us always faithful to your covenant in service and in love and that we never lose sight that you are our God and we are your people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord Amen

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn: Seed, Scattered and Sown

Chorus:

Seed, scattered and sown

Wheat, gathered and grown
Bread, broken and shared as one
The living bread of God
Vine, fruit of the land
Wine, work of our hands
One cup that is shared by all
The living cup
The living bread of God

1. Is not the bread we break a sharing in our Lord?
Is not the cup we bless, the blood of Christ out-poured?
2. The seed which falls on rock will wither and will die
The seed within good ground will flower and have life
3. As wheat upon the hills was gathered and was grown
So may the church of God be gathered into one

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant: Almighty God, as we celebrate founder's day, we ask you to accept these simple gifts we offer in praise and thanksgiving for the many blessings we have received.
May we always use your many gifts to bring glory to your name.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Thanksgiving Hymn: Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son
Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son
(Repeat)

And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us
And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us
(Repeat)
Give Thanks (2x)

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant : Father in this Eucharistic celebration, you have shared with us your word and your love. May we always be faithful to our mission as members of the IJ family.
May we always walk in the way that leads to true happiness and salvation. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn to Nicolas Barre

Recessional Hymn: Hold on to the Dream, the IJ Dream

