



Priestly People

SERVANTS OF THE PARACLETE

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Sacred Heart House, Dambri Vietnam



The Servants of the Paraclete community house – SACRED HEART HOUSE - in Bao Loc, 122 kilometers (75 miles) from Da Lat, the capital of the Lam Dong Province – in the southern area of Vietnam's Central Highlands.

Dambri Falls is close to Sacred Heart House. A large tea plantation on the property provides support for Servant of the Paraclete members and students living and studying in Ho Chi Minh City.

The peace filled, tranquil surroundings requested by Fr. Gerald of his community and guest priest houses are shown with great beauty and serenity at Sacred Heart House in Bao Loc, Vietnam.

The Divine Fruits

Part Two

JOY

Next to the Fruit of Charity, St. Paul places JOY, and it is logical that JOY should follow upon charity for true spiritual joy is the product of charity; it grows only out of charity, and cannot be obtained through any earthly pleasure.

This Fruit of JOY is much more than happiness; it is an exultation of spirit and is found only in the soul's possession of God. This is the most crucial essence of JOY: that it is attained only through a soul's union with God; it exists as long, as vibrantly, as fully as a soul lives in God and to the degree that it clings with all its might to God's Will, moment by moment. Since this JOY is not a feeling, not a product of our gratified emotions, but the FRUIT of the Spirit, it goes on at times when we are in the dark, at times when we feel no joy.

Recent archaeological discoveries uncovered letters written by martyrs during those first three trying centuries following Christ. Just before death one Saint penned:

"In a dark hole I found cheerfulness; in a place of bitterness and earth I have found rest. While others weep I have found laughter, where others fear I have found strength. Who would believe that in a state of misery I have had great pleasure, that in a lonely corner I have had glorious company, and in the hardest bonds perfect repose. All these things Jesus has granted me, for He is with me, He comforts me and He fills me with JOY."



We sing JOY loudly and clearly!

*Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!
All your works with joy surround you,
Earth and heav'n reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in you.*

Divine Joy

JOY is the echo of God's life within you

We know by Faith that we are the creation of a God of JOY. Just as an artist will express the beauty of his soul in his creation, so God, the Supreme Artist, who is infinitely happy when He made us in His image, made us in JOY. "I create Jerusalem and her people 'JOY'" (Is. 65:18)

The only true most substantial JOY is this: that we belong to God and God belongs to us. We are in love with our Lord, and our Lord is in love with us, and this JOY no man shall take from us! True JOY, the JOY of the Holy Spirit, is a JOY in God. Always, at all times, it is rooted, thriving, growing, in God. Joy, true JOY, no man, no earthly circumstance: be it illness, poverty, pain, loneliness, or any of the multitude of other human conditions can take from us.

So let yourselves, dear one, be completely and entirely aflame with Divine JOY. Ask God to make your soul burn in sanctifying grace, burn without being consumed, that it be a flame of JOY and praise to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit who has made you, who has redeemed you, and who has created you in His image: JOY!





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We appreciate the many mass stipends that we receive. We thank you for supporting that part of our ministry. The Servants of the Paraclete receive mass stipends from our donors and they look forward to celebrating liturgy with those who offer masses for loved ones, friends and family members.

Thank you for supporting our Mass Stipend Ministry!

Name of the person to be remembered in a mass celebrated by a Servant of the Paraclete

☐ living ☐ deceased

Please send an acknowledgement card on my behalf to:

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You will receive acknowledgement of the mass stipend donation in your donor thank you letter. No need to send an acknowledgement card to yourself if you are the donor.

Please complete the mass stipend form and return to the Servants of the Paraclete Development Office.

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