

Province Community Day Prayer Service

8th September 2025

Theme: *Together on Holy Ground, we Encounter Christ*
Symbol: *The Burning Bush.*

Greeting (*Leader*)

(The animator welcomes the sisters warmly. (symbolically) Introduce the theme) Dear Sisters, *today we stand like Moses before the Burning Bush — become aware that we are on holy ground. This very place is the sacred ground, a place where Christ reveals Himself. This fire does not consume us but unites us, renews us, and rekindles our sacred belonging as sisters called to live as one family in His love.*

Moses was asked to put off his shoes from his feet, for the place on which he was standing was holy. If we want to encounter the Lord what is it that we need to take off, put aside, let go... (pause as some soft music is played,)

Opening Prayer: Leader:

Lord Jesus, You are the Burning Bush that never dies. You shine brightly in our midst without consuming us. On this Province Community Day, rekindle in our hearts the sacred belonging of sisterhood. Set our community aflame with Your love, that we may encounter You in one another, cherish our vocation as consecrated women, and walk together as joyful witnesses of Your Gospel. **All: Amen.**

Blessings to the world. (form a circle and dance listening to the words)

Personal Offering : Instructions (Leader):

- Distribute a flame-shaped card and pen to each sister.
- Invite silent reflection:
What is one way I can help rekindle our sacred belonging in this community?
- Write a personal commitment concretely (examples: patience, forgiveness, service, prayer, encouragement, joy, simplicity).
- When ready, come forward one by one in silence, place the card in the Burning Bush arrangement, and return prayerfully to your place.
(Called by Fire.... YouTube hymn-<https://youtu.be/N7kdF8G7tIQ?si=2Pft91o-0jhYjc1n>)

Scripture Reading

Reader: *A reading from the Book of Exodus (3:1–6) (Pause briefly for silent reflection.)*

Reflection (Leader)

Sisters, the Burning Bush reminds us that God's love burns without consuming. Each sister is a living flame, and together we form one fire for Christ. When we remove the sandals of selfishness, pride, self-

righteousness, or indifference, we experience that our community is holy ground. To rekindle our sacred belonging means to treasure one another as sacred gifts, support each other with patience and joy, and let Christ's fire purify, renew, unite, and send us forth.

(The text should be distributed to the sisters well in advance.)

Responsorial Psalm: **(Each sister will proclaim her assigned section, and all will respond together after each reading.)** **Response (All):** *"The Lord is my light; whom shall, I fear?"*

Sister 1 Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in His holy place? She who has clean hands and a pure heart, who do not lift up her soul to what is false, and does not swear deceitfully. She will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from the God of her salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of God.

Sister 2 How good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, falling on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord bestows His blessing— life forevermore

Sister 3 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? Your word is a lamp to my feet, a fire that purifies my heart, a light upon my path. Fire goes before You, O Lord, revealing Your holiness, burning away all darkness. With You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.

Sister 4 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young near Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Sister 5 O Lord, Your presence is our shelter and our song. Your love gathers us as children around Your table, Your mercy is our sunlight in the morning, and Your Spirit is the fountain that never runs dry. Happy are we who walk in Your ways, for our hearts are forever at rest in You.

[Play this Hymn -----https://youtu.be/Oy_UnLEA16A?si=CJ2mZ_beCzdaCS0F](https://youtu.be/Oy_UnLEA16A?si=CJ2mZ_beCzdaCS0F)

Psalm on Community and Sisterly Love *(Make copies for the sisters to recite this together.)*

1. How precious is Your dwelling among us, O Lord,
for in this house of love You make our hearts one.
You have gathered us from many paths,
woven us together by Your hand,
and called us to live as sisters, not strangers.

2. Here Your presence burns like a gentle flame — not to consume us, but to warm our hearts, to kindle laughter and tears shared together, to melt away pride and selfishness, and to light the path of daily love.

3. When one sister is weary, You give us strength to lift her.
When one is joyful, You teach us to rejoice with her.
When one is hurting, You invite us to bind her wounds with compassion.
For in loving each other, we love You, O Lord.

4. Where charity and tenderness abound, there Your blessings rest.
Where forgiveness flows freely, there Your Spirit dances among us.
Where peace and patience embrace, there we taste heaven on earth.

5. Send us forth from this holy ground united in one heart and one spirit,
to be light in darkness,
to be fire in the cold, and
to be a sign of Your enduring love for the world.

6. Rekindle in us, O Lord, the sacred belonging as Your daughters.
Make us gentle and strong, humble and joyful, that our sisterhood may shine as a living flame, drawing others to the warmth of Your love.

Community Intercessions

Leader: “*Standing before the Burning Bush, we lift up our prayers...*”

1. Lord, You called Moses by name; help us hear Your voice calling us to rekindle our sacred belonging.

Response: *Lord, set our community on fire with Your love.*

2. Lord, You made holy the ground around the bush; help us recognize Your presence in each sister as sacred ground.

Response: *Lord, set our community on fire with Your love.*

3. Lord, Your fire burned without consuming; renew our spirit of patience, forgiveness, and unity, so our belonging never grows cold or indifferent.

Response: *Lord, set our community on fire with Your love.*

4. Lord, You strengthened Moses to lead; guide our leaders and every sister to lead with simplicity, humility and courage.

Response: *Lord, set our community on fire with Your love.*

5. Lord, You send us forth as witnesses; may our life of prayer and sisterhood rekindle faith and hope in the world.

Response: *Lord, set our community on fire with Your love.*

Symbolic Gesture with Pledge *(Make copies for the sisters to recite together.)*

Instructions:

- Prepare a creative burning bush. Have a lighted candle in the centre.
- Each sister lights a small candle from it, places it around the main candle, and forms a semi-circle.
- In unison, recite this pledge

All Together:

Lord Jesus, You are the flame that never dies. Today, as sisters of one family, we pledge to cherish our community as holy ground. Rekindle our sacred belonging, that we may live in love, serve with joy, forgive with open hearts, and support one another with prayer and accompany them in their mission. Keep us faithful to this commitment, so that together we may keep Your fire burning bright in our midst.



Concluding Prayer: **Leader:**

Lord Jesus, You are our Burning Bush of eternal love. Thank You for setting our hearts aflame with Your Spirit. Rekindle our sacred belonging, that we may remain united, faithful, and joyful. Help us bring freedom from selfishness, fear, and division. When we stand together on holy ground, with you with us, no eternal power can consume us and so we march forward with hope in your promises. Fear not, I am with you till the end of times.

(Optional: End with a hymn of unity or mission — e.g., “Bind Us Together” or “Christ Be Our Light.”)

<https://youtu.be/Tr5XhaRaL0M?si=i8sJWXxcKgxpOYG3>

🌸 **Happy Province Community Day, Dear Sisters!** 🌸
May God bless each one of us and our beloved communities

BEST WISHES FROM COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY