

# Spiritual Reflections for the month of June 2024

Please choose a prayer, reading and questions for reflection.

## Reward Through Rejection

*“If you choose, you can make me clean...” “I do choose. Be made clean (Mark 1.40)*

Father Matthew McCarthy of the Archdiocese of Toronto in his January 11, 2024 Daily TV Mass homily placed the Gospel story within the following thought-provoking framework:

***But what if Jesus didn't choose?** So this leper leaves room for Jesus to refuse to give him what he asks for. What might be the reason Jesus chooses not to heal or give us what we asked for? One reason is that Jesus takes our Salvation and Salvation of others around so seriously that sometimes He might be willing to refrain from giving us what we ask for if what we asked for is in the end going to be an obstacle to attaining Eternal Salvation. Sometimes a good thing might not be so good in the end.*

*God in fact is very generous with us when it comes to advancing our way to Eternal Life and those of the people around us. He is willing to lavish upon us.*

*The invitation for us, therefore, is to take the attitude of the leper who said, “Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean”. Let's be bold in asking God for whatever it is that's on our heart. We can be sure that if it furthers our way and the way of others to our Eternal Reward, we will receive those gifts, as Jesus says in “good measure and overflowing”.*

### Reflection Questions

1. At this moment of your life, for what and whom you pray most?
2. How do you move on from unanswered prayers?

***Let us pray...** Gracious God, may we find meanings in every rejection. Help us to work our way through unanswered prayers to lead us, our loved ones and others in our midst to Eternal Salvation.*

*- Vincentian Bro. Jose I. Torres, St. John of the Cross, Peel North Particular Council*

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## A Good Heart

"A good heart, as well as a soul inflamed with charity, can do nothing but good and holy works." ~ St. Angela Merici

### Questions for Reflection

1. As Vincentians, with goodness in our hearts and charity in our souls, can we truly do nothing but good and holy works?
2. Guided by our mission and vision, our intentions may be pure, but how can we be sure we do no harm to our Neighbours or to our fellow Vincentian Brothers and Sisters?
3. How often do we reflect on the consequences, the impact, of our actions?
4. Are we fostering hope and dignity as we serve or do our good intentions come with a cost to our Neighbours? What might that cost be?

### Prayer

Lord, guide me with your love, help me to be understanding, to see the truth beyond, and to do what is just. Amen.

*- Sarah Davidson, Greater Toronto Central Council Staff*