WITH POPE FRANCIS AND JOHN MARY DE LA MENNAIS "FRATERNITY, THE FOUNDATION AND PATHWAY TO PEACE"

(Message of his holiness FRANCIS for the Celebration of the World Day of Peace, 1st January 2014)



Francis

1.- "Fraternity is an essential human quality, for we are relational beings."

Father John Mary

1.- "Let us remember well that we must bear one another's burden and that ours, perhaps, is undoubtedly the heaviest of all." (S VIII, 2421)





- 2.- "A lively awareness of our relatedness helps us to look upon and to treat each person as a true sister or brother."
- 3.- "Cain refuses to turn against evil and decides instead to raise his hand against his brother Abel, thus scorning God's plan. In this way, he thwarts his primordial calling to be a child of God and to live in fraternity."
- 4.- "The basis of fraternity is found in God's fatherhood. We are not speaking of a generic fatherhood, indistinct and historically ineffectual, but rather of the specific and extraordinarily concrete personal love of God for each man and woman."
- 5.- "Peace is an indivisible good. Either it is the good of all or it is the good of none. It can be truly attained and enjoyed, as the highest quality of life and a more human and sustainable development, only if all are guided by solidarity as a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good."
- 6.- "I appeal forcefully to all those who sow violence and death by force of arms: in the



person you today see simply as an enemy to be beaten, discover rather your brother or sister, and hold back your hand!"

John-Mary de sa Mennais

- 2.- "There are no perfect human beings; but of all the imperfections the greatest would be not to want to suffer anything and to demand others to be more virtuous than we are ourselves. Alas! It is easy to notice the straw, which is in the eye of our brother; but, before removing it with a sort of violence, let us begin by removing the beam that is in ours." (S VIII, 2421)
- 3.- "If the subject of the conference is, for instance, fraternal charity: do not at all have in mind the faults against this virtue that some of your brothers may have committed inadvertently now and again. But think only of your own. Humble yourself, detest them and take a sincere and efficacious resolution of correcting them." (S VIII, 2494)
- 4.- "The spirit of charity must reign among us, and we should have a holy eagerness to lighten the burden of the poor, particularly our own. Their afflictions are our afflictions; their sufferings, our sufferings; and their needs, our needs. Like Saint Paul, we should be able to say: Which one among you suffers without my suffering with him?" (S III, 1036)
- 5.- "Let us love one another like members of the same family. In life and in death, let us all serve one another. Let us lavish on one another the help that is really born of that inexhaustible, indefatigable and lively Christian charity." (S III, 1037 bis)
- 6.- "When I speak of charity I do not mean only the love of God and the neighbour in general. I mean that we must be so united that there reigns among us such perfect agreement that we can truly apply to us this word of St Paul in all its depth: cor unum et anima una." (\$\sqrt{y}\text{III}, 2533)

- 7.- "Nature is at our disposition and we are called to exercise a responsible stewardship over it. Yet so often we are driven by greed and by the arrogance of dominion, possession, manipulation and exploitation. We do not preserve nature ..."
- 8.- "Fraternity is a prerequisite for fighting poverty, which can be overcome only through the rediscovery and valuing of fraternal relationships in the heart of families and communities, through the sharing of joys and sorrows, of the hardships and triumphs that are a part of human life."
- 9.- "The Church is the mission to bring Christ's love to the defenceless victims of forgotten wars through her prayers for peace, her service to the wounded, the starving, refugees, the displaced and all those who live in fear."
- 7.- "Love one another; be full of indulgence and mercy for one another. Do not judge others severely for fear of being judged yourselves. When we shall be united, we shall be strong and we shall be happy. Yes, this holy union will be the charm, the grace and the strength of our Society." (S VIII, 2403)
- 8.- "Finally, my Lord Bishop, allow us to point out to your lordship that there reigns the most intimate union among all the teachers of the Minor Seminary; they love one another, help each other, all follow the same method and are animated with the same spirit. This p erfect agreement is our sole wealth." (From the Father to the Bishop of Rennes, A I, 2)
- 9.- "Love one another; live together in perfect union; have but one heart and one soul." (A IV, 181)

Prayer for the beatification and canonization of John Mary de la Mennais

O God, our Father! You have given John Mary de la Mennais a generous heart and untiring zeal to make your Son Jesus Christ known and loved especially by the children and youth. As we venerate him as the Founder of two religious congregations devoted to Christian education, we pray to you that he may soon be recognised as Blessed. Help us follow his example at the service of truth, and grant us through his intercession, the favours we are now asking ... (pause) Through Jesus-Christ our Lord. Amen.



O Lord Jesus, glorify your servant, Venerable John Mary de la Mennais!

INTENTIONS

- That our love for God be manifested daily in fraternity with our brothers.
- May our fraternity be the best way to peace.
- Let'us pray that our Father Founder be soon declared blessed.

SICK PEOPLE RECOMMENDED

- 1.- Leire Pérez López, 13, a student of Col. Berrio-Otxoa, Bilbao, Spain.
- 2.- José A. García Martínez, Bilbao, Spain.
- 3.- Consolación Rodríguez, Bilbao, Spain.
- 4.- Natalia Cubillo, Madrid, Spain.
- 5.- Br. Miguel Ángel Merino, Madrid, Spain.
- 6.- Janet Vignoli, Montevideo, Uruguay.
- 7.- Clara García Roig, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 8.- Leticia Calcagno, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 9.- Julián Castro, Luján de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina.
- 10.- Fernando Nogales, San Borja, Bolivia.
- 11.- Br. Louis Le Guichet, Nantes, France.
- 12.- Patrick Lebeau, France.
- 13.- Jeannine Robert, sister of Br. Jean Malo, France.
- 14.- Mª del Valle García Pérez, niece of Br. Floren, Palencia, Spain.
- 15.- Pablo González García, Reinosa, Spain.
- 16.- M. Godin, at the request of Br. Albert Côté, Canada.
- 17.- Eric YAO, Papeete, Tahiti.
- 18.- Brandon Cadousteau, Papeete, Tahiti.
- 19.- Sister Imma, Park Place, Hampshire, England.
- 20.- Mrs Diane Peirra, Wickham, Park Place, Hampshire, England.
- 21.- John Melody, ex Bro, Park Place, Hampshire, England.
- 22.- Scholastica Bonabaana, Fort Portal, Uganda.
- 23.- Luisa Aresti, sister of Br. Pietro, Rome, Italy.
- 24.- Khalid Sid Imorou, Parakou, Benin.
- 25.- Christine Kola, Sister of the Providence, Sotouboa, Togo.
- 26.- M. Kazuo Hasegawa, Yokohama, Japan.
- 27.- Teresa Nélida Saucedo, Villa Gbdor Gálvez, Argentina.
- 28.- Sangiorgi Serafino, Brother-in-law of Bro. Eugenio, Viterbo, Italy.
- 29.- Alice Martel, Sept-Îles, Québec, Canada.