The Prayer of The Order

O Eternal Father, You have sent us Your Son to teach us things pertaining to Your heavenly Kingdom. Give Your blessing to our Order wherever it may be throughout the world. Grant that we, Your Daughters, ever may discern Your truth and bear the cross through the battles of our earthly life. Give us strength to overcome temptation and the grace to work to spread Your Kingdom and to gather Your scattered sheep within Your fold. Pour out upon us the sevenfold gift of the Holy Spirit that we may always remember it is Your work we are called to do, that all we think, do or say may be pleasing in Your sight. We ask it all For His Sake, our King and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Why We Are Called?

When Daughters speak of being called, we already understand that God has already done the calling. We have already decided to follow Jesus. We have answered. What we may not ask ourselves daily is "Lord what would you have me do?" This is a significant question because the work or service we do is important to God. And if it is important, it makes sense to ask what work God wants us to do.

We are first called to have a relationship with God, to reflect His presence in our lives to all we meet in the world around us. Secondly, Scripture tells us that God calls us to particular work, and gives us guidance for this work. God called Noah to build the ark. God called Moses and Aaron to lead the children of Israel. He called the prophets to preach. Jesus called the apostles and the Holy Spirit called Barnabas and Saul to be...
The answer to the question “Lord what would you have me do?” is the same for each of us in community as Daughters. We strive daily to live into our vow to pray, serve and evangelize. The “work” we are called to do is strongly driven by the needs of the world around us. In our neighborhoods we serve in a variety of ways. We help feed others from our food pantries, we help nurture babies by knitting and crocheting blankets, train and help develop young girls spiritually, visit the elderly and provide supplies in nursing homes, and support school children with school supplies. Daughters use our gifts for the upbuilding of the church and the clergy. We are each called to ministry to use the gifts bestowed by the Holy Spirit.

From the time of Adam and Eve, God’s children have been called. Our lives are to be spent serving God and one another to glorify His Name. Since 1885, Daughters have been called and answered: “Here I am Lord, send me.”

Krisita Jackson
National President

Why Are We Called?

Why are we called? This reminds me of the new command Jesus gave us: “Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” John 13:34-35 (NIV)

As a Daughter, I am reminded that I wanted to have a closer walk with God, strengthened through a discipline of a Rule of Life, and supported through the companionship of you, my sisters. Our primary goal is the same – to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known to others.

A lot of work has gone into the preparation of the table for you. I am reminded in Luke 14:15-18 (NIV) of the many excuses for why they could not come to the table. We are the body of Christ together. “Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.” We certainly have faced trials over the last couple of years. James 1:2-3 (NIV) reminds us, “Whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance.” We come to see God’s timing and God’s ways as altogether good.

Nearly every aspect of heart devotion is found at the Lord’s Table — examination, repentance, petition, forgiveness, contemplation, thanksgiving, celebration, and more. Genuine heart devotion always produces character transformation. The Eucharist is the most important moral action of the church because its celebration incorporates us into the ongoing story of God’s redemptive work. Each and every one of us approaches the Table declaring, “Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me.”

I invite you to join me at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore June 22-26, 2022. Early bird registration is from January 3 - March 31, 2022 and is available online or you can print the registration form and mail or email it to the national office. Let us support one another and come to the table.

Janet Papa
1st Vice President and Triennial Chair

Preparing the Table
Join us each month as we prepare our table for our gathering in Baltimore, Maryland on June 22 - 26, 2022. Our flowers and banner are ready to celebrate the Blessed Sacrament. What have you gathered and prepared for your table this month?

Click here to register for Triennial 2022!

Carrying the Message of our Lord

Why are we called? What are we called to do? Many groups and origins ask the same questions. There are as many answers as there are people to answer them.

At present, I am working on the Alcoholics Anonymous steps and going to meetings with my daughter. As I sit in the meeting rooms and listen to their stories, there are many similarities between the 12 Steps and our Motto. and what we are called to do. Step 12 in AA states; “Having had a spiritual awakening as the results of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.” Is that not what we are called to do? To carry the message of our Lord and Savior in whatever way is best for the environment we are in? I have been a Daughter of MY King for years but yet I never stop learning and growing in His love.

The first three of the 12 steps can be paraphrased this way: #1, I can’t; #2, He can; #3, I will let him. I see that it is only by the Grace of our Lord that I can even do what He calls me to do. This sounds a lot like our Motto to me. We should all live in the first 3 steps every day. When I pray, as in Step 11, I become more aware of my calling to glorify His name. Do I always get it right? No, this broken world can get the best of me. But I ask our Lord for forgiveness, #7. And when the next day comes, I begin anew, walking in the Light of Christ.

My world is always changing so what I am called to do changes, BUT the message is still the same. Jesus is our Lord and Savior and it is only by His Grace that we are saved.

I have been claimed in Jesus’ name and I am His. You have been claimed in Jesus’ name and you are His. As you walk this day may you have a spiritual awakening that shows others that they too have been claimed in Jesus’ name. And all the people said Amen!

Denise Rox
Worship and Devotion Chair

Here I Am Lord

The theme for this issue of Cross+Links is ‘Why are we called.’ This theme has been going around and around in my head. “Why are we called?” Why indeed? I thought of a lot of answers, but none of them seemed just right. I started to think about the word ‘called’ and what it meant to me. There is a sense of a personal summons and response implied in that word. If I believe our Lord Jesus is the One who is calling me, my response will be, “Here I am Lord” or “Not now, Lord.” But what about
He calls me and He calls you to spread His kingdom of love and forgiveness to others - others who have not heard Him or known Him. We know this from reading the gospels. Jesus gives us our marching orders in Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV) "Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

We are the ones who have been called and sent out. Others cannot experience His love and forgiveness unless we who are His witnesses, who live in His love and truth, tell of His wonderful kingdom. To quote Richard Rohr, “…our prayer leads to community, which leads to action to heal this fractured world…”

This is our task and our privilege! Happy New Year!

Pat Hind
Service and Evangelism Chair

Upon Being Called

Shortly after attending Triennial 2003, held in Minneapolis, I remember being curious: “What do they do, these ladies on National Council? How can I be one of them?” Little did I think then that I would find out one day. Years later, in 2018, I remember sitting around a table as the new Executive Board began their term asking the other National Council members, “Why did you run for National Council?” Thinking back to my thoughts after Triennial 2003, my answer simply was that I was curious. But was it really curiosity or was God calling me? You see, I had said “no” for many years; first, finding reasons why I couldn't become a Daughter. Then, I guess I was worn out by saying “no” so I became a Daughter. Did I think about why? No, I just went through the discernment process in a chapter willing to support me through all the things a mother of four goes through, my going back to college to earn more degrees. They then supported me as I listened and obeyed the call to be the diocesan assembly president, next the province assembly president, and finally a member of the National Council.

Does this story sound familiar? Can you relate? Do you know why you were called? What are you being called to do now? Join us in Baltimore for Triennial 2022 to meet other women and share your stories.

Pam Sebura
National Secretary and Cross+Links Editor

Missions Continue in Spite of COVID

It is that time of year again, the ingathering of the Self Denial Fund. It has been the practice of Daughters to donate to the fund on or around February 2 annually. The pandemic continues to impact mission plans, causing many to either cancel or postpone. The good news is that the Fund continues to support missions out of the country that have a tie to a Daughter’s chapter. Those missions serve while maintaining COVID safety protocols.

Saint Alban’s chapter in Hickory, North Carolina partners with Christ Church in Mt. Pleasant, Charleston, and the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti. Though Daughters are unable to travel to Haiti, the partnership with “Father Jean Madoche Vil in Gros Mangle, who provides a stable spiritual and social framework” continues to carry out the mission. The Self Denial Fund assists with the purchase of lunches and books for students attending St. Espirit
Ecole et Eglise (Holy Spirit School and Church) in the village of Gros Mangle on La Gonave Island in Haiti.

God’s Hands & Feet Global Ministry focuses on U.S. missions and continues outreach to the under-served. Keeping with COVID protocol and in lieu of meeting in person, the mission mails devotionals, bookmarks with scriptures and a grocery store gift card directly to individuals struggling spiritually and experiencing hunger.

### Examples of Recent Missions Funded by the SDF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Fund Amount</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>God’s Hands &amp; Feet</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>Evangelism and provide for those impacted by food insecurity</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Albans Chapter in Hickory, NC</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>Books and lunches for Students attending St. Espirit Ecole et Eglise</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother Theresa Chapter and Beautiful Morning</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>Educate and teach God’s word to boys residing in an orphanage in Haiti</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercy Fund Team, Christ Church, Jerusalem</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Support the work of “At the Crossroads” Christians collaborating to expand Gods Kingdom in Jerusalem</td>
<td>Jerusalem</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donations to the Self Denial Fund can be made [online](#) or by [mail](#). Thank you for your generosity that helps to share the love of God that has spread around the world through missions and missionaries.

Katherine Marshall-Polite  
Self Denial Fund Chair

### Called to Community

Jesus calls His followers to be in community. The last two years have certainly taught us the importance of this, even if our experience is only virtual. Daughters have increasingly shared how their ability to stay connected with their chapter, diocesan assembly, or province has carried them through difficult times of loneliness and isolation. The connection shared among Daughters is a beautiful and necessary one.

As we spur one another on to good works and prayer, service, and evangelism, we invite you to meet with The Order and other Daughters across the globe on social media. You can find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) where prayers, devotionals, Scripture, meditations, and history are shared each day. Additionally, The Order has a [YouTube](#) channel containing a video library of various topics that you could watch with your chapter or have a personal retreat day in the comfort of your own home.
The Order also continues to offer our Zoom account for use by Daughters. Would your chapter or diocesan assembly like to meet virtually? To request a Zoom meeting, email the national office at DOK1885@doknational.org. Please be sure to include your requested date, time, time zone, and estimated number of participants. A staff member will reply to your email to let you know if the requested time is available and will include the meeting link and details. Please note, due to limited availability, meetings through The Order can only be arranged for DOK meetings or DOK-related events.

Will you answer the call to community? We hope to "see" you online soon!

The National Office Staff

Closing Scripture

"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him."

1 John 3:1 (NKJV)

May we pray for you?

Submit a Prayer Request

Connect with Us on Social Media

The Order of the Daughters of the King® | 770-517-8552 | DOK1885@doknational.org | www.doknational.org