**12th Anniversary**

**of the Venerability of Father John Bonal**

**20th of December of 2024**

**INTRODUCTION LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

The thanksgiving prayer for the life of Fr. John Bonal, servant of God, who lived faith, hope and charity in heroic degree, convokes us today in this praise to God.

He accompanied people to live and to die in a good way; he offered the peace that only comes from the Highest; he fed and dressed the one who was hungry and the one who was naked of bread and of God; he visited and comforted the sick and the prisoners… he lived the works of mercy making reality the words of Jesus in this way: “What you did for one of these little ones, you did it to me”.

May we live as Fr. John lived, placing the Lord in the centre of our lives, allowing ourselves to be renewed by His Love, and serving Him in the person of our Sisters and brethren, especially the poorest and the neediest.

**PETITION IN THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

We thank God in this day of celebration for the life of Fr. John Bonal. May he, Charity of God, accompany always our congregational journey, especially in this time of celebration of Chapters, and show us how to follow the Lord Jesus, loving and serving “with the greatest care, with full detail, with all love”. May our God grant us to see soon recognized his holiness in the Church.

**INTRODUCTION EUCHARIST**

Holiness is a continuous searching for God, the total yes to His will through the heroic living of all the virtues. It was the way of living of Fr. John Bonal.

We are convoked today to this Eucharistic celebration by the grateful memory of the life of Fr. John Bonal, heroic priest in the living of the christian virtues and, especially, of Charity to the neighbour, which he poured out through service, by seeing Christ in everybody, by welcoming Christ in the one who arrived in need of peace and pardon, by recognizing Christ in the poor and the destitute people of every part and place.

We present ourselves today before God with our gratitude of daughters.

May in this journey of Advent, in which we wait for the Lord Jesus, we be granted to be, as Fr. John, channels of the Love and Hope of the God-with-us.

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

* May the Spirit guide and accompany the Pope Francis, our Bishops, priests and deacons. Through the intercession of Fr. John Bonal, they may be men of God at the service of all their brethren. LET US PRAY
* May the leaders of the nations care for the welfare of the citizens, especially of the neediest, and be committed to make possible peace, justice and solidarity. LET US PRAY
* May those who suffer experience the Presence of God in the company and consolation of the people who welcome them from the reality which they live. LET US PRAY
* May those called to religious, priestly and missionary life know the deep joy of being dwelt by the Lord. LET US PRAY
* May the Lord grant us to see soon recognized in the Church the holiness of Fr. John Bonal. LET US PRAY
* May the celebration of the different Chapters and our journey towards the General Chapter, be sowed with the listening to God and the searching for His Will. LET US PRAY.
* May, as Mary, as Fr. John, we also discover the Lord who is coming to meet us and pronounce our “let it happen to me” to his Word. LET US PRAY