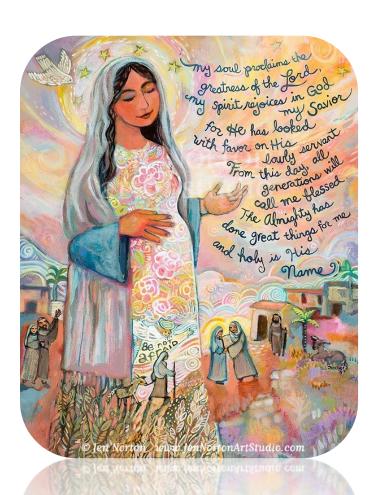
The Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League Lorette, MB



Sharing
Spirituality
during
Isolation



Through Hymns, Songs and Music

April-May 2020

Encouraged and organized by our Spiritual Development Chairperson, Mae Ross, our members submitted their favourite hymns, spiritual music, or Christian songs via email. The personal writeups and links were sent to all the members so that we enjoyed beautiful spirituality throughout the months of lockdown. This was especially poignant and appreciated during Holy Week of 2020. This booklet is a memory of this time.

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Let us begin with a prayer: In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.



Please join me now in praying for our priests taken from our League Prayers:
Almighty and eternal God, whose spirit sanctifies and governs the church, hear our prayers for all in holy orders (especially Fr. Jorge Mario de los rios Londoño, all the priests in our archdiocese and Archbishop Albert LeGatt), so that by the gift of Your grace, Your priests may serve You faithfully. We ask this through Christ

Blessed be God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Blessed be Mary, mother of our Lord Jesus and mother of us all. Blessed be St. Joseph, protector of the Holy Family and of us all. Blessed be God in His angels and in His saints!

our Lord. Amen.

In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The first person to send me her favourite Christian hymn was **Jaquelyne Cournoyer**. She shared three. Today, we will listen to **Ave Maria** sung by Celtic Woman (her favourite version). Jaquelyne said she loves Catholic hymns because "I love being Catholic"

Ave Maria

Ave Maria Gratia plena Maria, <u>gratia</u> plena Maria, <u>gratia</u> plena

Ave, ave dominus
Dominus tecum
Benedicta tu in
mulieribus
Et benedictus
Benedictus fructus,
fructus ventris
Ventris tui, Jesus
Ave Maria

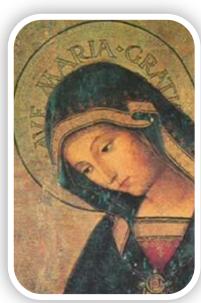
Ave Maria

Mater Dei
Ora pro nobis
peccatoribus
Ora, ora pro nobis
Ora, ora pro nobis peccatoribus

Nunc et in hora mortis In hora <u>mortis</u> nostrae In hora mortis, <u>mortis</u> nostrae In hora <u>mortis</u> nostrae Ave Maria

Now one of Schubert's most popular works, 'Ave Maria' has been performed by many artists, with lyrics that somewhat vary from the original poem. Ave Maria is the Latin name of the prayer Hail Mary, and also the opening words and refrain of Ellen's song, a song which is itself a prayer to the Virgin Mary. "Ave Maria" was composed in three variants for piano by Franz Liszt. Since the creation of the "Ave Maria" inspired by Schubert's song, it is common to use the hymn's melody as a backdrop for the full text of the traditional Roman Catholic prayer "Ave Maria". The Latin version of the "Ave Maria" is now so commonly used with Schubert's song that it has led to the misunderstanding that he first wrote the tune as a melody for the "Ave Maria".

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usADINi17cl https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2H5rusicEnc



Irene Bialek's favourite song, **Holy is His Name** by *John Michael Talbot* - Irene says, "He has so much emotion in his voice, genuinely feels what he is singing, makes me feel it, too."

Holy is His Name

John Michael Talbot

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord And my spirit exalts in God my Savior For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness And my name will be forever exalted For the mighty God has done great things for me And His mercy will reach from age to age

[Chorus]
And holy, holy, holy is His name

He has mercy in every generation
He has revealed His power and His glory
He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance
And has lifted up the meek and the lowly
He has come to help His servant Israel
He remembered His promise to our fathers [Chorus]

And holy, holy, holy is His name Holy, holy, holy is His name

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmDwA6mdLlo (including the story behind the song)

"Let's dare to believe that all things are possible with God; not only in other people's lives but in our life, in our parish, in our world." ~ John Michael Talbot



3

From **Suzanne Moore**: I grew up in a good Catholic family, but we seldom talked about God, and we didn't have a close relationship with our Lord. We knew what we had to 'do' to get to heaven. Sure, we prayed the rosary and prepared prayers, went to all masses of obligation and went to confession regularly, and we were kind, hardworking, love-your-neighbour kind of people, but we mostly prayed out of respect and awe of the Lord, since he was our Master, not our father.

When I started taking on a more adult faith back in the 80's, the presence of God in my life was overwhelming at times. I felt his presence more keenly than ever before. I saw Him in all aspects of my life, even reveling in the opportunity to observe a beautiful sunset while waiting for my husband to pick me up after my car broke down on Prairie Grove Road. Or, feeling the Holy Spirit's presence at Holy Mass one Friday after I had just miscarried our sixth baby.

Mae asked the CWL members to submit their favourite Christian song and the reason for it... right away, this song came to mind: *Lord, Teach us to Pray* by Joe Wise. It was such a profound song for me at the time and I had tears streaming down my face many times during Holy Mass as our choir sang it. While I know it may not affect you the same way, I would like to share it with you.

Lord, Teach us to Pra

Joe Wise

(R)Lord, teach us to pray,
It's been a long and cold December kind of day.
With our hearts and hands all busy in our private little wars,
We stand and watch each other now from separate shores.
We lose the way.

I need to know today the way things should be in my head.
I need to know for once now the things that should be said.
I've got to learn to walk around as if I were not dead.
I've got to find a way to learn to live. (R)

I still get so distracted by the colour of my skin.
I still get so upset now when I find that I don't win.
I meet so many strangers — I'm slow to take them in.
I've got to find a way to really live. (R)

I stand so safe and sterile as I watch a man fall flat. I'm silent with a man who'd like to know just where I'm at. With the aged and the lonely I can barely tip my hat. I need to see the sin of "I don't care." (R)

I stand so smug and sure before the people I've out-guessed.
To let a man be who he is I still see as a test.
And when it all comes down to "must", I'm sure my way is best. I've got to find what "room" means in my heart.
Lord, teach us to pray. (R)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsNM0el43So

Gisele Falk's favourite song, **At the Cross** by **Chris**

Tomlin - Gisele says it is appropriate for Easter - "I owe all to you & I surrender my life to you". "The day I was diagnosed with breast cancer in July 2017, my sister-law sent (this Psalm) to me! "Let me rest in Your Strength, walk in your grace, and rejoice in Your Faithfulness. Thank-you for never changing, for remaining my rock, my fortress, and my redeemer. When I am afraid, I will trust in You, O God, my King, whom I Praise." ~ Psalm 59: 16 - 17

At The Cross

Chris Tomlin



There's a place where mercy reigns and never dies There's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide Where all the love I've ever found Comes like a flood Comes flowing down

[Chorus:]
At the cross
At the cross
I surrender my life
I'm in awe of You
I'm in awe of You
Where Your love ran red
And my sin washed white
I owe all to You
I owe all to You Jesus

There's a place where sin and shame are powerless Where my heart has peace with God and forgiveness Where all the love I've ever found Comes like a flood Comes flowing down [Chorus]

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SUvpBphq5og

Lucille Chay's favourite song, **Like a Shepherd** – Lucille says, "Makes me feel loved and cared for."

Like a Shepherd



Bob Dufford, SJ

(R)Like a shepherd He feeds his flock and gathers the lambs in His arms, Holding them carefully close to His heart, leading them home.

Say to the cities of Judah: Prepare the way of the Lord. Go to the mountaintop, lift your voice: Jerusalem, here is our God. (R)

I myself will shepherd them, For others have led them astray. The lost I will rescue and heal their wounds and pasture them, giving them rest. (R)

Come unto me if you are heavily burdened, And take my yoke up on your shoulders. I will give you rest. (R)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSJXi wXLi4

Monique Jeanson's favourite song, You're an Overcomer – Monique says, "Because we need to trust more in God's love to be able to see Him working in our lives....and to see more miracles."

You're an Overcomer

Mandisa

Staring at a stop sign
Watching people drive by
T Mac on the radio
Got so much on your mind
Nothing's really going right
Looking for a ray of hope

Whatever it is you may be going through I know He's not gonna let it get the best of you

[Chorus:]

You're an overcomer
Stay in the fight 'til the final round
You're not going under
'Cause God is holding you right now
You might be down for a moment
Feeling like it's hopeless
That's when He reminds You
That you're an overcomer
You're an overcomer

Everybody's been down Hit the bottom, hit the ground Ooh, you're not alone Just take a breath, don't forget Hang on to His promises He wants You to know [Chorus]

The same Man, the Great I am
The one who overcame death
He's living inside of You
So just hold tight, fix your eyes
On the one who holds your life
There's nothing He can't do
He's telling you

(Take a breath, don't forget Hang on to His promises) [Chorus]

You're an overcomer (x3)

So don't quit, don't give in, you're an overcomer

Don't quit, don't give in, you

Don't quit, don't give in, you're an overcomer
Don't quit, don't give in, you're an overcomer
You're an overcomer

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8VoUYtx0kw



Kathleen Messner's favourite song, **Change My Heart, Oh, God** (You are the Potter I am the
Clay). Kathleen says, "melts my heart and so inspires me to
be a better person."

Change my Heart, Oh God

Maranatha Music

Change my heart oh God Make it ever true Change my heart oh God May I be like You

Change my heart oh God Make it ever true Change my heart oh God May I be like You

You are the potter I am the clay Mold me and make me This is what I pray

Change my heart oh God Make it ever true Change my heart oh God May I be like You

https://zionlyrics.com/vineyard-you-are-the-potter-i-am-the-clay-master-let-your-will-be-done-lyrics



Rolande Chernichan says, "Please follow this link (below) to experience this prayer in song, music and imagery. This song is especially meaningful for me during Holy Week. I have many other favourite hymns, but this one speaks to the heart of my heart."

How Beautiful

Twila Paris

How Beautiful the hands that served



The Wine and the Bread and the sons of the earth How beautiful the feet that walked The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross How Beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ

How Beautiful the heart that bled
That took all my sin and bore it instead
How beautiful the tender eyes
That choose to forgive and never despise
How beautiful, how beautiful,
how beautiful is the body of Christ

And as He lay down His life
We offer this sacrifice
That we will live just as He died
Willing to pay the price;
Willing to pay the price

How Beautiful the radiant bride
Who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes
How Beautiful when humble hearts give
The fruit of pure lives so that others may live
How beautiful, how beautiful,
how beautiful is the body of Christ

How beautiful the feet that bring
The sound of good news and the love of the King
How Beautiful the hands that serve
The wine and the bread and the sons of the Earth
How Beautiful, how beautiful,
how beautiful is the body of Christ
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T281IL 6e44

Holy Thursday

Today, I am sharing **Pange Lingua Gloriosi Corporis Mysterium** is a hymn written by St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) for the Feast of Corpus Christi. It is also sung on Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday). This hymn is sung in Latin, but the English translation is just below the Latin words. - *Mae Ross*

Pange Linqua Gloriosi Corporis Mysterium

St. Thomas Aguinas

Of the glorious Body telling, O my tongue, its mysteries sing, And the Blood, all price excelling, Which the world's eternal King, In a noble womb once dwelling Shed for the world's ransoming.

Given for us, descending,
Of a Virgin to proceed,
Man with man in converse blending,
Scattered he the Gospel seed,
Till his sojourn drew to ending,
Which he closed in wondrous deed.



At the last great Supper lying Circled by his brethren's band, Meekly with the law complying, First he finished its command Then, immortal Food supplying, Gave himself with his own hand.

Word made Flesh, by word he maketh Very bread his Flesh to be; Man in wine Christ's Blood partaketh: And if senses fail to see, Faith alone the true heart waketh To behold the mystery.

Therefore we, before him bending, This great Sacrament revere; Types and shadows have their ending, For the newer rite is here; Faith, our outward sense befriending, Makes the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give, and blessing
To the Father and the Son;
Honour, might, and praise addressing,
While eternal ages run;
Ever too his love confessing,
Who, from both, with both is one.
Amen.

Good Friday

I have chosen some precious Good Friday hymns and a song that I thought you might appreciate. May you have a very prayerful Good Friday! - Mae Ross

Stabat Mater (At the Cross Her Stations Keeping)

Jacopone, da Todi 1 At the cross her station keeping, Stood the mournful Mother weeping, Close to Jesus to the last.

2 Through her heart, his sorrow sharing, All his bitter anguish bearing, Now at length the sword has passed.

3 Oh, how sad and sore distressed Was that Mother highly blest Of the sole begotten One!

4 Christ above in torment hangs; She beneath beholds the pangs Of her dying, glorious Son.

5 Is there one who would not weep, 'Whelmed in miseries so deep, Christ's dear Mother to behold?

6 Can the human heart refrain From partaking in her pain, In that Mother's pain untold?

7 Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled, She beheld her tender Child, All with bloody scourges rent.

8 For the sins of his own nation, Saw him hang in desolation Till his spirit forth he sent.

9 O sweet Mother! fount of love, Touch my spirit from above, Make my heart with yours accord.

10 Make me feel as you have felt; Make my soul to glow and melt With the love of Christ, my Lord.

11 Holy Mother, pierce me through, In my heart each wound renew Of my Savior crucified.

12 Let me share with you his pain, Who for all our sins was slain, Who for me in torments died.

13 Let me mingle tears with thee, Mourning him who mourned for me, All the days that I may live:

14 By the cross with you to stay, There with you to weep and pray, This I ask of you to give.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4US4PSZF278

Good Friday

Were You There?

African-American spiritual

- Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
- 2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4. Were you there when the sun refused to shine? Were you there when the sun refused to shine? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
- 5. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
- 6. Were you there when he rose up from the dead? Were you there when he rose up from the dead? Oh! Sometimes I feel like shouting 'Glory, glory, glory!' Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJUX733ovGl

The Seven Last Words of Jesus

Clips from the movie "The Passion of the Christ" Prayer of reflection

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZBF0CY5ITiA

Good Friday

The Power of the Cross

Kristyn Getty

Oh, to see the dawn
Of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary
Tried by sinful men
Torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood

This, the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us; Took the blame, bore the wrath We stand forgiven at the cross

Oh, to see the pain
Written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin
Ev'ry bitter thought
Ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow

Now the daylight flees; Now the ground beneath Quakes as its Maker bows His head Curtain torn in two Dead are raised to life; "Finished!" the vict'ry cry

Oh, to see my name
Written in the wounds
For through Your suffering I am free
Death is crushed to death;
Life is mine to live
Won through Your selfless love

This, the pow'r of the cross: Son of God - slain for us What a love! What a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aowdjLeaCYs

Good Friday

Behold the Wood

Dan Schutte

[Chorus]

Behold, behold the wood of the cross On which is hung our salvation Come, let us adore

[Verse 1]

Unless a grain of wheat shall fall Upon the ground and die It shall remain but a single grain And not give life

[Chorus]

Behold, behold the wood of the cross On which is hung our salvation Come, let us adore

[Verse 2]

And when my hour of glory comes As all was meant to be You will see me lifted up Upon a tree

[Chorus]

Behold, behold the wood of the cross On which is hung our salvation Come, let us adore

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mNJKC1v 0PU

Good Friday

And another favourite...

O Sacred Head Surrounded

Bernard of Clairvaux

1 O Sacred Head, surrounded By crown of piercing thorn! O bleeding Head, so wounded, Reviled and put to scorn! The pow'r of death comes o'er you, The glow of life decays, Yet angel hosts adore you And tremble as they gaze.

2 I see your strength and vigor All fading in the strife, And death with cruel rigor, Bereaving you of life; O agony and dying! O love to sinners free! Jesus, all grace supplyiing, O turn your face on me.

3 In this, your bitter passion,
Good Shepherd, think of me
With your most sweet compassion,
Unworthy though I be:
Beneath your cross abiding
For ever would I rest,
In your dear love confiding,
And with your presence blest.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBAZPImnbuA

Heather Kolowca's favourite song... especially at this time of the year... "Easter Hallelujah" sung by *Kelley Mooney* set to Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah".

Easter Hallelujah

Kelley Mooney

A crown of thorns placed on His head He knew that He would soon be dead He said did you forget me Father did you? They nailed Him to a wooden cross



Soon all the world would feel the loss Of Christ the King before His Hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah

He hung His head and prepared to die Then lifted His face up to the sky Said I am coming home now Father to you A reed which held His final sip Was gently lifted to his lips He drank His last and gave His soul to glory Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah, hallelujah

The soldier who had used his sword
To pierce the body of our Lord
Said truly this is Jesus Christ our Savior
He looked with fear upon his sword
Then turned to face his Christ and Lord
Fell to his knees crying Hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah

Took from his head the thorny crown And wrapped him in a linen gown And laid him down to rest inside the tomb The holes in his hands, his feet and side Now in our hearts we know he died To save us from ourselves oh hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah, hallelujah

Three days went by again they came
To move the stone to bless the slain
With oil and spice anointing hallelujah
But as they went to move the stone
They saw that they were not alone
But Jesus Christ has risen Hallelujah

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah, hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-31Fr3WWVil

Sue Johannesson's favourite song... "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman". Sue says the reason she likes this song is because, "when I was a young social worker just starting out I worked mainly with unwed mothers. Since that time I've had a great feeling of comfort whenever I would pray for Mary's intercession with Jesus. When I prayed for guidance with a case she always took me in the right direction. The rosary is something I say quite often."

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Carey Landry

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of death. Amen.

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star, so strong and bright, gentle Mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom; teach us love.

You were chosen by the Father; you were chosen for the Son. You were chosen from all women and for woman, shining one.

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star, so strong and bright, gentle Mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom; teach us love.

Blessed are you among women, blest in turn all women, too. Blessed they with peaceful spirits. Blessed they with gentle hearts.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RERoQ1biLdE



Micki Maxwell's, (97 years old!) favourite song... "Just a Closer Walk with Thee". Her daughter, Jeanette, said that this was a song of comfort for her mother throughout the years. It is such a beautiful song... a lovely blast from the past!

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Anonymous



I am weak but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Refrain: Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea, Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Thro' this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. [Refrain]

When my feeble life is o'er, Time for me will be no more; Guide me gently, safely o'er To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore. [Refrain]

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6Ks49apflE

Marcia Poirier's favourite song... "Holy God We Praise Thy Name" sung by Perry Como". She says the Singing Nuns version is also beautiful. Marcia says, "This hymn has a very special meaning to me, as my late dad, Deacon Herman, chose this hymn at his ordination. This was also a hymn we'd sing at home on Sundays when the winter weather prevented our family to travel 45 miles to our church. Mom and Dad would always have us gather in the living room after the chores were done and we had eaten breakfast. Dad would lead with the readings (he'd also ask the older children to read and then a rosary was said. Lastly, Perry Como's voice also reminds me of Dad's voice."

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Anonymous

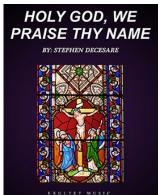
Holy God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we bow before you; all on earth your scepter claim, all in heav'n above adore you. Infinite your vast domain, everlasting is your reign.

Hark, the loud celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising; cherubim and seraphim in unceasing chorus praising, fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
"Holy, holy, holy Lord."

Lo! the apostolic train join your sacred name to hallow; prophets swell the glad refrain, and the white robed martyrs follow; and from morn to set of sun, through the church the song goes on.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name you; while in essence only One, undivided God we claim you, and adoring bend the knee, while we sing this mystery.

"Holy God We Praise Thy Name" sung by Perry Como https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5yov08Oqms
Another version sung by The Singing Nuns which is lovely: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MC4pQJs6gmc



Madelyn McConnell: "I feel like I just prayed the Holy Rosary when I hear "Mary's Song"! It brings an emotional explosion to me, often instantly bringing me to tears of both joy and sorrow. It brings warmth to my soul, yet is heartwrenching.

The joy: I recall first hearing it at mass at the St. Thomas Moore College Church. It was a time when life was uncertain and I was scared. I found comfort going to pray or attending mass amidst the intimidation of attending University. I had never seen or heard anything like it before. There was a full choir (around 25 female and male ...mainly students) playing piano, guitars, flutes...and the harmonies!! I was in awe! It was nothing less than breathtaking! That was the beginning of my love affair with Millie Rieth's "Mary's Song".

Growing up in a family of 10, there was has always much faith, love, devotion and daily rosaries to Mary. This hymn is in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary on her Assumption into Heaven. There are numerous hymns about this, but the melody and lyrics to this one are my favourites.

The tears: Singing it at both my Dad's and my brother, Robert's, funerals was by far one of the most difficult things that I ever did. I truly believe that is was through divine intervention that my sisters and I made it through the whole song... twice!

1990 meant moving out of my comfort zone to a new province, town and home. We left behind all our family and friends, and it was a very trying time. Driving through town I breathed a huge sigh of relief simply seeing the majestic Notre Dame de Lorette Church. The church community was welcoming and it quickly became another place of love and comfort for me. It wasn't long before my neighbour invited me to become a CWL member. The invitation to join the English choir came soon after. Many of my best friends and support are from those two groups of wonderful people! It was during one choir practice that I nervously suggested that we learn "Mary's Song". I continued to invite other groups to sing it. It is a song loved by many and dear to my heart!

Mary's Song

Millie Rieth

My soul doth glory in your love, O Lord. My soul doth glory in your love, O Lord. For you gazed on your servant with compassion,



And you reached out and took me by the hand.

Great are you, God, and holy is your name. Your mercy reaches to the end of time. Ah, the lowly you raise to the heavens, And the proud-hearted have no part with you.

Ah, how you fill the hungry with your love. With empty hands the rich are sent away. You will always be mindful of your mercy, As you promised your people long ago.

My soul doth glory in your love, O Lord.
My soul doth glory in your love, O Lord.
For you smiled on your servant with compassion,
And you reached out and took me by the hand.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=3XBVNSXe9bU&feature=youtu.be

Carol Mravinec's favourite hymn called "You Are

Mine" by *David Haas*. Carol says, "It was sung at both my parents' funerals, and it speaks to me still, in many ways. It can also be one of consolation for many people during this pandemic."

You Are Mine

David Haas



I will come to you in the silence I will lift you from all your fear You will hear My voice I claim you as My choice Be still, and know I am near

I am hope for all who are hopeless
I am eyes for all who long to see
In the shadows of the night
I will be your light
Come and rest in Me

[Chorus] Do not be afraid, I am with you I have called you each by name
Come and follow Me
I will bring you home
I love you and you are mine

I am strength for all the despairing Healing for the ones who dwell in shame All the blind will see, the lame will all run free And all will know My name [Chorus]

I am the Word that leads all to freedom
I am the peace the world cannot give
I will call your name, embracing all your pain
Stand up, now, walk, and live [Chorus]

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=Sgm9lkTNQmc&list=RDSgm9lkTNQmc&start_radio=1&t=24 **Nettie Lambert's** favourite hymn called "**Amazing Grace**" sung by *Judy Collins*. Nettie says, "It has always just touched me whenever I hear it."

Amazing Grace

John Newton

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch; like me! I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!

The Lord hath promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first begun.

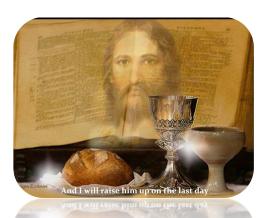
https://youtu.be/CDdvReNKKuk



Lindsay Bouchard's favourite hymn "I Am the Bread of Life". She says, "Just makes me emotional when I listen to the words and sing along. Such powerful lyrics."

I Am the Bread of Life

Suzanne Tool



I am the bread of life. He who comes to me shall not hunger; he who believes in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me

[Chorus] And I will raise him up, and I will raise him up, and I will raise him up on the last day.

unless the Father draw him.

The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and he who eats of this bread, he shall live for ever, he shall live for ever. [Chorus]

Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink of his blood, and drink of his blood, you shall not have life within you. [Chorus]

I am the resurrection,
I am the life.
He who believes in me
even if he die,
he shall live for ever. [Chorus]

Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who has come into the world. [Chorus]

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IvD0XJzOWQ4

Janine Durand-Rondeau beautifully explains one of her favourite songs: "Many of the songs already put forward are in my favourites list. But if I have to add one other it would be: The Prayer by Céline Dion and Andrea Bocelli. The words are inspiring for me and when I feel overwhelmed or sad or alone, I listen to this song and every verse reminds me that I am not alone and our Lord is watching over us and guiding us. He is there when I lose my way to put me back on track. And it reminds me of the bigger purpose. Not to mention the music: the pianist is amazing! It reminds me to pray for peace, end of violence and just pray for a better world as I believe God intended it to be. It brings tears to my eyes every time."

The Prayer

Céline Dion & Josh Groban

I pray you'll be our eyes And watch us where we go And help us to be wise In times when we don't know Let this be our prayer When we lose our way Lead us to a place
Guide us with your grace
To a place where we'll be safe.

I pray we'll find your light, I pray we'll find your light And hold it in our hearts, And hold it in our hearts When stars go out each night, When the stars go out each night Remind us where you are. Oohhh....

Let this be our prayer, Let this be our prayer
When shadows fill our day, When shadows fill our day
Lead us to a place
Guide us with your grace
To a place where we'll be safe.

[Together:] A world where pain a nd sorrow will be ended And every heart that's broken will be mended And we'll remember we are all God's children Reaching out to touch you Reaching to the sky.

We ask that life be kind, We ask that life be kind

And watch us from above, And watch us from above We hope each soul will find, We hope each soul will find Another soul to love, Another soul to love.



Let this be our prayer, Let this be our prayer Just like every child. Just like every child.

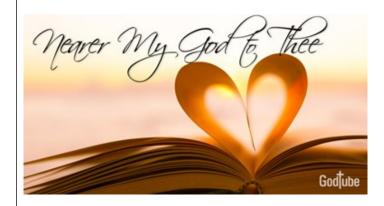
[Together :] Needs to find a place
Guide us with your grace.
With your grace
Give us faith so we'll be safe
Needs to find a place
Guide us with your grace.
Give us faith so we'll be safe
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yu3o8W5JMuU

Crystal Chernichan's favourite hymn is "Nearer, My God, to Thee" - a Christian hymn written by Sarah Flower Adams. "This song has always resonated with me, especially given my profession as a police officer. I have a crucifix in my pistol box - a visual reminder each and every time I take my gun out to start my shift, and as I lock it up at the end of a shift; a silent prayer that I have made it home safely. I am fortunately now in an office job where I am using my 12 years of policing experience to direct the future of policing. The tragedy in Nova Scotia reminds me of that daily sacrifice that is often overlooked by society. Thank you for the opportunity to share a song that is profoundly personal during this time of mourning with my brothers and sisters across the RCMP. Although this version is without lyrics, the music inspired by the words is powerful that it can stand on its own."

Nearer, My God, to Thee

Sarah Flower Adams

Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee! E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me; Still all my song would be nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!



Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down, Darkness be over me, my rest a stone; Yet in my dreams I'd be nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

There let the way appear steps unto heav'n; All that Thou sendest me in mercy giv'n; Angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

The with my waking thoughts bright with Thy praise, Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise; So by my woes to be nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

Or if on joyful wing, cleaving the sky, Sun, moon, and stars forgot, upwards I fly, Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee! https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=v1mQT1u 45I Marie-Ange Prevost 's favourite song: The Rose by Bette Midler. Marie-Ange says, "I love the chords and the lyrics. You have touched on my favourite hymns already."

The Rose

Amanda Mcbroom

Some say love, it is a river, that drowns the tender reed Some say love, it is a razor, that leaves your soul to bleed

Some say love, it is a hunger, an endless aching need I say love, it is a flower, and you, its only seed

Its the heart afraid of breaking, that never learns to dance Its the dream afraid of waking, that never takes the chance

Its the one who won't be taking, who cannot seem to give And the soul afraid of dying, that never learns to live

When the night has been too lonely and the road has been too long And you think that love is only for the lucky and the strong

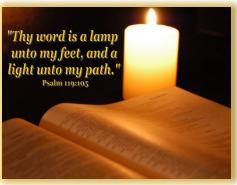
Just remember in the winter, far beneath the bitter snows Lies the seed, that with the sun's love in the spring becomes the rose

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQY2z6aALD4

"Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

Corinthians 13: 4 - 13

Val Bonnefoy's favourite song is **Thy Word**. She says: "I have always loved "**Thy Word**"; *Amy Grant's* version is beautiful. When I was teaching catechism I would play this for the kids when we were learning the parts of the mass. It has always touched me; the word of God gives us strength, joy and hope. We need this today in these trying pandemic days."



Thy Word

Amy Lee Grant, Michael Whitaker Smith

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path Thy word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path

When I feel afraid, And think I've lost my way Still, you're there right beside me Nothing will I fear As long as you are near Please be near me to the end

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path Thy word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path

I will not forget Your love for me and yet My heart forever is wandering Jesus by my guide And hold me to your side And I will love you to the end

Nothing will I fear
As long as you are near
Please be near me to the end

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path Thy word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path And a light unto my path You're the light unto my path Jolene Capina's favourite hymn: "How to choose just one? LOL I don't know why, but I have always LOVED "On Angels' Wings". I think it's because I have heard it sung in different ways (big choir = beautiful harmonies; solo voice = prayerful with a clear message). I always get so excited when I hear the first few notes because it can make me feel joy and hope some days, and then at other times it makes me get teary-eyed. and tugs at my heart.. I think that's the reason I find it to be such a powerful song...depending on when it is sung (Easter, funeral, etc.), it can sort of take on different meanings. These are the two versions that I found that sort of echo what I have tried explaining."

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life, Say to the Lord, "My Refuge, My Rock in Whom I trust."



Refrain:

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear; Under His Wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. (*Refrain*)

You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day, Though thousands fall about you, Near you it shall not come. (*Refrain*)

For to His angels He's given a command,
To guard you in all of your ways,
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. (Final Refrain below)

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His Hand. And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdTQskngiP4

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sia sKdHGw

Iris Swiderski's favourite hymn: "My favourite hymn is Be Not Afraid, especially sung by John Michael Talbot. I first it heard it sung many years ago at a friend's funeral and it touched me deeply. It is a hymn I turn to for comfort and peace along with praying Psalm 91*. Both are most consoling for me at trying times, as the present with all its challenges, uncertainties and fear."

Be Not Afraid

Bob Dufford, SJ

You shall cross the barren desert, But you shall not die of thirst. You shall wander far in safety, Though you do not know the way. You shall speak your words to foreign lands And they will understand. You shall see the face of God and live.

(Chorus:)
Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come, follow me
And I will give you rest.

If you pass through raging waters
In the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
You shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the power of hell
And death is at your side,
Know that I am with you through it all. (Chorus)

Blessed are your poor,
For the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
For one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked men insult and hate you
All because of me,
Blessed, blessed are you. (Chorus)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wQr4udSiEew



Agatha Olayiwola's favourite song, "Alleluia Christ

Arose". Agatha says, "That song makes me look forward to Easter with joy every year."



Up from the Grave He Arose

Daniel Thornton

Low in the grave He lay Jesus my Saviour! Waiting the coming day Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a Victor from the dark domain
And He lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose! (He arose)
He arose! (He arose)
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch His bed Jesus, my Saviour! Vainly they seal the dead Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a Victor from the dark domain
And He lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose! (He arose)
He arose! (He arose)
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Death cannot keep his prey Jesus, my Saviour! He tore the bars away Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose With a mighty triumph o'er His foes He arose a Victor from the dark...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PA9R6e4fBhc

Lacey Bernardin's favourite Christian

song: **Wavewalker!** Lacey says, "I was listening to the radio on my way home from work one day and feeling tired and blah when this song came on. It is so full of fun and energy that it perked me right up and great lyrics. My girls also enjoy listening to this one. Great energy boost. Makes you want to get up and move!"

WaveWalker

Ben Calhoun, Seth Mosley, Matt Hammitt (Citizen Way)

How's it so simple? Faith like a child
I give You an inch and You take me a mile
I feel the wind rush and the thunder roll

And two feet on the water, only one way to go, yeah

I don't gotta be afraid no more

'Cause I know You'll walk me through the storm
I'm more than just a talker; I'm a, I'm a, I'm a, I'm a

I'm a wavewalker; I'm dancing on water

When the devil tried to shake me, I just pray harder Even in my darkest hour; Got Holy Ghost power

When I keep my eyes upon You, Jesus

I'm a wavewalker (Wavewalker)

Oh-oh, oh-oh-ooh, Oh-oh, oh-oh-ooh, Oh-oh, oh-ooh

I'm a wavewalker, wavewalker

Aww, I walk over my fears, over my doubt

The supernatural, it feels so natural now

I don't gotta be afraid no more

'Cause I know You'll walk me through the storm

I'm more than just a talker

I'm a wavewalker; I'm a wavewalker; I'm dancing on water

When the devil tried to shake me, I just pray harder

Even in my darkest hour; Got Holy Ghost power

When I keep my eyes upon You, Jesus

I'm a wavewalker (Wavewalker)

Oh-oh, oh-oh-ooh (Don't you hear me now?)

Oh-oh, oh-oh-ooh (When I keep my eyes upon You, Jesus)

Oh-oh, oh-ooh

I'm a wavewalker, wavewalker

Oh-oh, oh-oh-ooh (Gotta keep my eyes on You)

Oh-oh, oh-oh-ooh (When I keep my eyes upon You, Jesus)

Oh-oh, oh-ooh...

I'm a wavewalker, wavewalker

You will make a way (Gotta make, gotta make a way)

When it feels like there's no way (It feels like there's no way)

So I will walk by faith (Gotta walk, gotta walk by faith)

'Cause You will make a way (You will make a way)

You will make a way (Ooh, You're gonna make a way)

When it feels like there's no way (It feels like there's no way)

So I will walk by faith (I'm gonna walk by faith)

'Cause You will make a way (You will make a way)

I'm a wavewalker; I'm dancing on water

When the devil tried to shake me, I just pray harder

Even in my darkest hour; Got Holy Ghost power

When I keep my eyes upon You, Jesus

I'm a wavewalker (Eyes on You)

I'm a wavewalker; I'm dancing on water

When the devil tried to shake me, I just pray harder (Pray harder)

Even in my darkest hour

Got Holy Ghost power (Holy Ghost power)

When I keep my eyes upon You, Jesus

I'm a wavewalker (I'm gonna, I'm gonna walk by faith)

You will make a way

When it feels like there's no way (Feels like there's no way)

So I will walk by faith 'Cause You will make a way

(I'm a wavewalker, wavewalker)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2JCQVNBLU7U

Cat Larson's favourite Christian song is "It is Well with My Soul". Cat says, "This hymn always brought so much peace to me... I never knew the story behind it until my sister told me a couple weeks ago! Thankfully I was able to find a version where they tell the story behind the hymn! What courage, strength and faith this man had!"

It is Well with My Soul

Horatio Spafford in 1873



When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my

Refrain:It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control, That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate, And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!— My sin, not in part but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live: If Jordan above me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait, The sky, not the grave, is our goal; Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord! Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, Even so, it is well with my soul.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IQ5ApL3UqI (story & song)

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=zY5o9mP22V0&list=RD6ZPDq8REXvA&index=22 Mary-Ann Novak's favourite hymn, "One Day at a Time Sweet Jesus. It is also another one of Micki

Maxwell's favourites as well! Mary-Ann says, "In this time of uncertainty in our lives and throughout the whole world, we have to remind ourselves to take it one day at a time, so how appropriate it would be to join our voices to an old favourite song "One Day at a Time Sweet Jesus"."

One Day at a Time, Sweet Jesus Patsy Cline



I'm only human,
I'm just a woman
Help me believe in what I
could be and all that I am
Show me the stairway
I have to climb
Lord, for my sake teach me
to take one day at a time

One day at a time, sweet Jesus That's all I'm asking from You Just give me the strength to do everyday What I have to do

Yesterday's gone, sweet Jesus And tomorrow may never be mine Lord, help me today, show me the way One day at a time

Do you remember when You walked among men? Well Jesus, You know, if You're looking below, it's worse now than then

Cheating an stealing, violence and crime
So for my sake, teach me to take one day at a time

One day at a time, sweet Jesus That's all I'm asking from You Just give me the strength to do everyday What I have to do

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBnZ8bmEOTM

Marie McCall's favourite song is, Angels Calling sung

by The Tenors (Canadian). Marie says: "There are so many "favourite" songs and hymns. Some have been chosen already and they are all so beautifully uplifting and cause such deep reflection into one's own soul. This song has deep meaning to me, as it will resonate with so many. I'm sure of that. It brings me back to last few weeks of my Dad's life. He was dying of lung and tracheal cancer and he fought so courageously, especially near the end gasping for breath, and yet he would put a smile on his face to keep us all strong. I spent the last night of his life with him at the hospital, unbeknown to us, his family, that it was going to be his last night here on earth with us. He remained awake all through the night and I did as well, piling blankets on him to keep him warm and holding his hand. Morning light was just coming up and he asked me if "they" were going to let him go "home" today. During the night I had heard him speaking to God, telling him he was ready, bring it on God, come and get me." When I heard him pray this I knew God's Angels were calling him home. And he passed away later on that day, it was on Valentines Day, the day of love."

Angels Calling

The Canadian Tenors

The sun, the sun is going down.

All I see is love around me.

You know, what I believe.

Now I see it so completely.

I, I need you to know, that time, time is letting go.

Don't cry, dry your eyes.

Can't you hear the angels calling, me up? Up above?

Can't you hear the angels calling me home? Me home?

(They're) calling me home.

Take, take my hand.

Stay with me, as I surrender.

We've lived a life of happiness.

You will be in my heart forever.

I, I need you to know, that time is letting go.

Don't cry, dry your eyes.

Can't you hear the angels calling,

me up? Up above?

Can't you hear the angels calling me home? Me home?

(They're) calling me home, home.

Home, home. Home, home.

Don't cry, dry your eyes.

Can't you hear the angels calling me up? Up above?

Can't you hear the angels calling?

Don't cry, dry your eyes

Can't you hear the angels calling me up? Up above? Can't you hear the angels calling me home? Me home?

Calling me home...

They're calling me home. I'm going home.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUR3JYpJ-Fc



Suzanne Desmarais's favourite song is **My Redeemer**

Lives sung by Nicole C. Mullen. Suzanne hopes you like it! Clearly, she knows her Redeemer lives! So beautiful and

uplifting!

Redeemer

Nicole C. Mullen & Kathy Lee Gifford

Who taught the sun where to stand in morning?

And who told the ocean you can only come this far? And who showed the moon where to hide till evening? Whose words alone can catch a falling star?

Chorus: Well I know my Redeemer lives

I know my Redeemer lives

All of creation testifies

This life within me cries

I know my Redeemer lives. Ye-e-eah

The very same God That spins things in orbit Runs to the weary, the worn and the weak And the same gentle hands that hold me when I'm broken They conquered death to bring me victory

Now I know, my Redeemer lives I know my Redeemer lives Let all creation testify Let this life within me cry I-I-I know My Redeemer He lives To take away my shame And He lives Forever I'll proclaim

That the payment for my sins Was the precious life He gave And now He's alive and There's an empty Grave!

And I know My Redeemer lives He lives I know My Redeemer lives Let all creation testify Let this life within me cry I-I-I know my Redeemer I know My Redeemer lives He lives, He lives

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DN8BmdFFfKI

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS Lord Jesus Christ, You took to Yourself a body and soul like ours, to teach us the glory of self-sacrifice and service. Mercifully instill in our hearts the desire to dedicate our lives to You. Give us priests and deacons to stand at the altar and to speak the words of the gospel; brothers and sisters to teach the young, nurse the sick and minister charity to all; lay people to imitate You in their hearts, families, work and community. Amen.

Blessed be God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Blessed be Mary, mother of our Lord Jesus and mother of us all. Blessed be St. Joseph, protector of the Holy Family and of us all Blessed be God in His angels and in His saints! In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

the

19

One of **Maryse Chartier**'s favourite songs is "Voice of Truth". Maryse explains, "For many years, "Voice of Truth" by the band *Casting Crowns* proved to be a source of encouragement to me in moments when I had to trust God and let go, moments where I felt afraid and needed to be reminded of God's abounding and powerful grace. And guess what? He always comes through!"

the voice of truth

Voice of Truth

Casting Crowns

Oh what I would do to have The kind of faith it takes to climb out of this boat I'm in Onto the crashing waves



But the waves are calling out my name and they laugh at me Reminding me of all the times I've tried before and failed The waves they keep on telling me Time and time again, "Boy, you'll never win!" "You'll never win"

CHORUS: But the voice of truth tells me a different story And the voice of truth says, "Do not be afraid!" And the voice of truth says, "This is for My glory" Out of all the voices calling out to me
I will choose to listen and believe the voice of truth

Oh what I would do to have
The kind of strength it takes to stand before a giant
With just a Sling and a stone
Surrounded by the sound of a thousand warriors
Shaking in their armor
Wishing they'd have had the strength to stand

But the giant's calling out my name and he laughs at me Reminding me of all the times I've tried before and failed The giant keeps on telling me Time and time again, "Boy, you'll never win!" "You'll never win" (CHORUS)

But the stone was just the right size
To put the giant on the ground
And the waves they don't seem so high
From on top of them looking down
I will soar with the wings of eagles
When I stop and listen to the sound of Jesus
Singing over me (CHORUS)

I will listen and believe; I will listen and believe the voice of truth I will listen and believe' Because Jesus you are the voice of truth And I will listen to you

You are...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cKm mYVPQE

We also prayed the **Prayer for Protection of Human Life** and encouraged everyone to take the time today to pray for *Quality Palliative Care, for our Sick and Dying and for the Sanctity of Life.*

This is one of **Fr. Jorge Mario de los Rios**

Londoño's favourite music pieces - an instrumental by *Richard Clayderman* titled **Ensueños**. Father heard it first as a kid, he says, and that this artist and his music brings him back to his days in the seminary! It is such a lovely piece of music. Kind of carries you off to a little dream world! Now, let us take some time to listen to this instrumentalist play.. thanking God for the precious gifts that these artists create and present to us for our enjoyment!



Ensueños (Reveries)

Richard Clayderman



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7tVk5zRHdo

One of **Mae Ross**'s favourite songs is "**Jesus, Friend of Sinners** by *Casting Crowns*! She says, "Oh, my goodness!!! This song touches my heart so deeply! Jesus... He is my Friend, my Saviour, my Lord!!! No matter how far I have strayed, no matter what I have done or omitted to do He is there right beside me. Loving me always no matter my unworthiness! This song fills me with hope! I hope it speaks to your heart."

Jesus, Friend of Sinners

Casting Crowns

Jesus friend of sinners; We have strayed so far away
We cut down people in Your name;
But the sword was never ours to swing
Jesus friend of sinners; The truth's become so hard to see
The world is on their way to You; But they're tripping over me
Always looking around but never looking up; I'm so double
minded

A plank eyed saint with dirty hands; And a heart divided

[Chorus] Oh, Jesus friend of sinners Open our eyes to the world At the end of our pointing fingers Let our hearts be led by mercy



mercy
Help us reach with open
hearts
And open doors; Oh Jesus friend of sinners
Break our hearts for what breaks Yours

Jesus friend of sinners; The one who's writing in the sand Make the righteous turn away; And the stones fall from their hands

Help us to remember; We are all the least of these Let the memory of Your mercy; Bring your people to their knees Nobody knows what we're for; Only what we're against When we judge the wounded; What if we put down our signs Crossed over the lines; And love like You did [Chorus]

You love every lost cause; You reach for the outcast For the leper and the lame; They're the reason that You came Lord, I was that lost cause; And I was the outcast But you died for sinners just like me; A grateful leper at Your feet

Because You are good; You are good And Your love endures forever You are good; You are good And Your love endures forever [Chorus]

And I was the lost cause
And I was the outcast
Yeah. You died for sinners just like me
A grateful leper at Your feet
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=st3CaUMH8zI

On this most precious day of celebrating mothers I thought this would be an awesome time to celebrate and give honour to **Mary, Mother of God** and Mother of us all... and thank her for her Fiat. (Mother's Day 2020)

Ave Maris Stella

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Hail, bright star of ocean, God's own Mother blest, Ever sinless Virgin, Gate of heavenly rest.

Taking that sweet Ave Which from Gabriel came, Peace confirm within us, Changing Eva's name.

Break the captives' fetters, Light on blindness pour, All our ills expelling, Every bliss implore.

Show thyself a Mother; May the Word Divine, Born for us thy Infant, Hear our prayers through thine.

Virgin all excelling,
Mildest of the mild,
Freed from guilt, preserve us,
Pure and undefiled.

Keep our life all spotless, Make our way secure, Till we find in Jesus, Joy forevermore.

Through the highest heaven To the Almighty Three, Father, Son and Spirit, One same glory be. Amen.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TacNIbmDZ4s

Mary, on this day when we honour all mothers, we turn to you. We thank the Lord whom you serve for the great gift of motherhood.

Never has it been known that anyone who sought your intercession was left unaided by grace. Dear Mother, thank you for your "Yes" to the invitation of the angel which brought heaven to earth and changed human history. You opened yourself to God's word and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Dear mother, intercede for all of our mothers. Ask your Divine Son to give them the grace of surrendered love so that they could join with you in giving their own "Fiat." May they find daily strength to say yes to the call to the sacrificial love - the very heart of the vocation of motherhood. May their love and witness be a source of great inspiration for all of us called to follow your Son. Amen.



Heather Kolowca had another favourite Christian song which she shared titled: **Blessings** by *Laura Story*. Heather says... "I love that song as each verse connects with me and the <u>chorus</u>:

'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops What if Your healing comes through tears

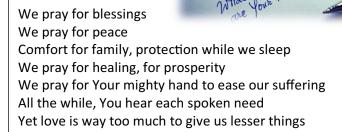
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near

What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise "Speaks to many areas of my life. Tears are a part of life — we know that pain/sorrow is an inevitable part of love—and this chorus is an

answer to why that is."

Blessings

Laura Story



'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops What if Your healing comes through tears What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise

We pray for wisdom Your voice to hear

We cry in anger when we cannot feel You near We doubt your goodness, we doubt your love As if every promise from Your Word is not enough All the while, You hear each desperate plea As long as we have faith to believe

When friends betray us When darkness seems to win We know that pain reminds this heart That this is not our home

What if my greatest disappointments
Or the aching of this life
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy
What if trials of this life
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights
Are your mercies in disguise

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cd6J6Wgnv4M

Jaquelyne Cournoyer has a second favourite, which is **Immaculate Mary**. Most appropriate, considering we are in the month of Mary!

Immaculate Mary

The Lourdes Hymn

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing. You reign now in Heaven with Jesus our King.

Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!

In Heaven the blessed your glory proclaim; On earth we your children invoke your sweet name.

Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!

We pray for our Mother, the Church upon earth, And bless, Holy Mary, the land of our birth.

Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!

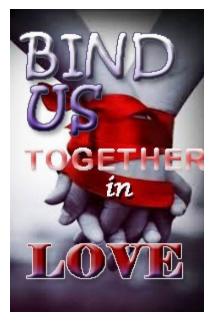
https:// www.youtube.com/ watch?v=Xi2VavyZEOg



Prayer to Our Lady of the Cape

Our Lady of the Cape, Queen of the Holy Rosary,
Queen of Canada; I offer and give my prayers,
sacrifices, good works, time,
talent and treasure to your Immaculate Heart,
to do with as you please, for the greater glory of God.
I thank God the Father, for choosing you
to be my heavenly Mother. I thank God the Son,
for giving you to me as He was dying for my sins
and those of the whole world on the cross.
I thank God the Holy Spirit,
for the graces He gives me through you.
Help me, by your prayers, to be faithful
to the vows of my Baptism.
Help me, by your prayers, to accomplish
all that God has planned for me in advance to do. Amen.

One of **Marcia Poirier's** favourite songs is **Bind Us Together.** She says, "We so need that to happen in our very trying days/weeks ahead. If my memory is correct the song *Bind Us Together* was one of many songs we sang when I made my first women's cursillo in Dickinson. It was a women' retreat weekend on *God's time* in a large Catholic High school gymnasium. We just had each other to lean on and trust with family and friends spiritual bouquets sent daily in our private boxes."



Bind Us Together

Bob Gillman

BIND US TOGETHER, Lord, Bind us together With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together,
Bind us together with love.

There is only one God, There is only one King; There is only one Body, That is why we sing:

Refrain

Made for the glory of God, Purchased by His precious Son; Born with the right to be clean, For Jesus the victory has won.

Refrain

You are the family of God, You are the promise divine; You are God's chosen desire, You are the glorious new wine.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuhIBLp5aHM

Marie McCall has another favourite hymn, The Lord's Prayer. She says, "So many beautiful songs and hymns already chosen, all with great stories behind them. The song I'm going to submit is one of God's masterpieces! The Lord's Prayer! The Lord's Prayer is the deepest and most powerful prayer ever, and given to us by our Lord and Saviour himself, Jesus Christ! This beautifully sung version is the most breathtaking I've ever heard. It leaves me in tears and "Godbumps" every time I listen to it. This beautiful young girl has truly been blessed by God with the most angelic, beautiful singing voice ever....I can truly

The Lord's Prayer

imagine this is what heaven will sound like."

Jesus

Our Father Which art in heaven Hallowed be Thy name

Our Father
Which art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On Earth
As it is in heaven
Give us this day
Our daily bread
And forgive us our debts
As we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us
From evil

For Thine is the kingdom And the power And the glory For ever

For Thine is the kingdom And the power And the glory For ever

Amen

https://youtu.be/ Vg2AsS4CErM



Lacey Bernardin: "So, for "You Are My All in All", "I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever" and "Shout To The Lord", they bring me back to when I was a teenager and involved in the whole CSE camps/groups. I would attend JOLT and the whole room would be singing along to these songs and you could feel the power through the lyrics, the music, the energy and the people. Amazing experience!"

You Are My All in All

Dennis Jernigan

You are my strength when I am weak You are the treasure that I seek You are my all in all

Seeking You as a precious jewel Lord to give up I'd be a fool You are my all in all

[Chorus] Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is your name Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is your name

Taking my sin My cross my shame Rising again I bless your name You are my all in all You are my **strength** when I am weak
You are the **treasure** that I seek

You are my all in all

Seeking You as a *precious jewel*Lord, to give up I'd be a fool

You are my all in all

When I fall down you pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

[Chorus]
Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is your name
Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is your name

Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is your name Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is your name

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8KF7033dm18

Lacey Bernardin:

I Could Sing of Your Love Forever

Delirious

Over the mountains and the sea Your river runs with love for me And I will open up my heart And let the Healer set me free I'm happy to be in the truth And I will daily lift my hands For I will always sing of when Your love came down

[Chorus] I could sing
I could sing of Your love
Forever

Over the mountains and the sea Your river runs with love for me And I will open up my heart And let the Healer set me free I'm happy to be in the truth And I will daily lift my hands For I will always sing of when Your love came down, yeah

[Chorus] I could sing of Your love forever (8x)

Oh, I feel like dancing
It's foolishness I know
When the world has seen the
light
They will dance with joy like

They will dance with joy like we're dancing now

25 MODERN WORSHIP SONGS
FOR A NEW GENERATION

I COULD
SING OF
YOUR
LOVE
FOREVER

[Chorus] I could sing of Your love forever (8x)

Oh, I feel like dancing It's foolishness I know When the world has seen the light They will dance with joy like we're dancing now

[Chorus] I could sing of Your love forever (25x)

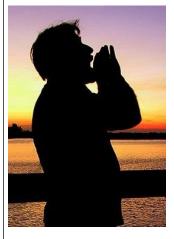
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QDMH6y22sWE

Lacey Bernardin:

Shout to The Lord

Darlene Zschech

My Jesus, my Saviour Lord, there is none like you All of my days i want to praise The wonders of your might love My comfort, my shelter Tower of refuge and strength Let every breath, all that I am Never cease to worship you



Shout to the Lord
All the earth, let us sing
Power and majesty
Praise to the king
Mountains bow down
And the seas will roar
At the sound of your name
I sing for joy
At the work of your hands
Forever I'll love you
Forever I'll stand
Nothing compares
To the promise I have in you

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y78aKBa917I

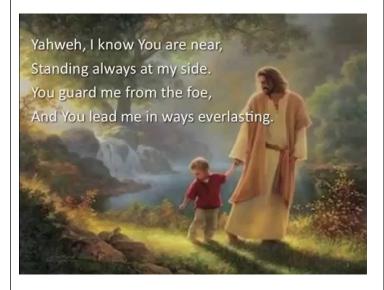


Jennifer Poitra's favourite song is You Are Near.

Although she likes all versions of the song, she favours this version sung by Steve Bell. This Catholic hymn reminds her that she was formed before she was born and that God is always near.

You Are Near

Dan Schutte



Yahweh, I know you are near, standing always at my side. You guard me from the foe, and you lead me in ways everlasting.

Lord, you have searched my heart, and you know when I sit and when I stand. Your hand is upon me protecting me from death, keeping me from harm.

Where can I run from Your love?
If I climb to the heavens You are there;
If I fly to the sunrise or sail beyond the sea,
still I'd find You there.

You know my heart and its ways, you who formed me before I was born in the secret of darkness before I saw the sun in my mother's womb.

Marvelous to me are Your works; how profound are Your thoughts, my Lord. Even if I could count them, they number as the stars, You would still be there.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6bjUhSrz-2Y

Madelyn McConnell shares memories: "I love most of the newer and newest Marian hymns as well, but my heart yanks me back to the oldies I have memorized from my youth, singing in the church balcony with the old pump organ. We loved it when Dad would play the hymns on his accordion tool. As a family, every evening after supper we would kneel, and Dad would lead us in praying The Holy Rosary. Often we would also pray the full Chaplet of Mercy and another 50 beads worth of "Jesus, Mary, I love you", to which we responded "save souls." I wonder if that is part of the reason my knees have arthritis in them...?"

"An amazing annual event our family and others from miles away would partake in, was the Annual Pilgrimage at the breathtaking Grotto in Rama.(https://greatplacesincanada.ca/gpic_places/lady-lourdes-shrine-village-rama/

It was at the Pilgrimage that we kids were excited to each get a wee bit of money...a rare thing! to buy our candles and perhaps a rosary, crucifix or prayer book, bookmark etc. It was there that we could meet and reunite with other Catholics...some were family members who would travel from miles away to attend, some were unfamiliar to us, whom we would meet and visit. People brought jackets, rosaries, lawn chairs, blankets, cameras and bug spray! (cont'd →)

'Tis The Month of our Mother

Anonymous

'Tis the month of our Mother The blessed and beautiful days, When our lips and our spirits, are glowing with love and with praise.

Chorus: All Hail! to thee, dear Mary, the guardian of our way; To the fairest of Queens, Be the fairest of seasons, sweet May.

Oh! what peace to her children, mid sorrows and trials to know, that the love of their Mother, Hath ever a solace for woe. (Chorus)

And, what joy to the erring, The sinful and sorrowful soul; That a trust in her guidance, will lead to a glorious goal. (Chorus)

Let us sing then, rejoicing, that God hath so honored our race, as to clothe with our nature, Sweet Mary, the

Mother of Grace. (Chorus)

https:// www.youtube.com/ watch?



Madelyn McConnell—the memories continue: The evening mass that we usually attended had hundreds of pretty lit candles all over... on the rocks, near the numerous religious statues, all around the various tunnels and paths, as well as in each individual hand. It is a memorable, a proud moment when you are deemed "big enough" to hold your own candle, as well as place a couple wherever you wanted. Our family usually sat along the upper East hill...it was a magical view indeed! As long as the mosquitoes weren't too crazy, it was the best place in the world to be that night! The scenery, music, everything was awesome in my eyes.

Mass would commence with the clergy, servers, choir, and others processing in with their candles singing "Immaculate Mary" including several harmonies of course! Later there was another procession of the Living Rosary led by both young and old. It was always so touching, and tearful for me. something else that would strike me, was of the number of priests, Bishops etc. attending.

Bring Flowers of the Rarest

Mary E. Walsh

Bring flow'rs of the fairest, Bring flow'rs of the rarest, From garden and woodland, And hillside and vale; Our full hearts are swelling, Our Glad voices telling The praise of the loveliest, Rose of the vale.

Chorus: O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today, Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May, O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today, Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.

Our voices ascending, In harmony blending, Oh! Thus may our hearts turn, Dear Mother, to thee; Oh! Thus shall we prove thee, How truly we love thee, How dark without Mary, Life's journey would be. (Chorus)

O Virgin most tender, Our homage we render, Thy love and protection, Sweet Mother, to win; In danger defend us, In sorrow befriend us, And shield our hearts, From contagion and sin. (Chorus)

Of Mothers the dearest, Oh, wilt thou be nearest, When life with temptation, Is darkly replete? Forsake us, O never! Our hearts be they ever As Pure as the lilies, We lay at thy feet. (Chorus)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INX-wTksYL0





Monique Jeanson says of one of her favourite songs, **Shoulders**, "Such a powerful reminder that we never walk alone!"

Shoulders

For King and Country



I look up to the mountains

Does my strength come from the mountains?

No, my strength comes from God

Who made heaven, and earth, and the mountains

When confusion's my companion And despair holds me for ransom I will feel no fear I know that You are near

When I'm caught deep in the valley With chaos for my company I'll find my comfort here 'Cause I know that You are near

[Chorus] My help comes from You

You're right here, pulling me through

You carry my weakness, my sickness, my brokenness all on Your shoulders

Your shoulders

My help comes from You

You are my rest, my rescue

I don't have to see to believe that You're lifting me up on Your shoulders

Your shoulders

You mend what once was shattered And You turn my tears to laughter Your forgiveness is my fortress Oh Your mercy is relentless [Chorus]

My help is from You

Don't have to see it to believe it

My help is from you

Don't have to see it, 'cause I know, 'cause I know it's true (x2)

[Chorus]

My help is from You

Don't have to see it to believe it

My help is from you

Don't have to see it, 'cause I know, 'cause I know it's true https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfiYWaeAcRw

Monique Jeanson also enjoys another song from for King and Country called **God Only Knows**

God Only Knows

For King and Country

Wide awake while the world is sound asleepin'
Too afraid of what might show up while you're dreamin'
Nobody, nobody, nobody sees you
Nobody, nobody would believe you
Every day you try to pick up all the pieces
All the memories, they somehow never leave you
Nobody, nobody, nobody sees you
Nobody, nobody would believe you

[Chorus] God only knows what you've been through God only knows what they say about you But God only knows how it's killing you But there's a kind of love that God only knows God only knows what you've been through God only knows what they say about you But God only knows the real you There's a kind of love that God only knows There's a kind of love that; There's a kind of love

You keep a cover over every single secret
So afraid if someone saw them, they would leave
But somebody, somebody, somebody sees you
Somebody, somebody will never leave you (Chorus)

There's a kind of love that; There's a kind of love (2x)

For the lonely, for the ashamed
The misunderstood, and the ones to blame
What if we could start over?
We could start over, we could start over
Oh, for the lonely, for the ashamed
The misunderstood, and the ones to blame
What if we could start over?
We could start over, we could start over
'Cause there's a kind of love that God only knows (Chorus)

There's a kind of love that; There's a kind of love (2x)

God only knows where to find you God only knows how to break through God only knows the real you There's a kind of love that God only knows



Mae Ross says, I know for myself there are SO many that I LOVE!!! Years ago, when I used to sing in the 9AM choir with **Evelyn Wyrzykowski** as our Directress (back in the day when I had somewhat of a voice)... whenever we sang "Firmly I Believe and Truly" from our **CBWII Hymnals,** I would be filled with emotion! With all of my being when I sang that song I wanted truly and firmly to believe. I had this yearning for the Lord; to love Him as He deserves to be loved; to put Him first in my life. ~ I've stumbled, tripped, fallen throughout my faith journey but am so grateful and humbled to know that God loves me always and forever, no matter my unworthiness! ~ I found a sample of the music version (Elgar's Drakes Broughton) we sang back then, just to give you an idea! I'm not a fan of the other versions. I have included the lyrics to that hymn so that you could use it as a prayer if you wish.

FIRMLY I BELIEVE

AND TRULY

Firmly I Believe and Truly

CBW II

Firmly I believe and truly God is Three, and God is One:

And I next acknowledge duly Manhood taken by the Son.

And I trust and hope most fully In that Manhood crucified; And each thought and deed unruly Do to death, as He has died.

Simply to His grace and wholly Light and life and strength belong, And I love supremely, solely, Him the holy, Him the strong.

And I hold in veneration,
For the love of Him alone,
Holy Church as His creation,
And her teachings are His own.

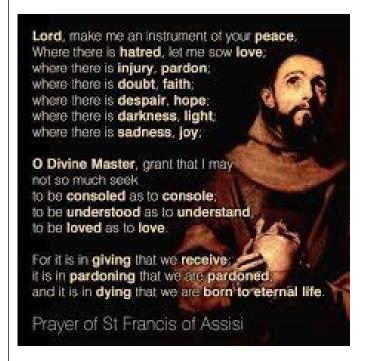
And I take with joy whatever Now besets me, pain or fear, And with a strong will I sever All the ties which bind me here.

Adoration aye be given, With and through the angelic host, To the God of earth and Heaven, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtoN 0SjUg8

Another of **Marcia Poirier's** favorites, **Prayer of St. Francis.** Marcia says this is "one prayer/song that we grew up with". This hymn never gets old... such a good reminder of what we need to do as Christians.

Prayer of St. Francis



Make me a channel of your peace Where there is hatred, let me bring love Where there is injury, Your pardon Lord And where there's doubt, true faith in you

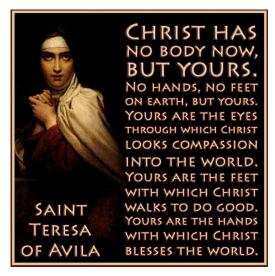
Make me a channel of your peace Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope Where there is darkness, only light And where there's sadness, every joy

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek So much to be consoled as to console To be understood as to understand Or to be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace It is in pardoning that we are pardoned It is in giving to all men that we receive And in dying that we are born to eternal life

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QgzckkpstJM

Mae Ross says, "I want to thank you for participating in sharing your favorite Christian Hymn/Song!!!. I hope they touched your heart as they did mine! They put me in a happy, prayerful and joyful place! Some songs I had not heard before; some I had not heard in eons!!! So, thank you for blessing us with the gift of your favorite Christian songs... expanding our hearts with love for the Holy Trinity and our Blessed Mother!!!"



St. Teresa's Prayer (Christ Has No Body)

John Michael Talbot

Christ has no body now but yours
No hands no feet on Earth but yours
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
Compassion on his world
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world

Yours are the hands Yours are the feet Yours are the eyes You are His body.

Christ has no body now but yours
No hands no feet on Earth but yours
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
Compassion on his world
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world

Yours are the hands Yours are the feet Yours are the eyes You are His body.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SQtXzjC2pg

Mae Ross continues, "Today is the Feast of Pentecost, the Descent of the Holy Spirit!!! It is the last day of the month of Mary... who is the spouse of the Holy Spirit! On this very special day, our CWL member, Maryse Chartier, will be entering the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross as a postulant!!! How amazing and awesome is that?!!! Doesn't this news touch your heart deeply?!!! Wow!!! I was SO happy to hear this news this morning!!! I had goosebumps all over my body!!! Maryse, may the Lord continue to bless you, guide you and hold you close to His Most Sacred Heart!!! May our Blessed Mother Mary be a Mother to you this day of your postulancy!"



Mary Our Mother, Queen of Heaven and Why We Pray to Mary (talk with song)

by Donna Cori Gibson (3rd order Carmelite)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgK7Qa9BfNE

Come Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit and fill my heart Come Holy Spirit and set me apart Come Holy Spirit to you I pray Come Holy Spirit show me the way

Come Holy Spirit and heal me now Come Holy Spirit and help me now Come Holy Spirit and mold me now

Come Holy Spirit and use me now



Pour out your grace upon this place I feel your healing touch and your warm embrace Renew my life Lord Jesus Christ That I may bring your love and peace to all the earth

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K WOFqap0oM

Qui enim cantat laudem, non solum laudat, sed etiam hilariter laudat; qui cantat laudem, non solum cantat, sed et amat eum quem cantat. In laude confitentis est praedicatio, in cantico amantis affectio...

For he who sings praise, does not only praise, but also praises joyously; he who sings praise, is not only singing, but also loving Him whom he is singing about/to/for. There is a praise-filled public proclamation (*praedicatio*) in the praise of someone who is confessing/acknowledging (God), in the song of the lover (there is) there is deep love."





We humbly pray you, O God, our Father, to bless The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Bless our beloved country, our homes and families. Send Your Holy Spirit upon us to give light to our minds, and strength to our wills, that we may know and fulfill Your great law of charity. Teach us to share with others at home and abroad the good things You given us. This we ask through our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the intercession of our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel. Amen.

