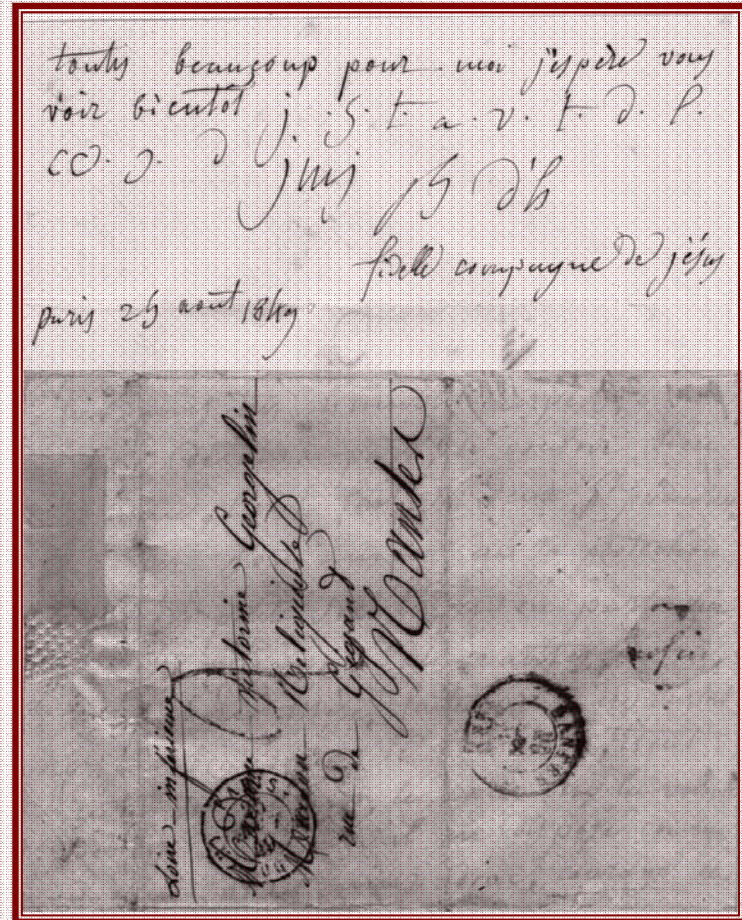




With Fidelity and Joy...



Paris

21st September 2012

Hymn - Que tes Œuvres sont Belles

*Paroles : Didier Rimaud
Musique : Jacques Berthier*

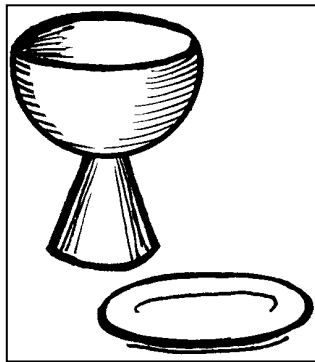
Que tes œuvres sont belles,
Que tes œuvres sont grandes !
Seigneur, Seigneur, tu nous combles de joie.
Que tes œuvres sont belles,
Que tes œuvres sont grandes !
Seigneur, Seigneur, tu nous combles de joie.

C'est toi, le Dieu qui nous as faits,
Qui nous as pétris de la terre !
Tout homme est une histoire sacrée,
L'homme est à l'image de Dieu !
Ton amour nous a façonnés
Tirés du ventre de la terre !
Tu as mis en nous ton Esprit :
Nous tenons debout sur la terre !



FCJ Constitutions 11

God asked a free heart of our Foundress -
to dwell always in his presence as an empty vessel
ready to receive all from him,
to remain undisturbed in his hands
so united to him as to be lost in him,
desiring only the accomplishment of his will.
We also beg the grace to
accomplish God's will
with fidelity and joy.



Blessing

May our God, the source and inspiration of Marie Madeleine's vision bless each one of us. **Amen**

May Jesus, our companion, bless us in our sharing in his mission. **Amen**

May the Spirit breathe in us creative ways in which to spread our charism and spirituality. **Amen**

God's faithfulness will never fail nor will he ever withdraw his love. (FCJ Constitutions 229). **Amen! Amen!**

Welcome and Introduction

Calling on Marie Madeleine and those who have gone before ...

Come, Marie Madeleine
original guardian of our charism
come with the heart you wore
as you responded to the 'I thirst' of Jesus.

Come, all you Faithful Companions of Jesus
come, tell us the ancient truths
you knew so well,
breathe in us whispers of wisdom.

Come, dream dreams of hope in us,
stir in us new songs of compassion and mercy.
Raise up profound companionship in our souls
and guide us into strong circles of respect
for everything inhabiting our world.

Come, guardians of our FCJ tradition
breathe fire into our bones
until we, too, stand strong in our commitment
to carry forward our timeless story.

We gather the fruitfulness of the past and
on this day when we gather to thank God for Marie Madeleine's inspiring life,
we commit ourselves once again to the mission of
Jesus today.

Hymn : Jubilate Deo

Jubilate Deo, omnes terra,
servite domino in laetitia.



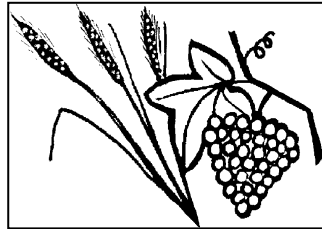
Scripture - Ephesians 3:17 - 21

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled with the utter fullness of God.

Glory to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Hymn: Jubilate Deo

Jubilate Deo, omnes terra,
servite domino in laetitia.



A Psalm of Thanksgiving - Psalm 138

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.

On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.

All the rulers of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,
and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life;
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand delivers me.

Extract taken from Faithful Companion of Jesus, Marie Madeleine d'Houët (CTS Pamphlet)

'Comme au début et d'un bout à l'autre de sa vie apostolique, ce compagnonnage avec les autres rejaillissait de son compagnonnage avec Jésus. Ses jours s'écoulaient en travaux, voyages et décisions, décisions religieuses, domestiques, scolastiques tandis que ses nuits étaient consacrées à la prière. Exactement comme à Parassy quand elle passait la nuit en prière au pied du Saint Sacrement, elle décida qu'à présent l'Heure sainte de la prière se situerait entre 11 heures et minuit et reprendrait à 4 heures du matin par deux heures de contemplation. Ceux qui vivaient avec elle racontèrent comment elle émergeait de la prière, plus calme, plus forte, plus douce. Elle, dont l'impétuosité fondamentale était née du « J'ai soif » du Christ en croix, continuait encore et encore à avoir soif pour Lui et avec Lui. Elle écrivit à une des Sœurs:

« Lorsque tu es dans la chapelle, donne-toi entièrement à Dieu. Parle-Lui de tes difficultés et de tes intérêts, mais ne les laisse pas prendre possession totalement de ton esprit. Je sais par expérience qu'il vaut mieux goûter de la présence du Sauveur et de Sa gloire plutôt que de s'enfermer seule dans son propre environnement empli de questions et de doutes ».'

"As in the beginning, so throughout her apostolic life, this companionship with others sprang from her companionship with Jesus. Her days were increasingly filled with travel and direction – religious, domestic, scholastic – but her nights were times of prayer. Just as at Parassy she had risen during the night to pray before the blessed sacrament, so in her later life she made the Holy Hour each night from 11pm to midnight, and got up again at 4am to spend two hours in contemplation. Those who lived with her tell how she rose from prayer calmer, stronger, gentler. She who had received her initial impetus from the "I Thirst" of Christ on the cross, continued to thirst for Him and with Him. She wrote to one of her sisters: " When you are in chapel, give yourself entirely to God. Speak to Him of your difficulties and your interests but do not let them engross your thoughts altogether. I have found by experience that one effects a great deal more by occupying oneself in our Saviours presence with himself and His glory than by dwelling solely on ones trials and perplexities."

Prayer for Healing through the intercession of Marie Madeleine



Dieu, notre Père,
Jésus, notre compagnon,
Esprit-Saint, source de
sagesse

Marie Madeleine
a cru en votre puissance,
a espéré en vos promesses
et a vécu pour votre gloire et votre service.

Nous lui demandons de prier avec nous pour...

*Louise, Geoff, Lisa, Theresia, Adrian, Kevin,
Maureen, Elizabeth, Juliana, Eve, Clare, Ana, Burt,
James, Laurie, Pat, Domenica, Mary and Pak*

Que par sa prière,
vous manifestiez votre pouvoir de guérison,
et que votre nom soit glorifié.
Nous vous prions au nom de Jésus le Christ.
Amen

The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

The following **extract is taken from the Memoirs**, recounting when, in 1820 at Paris, Marie Madeleine handed to Fr Varin a paper on which she had written out 'her old ideas' regarding the Society:

'C'est en votre sainte présence, ô mon Dieu, et au nom de l'obéissance, que je vais tracer cet écrit. Esprit - Saint, Esprit de lumière et de vérité, ne souffrez pas qu'il y entre un seul mot qui ne soit pas dicté par vous...

<<Donnez-nous, ô mon Dieu, des femmes jésuites. Que, comme les premiers Pères de la Société et ceux qui les ont suivis, elles retracent fidèlement la vie et les vertus de Notre Seigneur Jésus Christ...

Que Notre Seigneur Jésus Christ soit leur fondateur ; qu'il les choisisse, les réunisse, et les forme lui-même ; qu'il soit le directeur général de la Société et celui de chacune d'elles en particulier ; qu'il leur obtienne et leur donne son Esprit, son Cœur, son Nom, et, jusqu'à la fin, sa Sainte Mère pour Supérieure et pour Mère ; pour patrons et protecteurs singuliers, saint Joseph, les saints apôtres, sainte Anne, les Saintes Femmes et tous les saints de la Compagnie de Jésus, et pour directeurs visibles sur la terre, les Pères de cette Société.

O mon Dieu, qui ne craignez pas de vous servir des instruments les plus vils et les plus misérables, faites-moi la grâce d'être un des membres de cette Société ; accordez-moi aussi celle d'y vivre et d'y mourir dans votre saint amour. Faites-moi connaître votre sainte volonté, et donnez-moi la grâce de l'accomplir avec fidélité et avec joie aussitôt qu'elle me sera connue. Donnez-moi, ô mon Dieu, ce que vous me demandez, et commandez-moi ce que vous voudrez. Au nom et par les mérites de Notre Seigneur Jésus Christ, ayez pitié de nous, ô mon Dieu, et exaucez nos prières et nos vœux.>>'

'It is in your holy presence, O my God, and in the name of obedience that I write what follows: Holy Spirit, Spirit of light and truth, do not permit me to write even one word which has not previously been dictated by you...

"Give us, O my God, women Jesuits. May they, like the first Fathers of the Society and who follow them, faithfully reflect the life and virtues of our Lord Jesus Christ...

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself be their founder. May he be the director general of the Society and of each member in particular. May he give them His Spirit, His Heart and His Name, and until the end of time His Holy Mother as their Superior and Mother; for patrons and special protectors St Joseph, the Holy Apostles, St Anne, the Holy Women and all the saints of the Company of Jesus; and for visible directors on earth, the Fathers of the Society.

O my God, you do not disdain to use the most lowly and abject of instruments; grant me the grace of membership in the Society and of living and dying in your holy love. Let me know your holy will and give me the grace to accomplish it with fidelity and joy as soon as it is made known to me. Give me, my God, all that you ask of me, and command me all that you will. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and through His merits have mercy on us, O my God; hear our prayers and grant our desires."



Intercessions

We thank you for the mystical experiences, deep faith, courage and persevering love with which you gifted Marie Madeleine, and for calling her to bring to birth our Society. Inspire us to know how to remain faithful to Marie Madeleine's vision and to interpret, develop, and realise this vision, for our world today.

May our lives reflect your loving presence in the world.

Marie Madeleine was led by the Spirit in ways she could not have imagined. Like her may we too be drawn irresistibly by God who is present and labouring in all of Creation.

May our lives reflect your loving presence in the world.

We pray for all our communities and each of our sisters throughout the world, that they may know your supporting presence, and be filled with hope and peace.

May our lives reflect your loving presence in the world.

'We rejoice in all the work that is being done to seek and invite new members for our Society.' Help us 'to engage in this ministry with urgency and enthusiasm across our provinces, in community and personally,' that we may continue to serve where we are already, and if God wishes, make new foundations being 'women of outrageous hope.'

May our lives reflect your loving presence in the world.

We hold all those suffering people 'beyond the open door', before you, Lord. We pray also for our sisters who are sick or suffering at present. Show us how to be 'the gentle human face of God.'

May our lives reflect your loving presence in the world.

We remember our brothers and sisters throughout the world who are victims of injustice, violence and broken relationships. Bless us with courage to witness to gentleness and reconciliation in our growing culture of violence.

May our lives reflect your loving presence in the world.

Our own intentions...

We pray for Katherine Mary. Give her the wisdom and courage she needs in her role of leadership and service, and may Our Lady of Good Counsel, **counsel and protect her.**

Our Lady's Blessing

