



January 4, 1836

Six sisters leave Lyon, France, FOR THE New World

OPENING PRAYER:

Loving and creator God, “Being pregnant with...mystery and bringing it to birth is the fruit of being rooted in love and grounded in love – a love that has the vast dimensions of Christ’s love...

Medaille’s... communities saw themselves as partnering with God to make this ‘pure and perfect love’ a lived reality among themselves and in the world around them”. This happens when we are open to new possibilities and new relationships. Open our hearts, God, as we journey in spirit with the six sisters who left France for the new world. Sisters who desired to partner with the new world creating ever widening circles.

See Marcia Allen, CSJ, Stimulating Communion: Life in the Trinity – Part I Bearers of the Tradition – 2005

REFLECTIVE SELECTIONS: (Read and ponder)

The original purpose has endured to this day. The mission of the contemporary St. Joseph community is to be an agent, an active force, for bringing hearts together. We work that others might experience personal integrity, communion with one another and with God in the mystery of life. And, as in the 17th century, we are not alone in this mission. Many groups throughout the world are moving toward one another in a global determination to connect through deeper consciousness of our common struggle for wholeness and healing, and commitment to the common good.

See Marcia Allen, CSJ, Stimulating Communion: Life in the Trinity – Part II Bearers of the Tradition – 2005

When have I experienced personal integrity, communion with one another and God in the mystery of life?

“...our Little Design and the persons who belong to it will not be given to self, will be totally lost and emptied of self in God and for God, and with that, will be completely given to the dear neighbor; [in short, they will be] entirely given to God and the dear neighbor, and not at all given to self.”

Eucharistic Letter of Jean-Pierre Medaille, SJ para. 42

Where in the depths of my being do I get in touch with zeal, with inclusive love, risking, allowing my self to be transformed?

TIME TO SHARE WITH ONE ANOTHER INSIGHTS AND EXPERIENCES

CLOSING PRAYER:

*“Listening...several things dovetailed in my mind
and at one it struck me
What quality went to form a person of achievement...
I mean Negative Capability,
that is, when a person is capable of being in uncertainties,
mysteries, doubts,
without any irritable reaching after fact and reason.*

John Keats

Quoted in “Parabola”, Summer 2005, p.16