**Celebration of 200 years of foundation**

**of the Holy Family of Bordeaux**

**Feast of the Holy Trinity 1820 – 2020**

This Trinity Sunday is a significant and a memorable day for us as we celebrate the 200 years of our foundation. Though unable to come together physically even in our own local contexts, we, as members of the Family of Pierre Bienvenu Noailles, living in four Continents, unite ourselves with one another from wherever we are, in a more powerful way, in praising and thanking our God.

Thus experiencing our oneness as a “body” being together, we can only raise our hearts in deep gratitude, for we have a great history of Love to remember, recount and celebrate.

You O Loving God, we thank you,

we praise you,

we bless you,

we adore you!

***(Offering of incense at this moment)***

“Let my prayer O God, rise before you like incense, the lifting of my hands like an evening sacrifice.” (Ps. 141.2)

*Pause*

* **It is good to praise and thank you** God-Love-Trinity-Family, because you reveal yourself in perfect harmony in all Creation.

***Refrain – Lord, it is good to give you thanks//***

*Pause*

* **We thank You** for our Founder Pierre Bienvenu Noailles – a man seized by God’s love and full of passion for God’s kingdom. We are grateful for the gift of the charism he welcomed, lived and shared generously.

*Pause (5 seconds)*

***Garlanding the Founder***

* **We thank You** for giving us as a source of inspiration, Jesus, Mary and Joseph who lived only for You and for the realization of Your project.

“*Following the example of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, love, seek and desire only God Alone in all things.”*

***Refrain –* Que no vea más que a Ti,** Que no piense más que en Ti,

Que no viva nada más que para Ti, Que no vea más que a Ti.

*Que je ne vois que vous.  / Que je ne pense qu’à vous !*

*Que je ne vive que pour vous. / Que je ne vois que vous.*

*May I see only You. / May I think only of You!*

*May I live only for You. / May I see only You!*

*Pause*

* **We thank you** for our small beginning, like a seed yet having within, the potential of becoming a big tree – a *dream of “an Oak with flowers and fruits of all seasons…..” Living unity in diversity, through the Family present in four continents.*

*“My dear children, you will grow in the midst of storms and your good works will multiply like a seed, all the more fruitful that it has been scattered not by the hands of humans but by that of God himself.”*

*(PB Noailles, on 28th May 1820, the day of the foundation - Selected Text N°74)*

***Gesture*** *(4 candles, flowers and fruit will be brought to the centre by 8 persons)*

***Candles****: Europe; – Africa; – Asia; – Americas -*

* We thank You for showing us yourself, blessing us with your own hands – God incarnated - assuring us your constant Presence, urging us to go forward, trusting in you alone.

***Refrain in French:***

***Mon Dieu Tu es grand Tu es beau, Dieu vivant, Dieu très haut, tu es le Dieu d’amour…***

***Mon Dieu Tu es grand Tu es beau, Dieu vivant, Dieu très haut, Dieu présent en toute création***

*My God, You are great, You are beautiful, Living God, God on high, You are the God of Love…*

*My God, You are great, You are beautiful, Living God, God on high, God present in all creation*

*Pause*

* We thank You for the generations that have gone before us - thousands of apostolic and contemplative sisters, hundreds of Consecrated Seculars, thousands of Lay Associates and hundreds of Priest Associates and friends. We are grateful for their fidelity and the spiritual heritage they have passed on to us through their lives.

***Gesture*** *(Music) - opening the book of Annals with the list of names of personnel*

* We thank you for *the gift of* belonging to this inter-vocational Family where we share life and mission. We thank you for the gift of Vatican II which made us return to our Sources, rediscovering the treasure of being an Association – a Family with 5 vocations - each member of this Family, through her/his own simple life, diffusing the fragrance of the charism.

***Refrain in French: Merci, merci, O mon Dieu. Merci, merci, Trinité***

*Thank You, Thank You, O my God. Thank You, thank You, Trinity.*

*Pause*

* We thank you for our charism of communion which impels us to feel intimately united to your unfathomable Creation, to respect it and to care for it with tenderness, since we all form one family.

We thank you for the new understanding that unfolds the depth and beauty of connectedness of the whole universe pushing us to commit ourselves to the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized, always being attentive to the needs of our day.

*Pause (5 seconds)*

* **We thank You** because You have lovingly accompanied us during these 200 years of existence, always giving us life, energy and hope to walk with humanity as one single family.

***Refrain in Spanish:* Te damos gracias, Señor, de todo corazón.**

**Te damos gracias, Señor, cantamos para Ti.**

We give thanks Lord, from all our heart

We give thanks Lord, we sing for You.

*Pause*

* We thank you for the first move of missionaries out of France and for the continuous living of that pioneering spirit up to today, urging us to go to and be present in the existential peripheries.

We thank you for the confidence we have that we will never walk alone because your love and your fidelity are forever.

***Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum***

***Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea***