



OCTOBER 10, 2024

3. WITH YOU MAIN ON THE PATHS OF LIFE

3.11 Desert Day

(This is a day of reflection, a day to revisit the places of Mother Mazzarello. We ask that you do not travel to the places alone. Please go with a partner or small group while still maintaining a climate of silence and reflection.)



Maria Domenica Mazzarello inaugurated a real feminine mystagogy in Mornese, leading sisters and girls to a demanding journey of holiness. Therefore, Mornese remains the paradigm of the community that knows how to bring young people closer to Jesus Christ and to open their lives to Him.

The community of Mornese was not self-referential but rather a community that knew how to orient the girls to the person of Christ!

(As you live today's experience choose a symbol that summarizes your experience in Mornese. This symbol will be placed in front of the altar at Mass during offertory.)

Experience of contemplation

Take your notebook, choose a beautiful and silent place, and with the help of Mother Mazzarello, open your heart to God and let Him speak with you.

(The following are various proposals. You are invited to choose what will help you the best to create your personal synthesis.)

WHAT DRAWS YOU?

1. Think of a biblical text to accompany you on this day of your synthesis in the stage "On the pathways of life". What draws you to this text? Why?
2. Choose a stage in the life of Mother Mazzarello that struck you the most. What draws you to this stage? Why?
3. Reflect on the places you choose to revisit. What draws you to these places? Why?



What would you like to tell Mother Mazzarello about your vocation, educational mission, and community life? What is her response to you?

PERSONAL PROJECT

In the light of Mother Mazzarello's life, take up your personal project, listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit, and discern the points that need change.

Scheme for Elaborating the Personal Project of Life

What does God want from you in the circumstances in which you find yourself?

- Ask yourself before the Lord, what does He want from you? From the context in which you live, what type of FMA are you called to be?
 - Looking at your human, faith, and charismatic formation, identify one essential thing for each dimension you believe the Lord expects of you. These will be your goals.
- What relationship are your goals with the Profile of the FMA found in our Constitutions?

Where do you stand regarding God's call?

- Considering your goals, identify obstacles that may impede you reaching these goals. What needs to be strengthened in each dimension in order to overcome these obstacles?
- Similarly, identify strong points that you already have that will help you reach your goals. From where or from whom does this strength come from?

What steps do you want to take? In what direction, with what interventions?

- Enlightened by the previous steps, choose your course of action to achieve your goals. (objectives, processes, activities, etc.)
- Determine when, how and who will help you to evaluate your progress.

PRAYER

(This experience can be lived near the well before Mass. At the designated moment the pieces of paper will be burned in a container near the well.)

Guide: As a group, we are invited to reflect and write a word or phrase on a small piece of paper that describes or expresses how you lived this day.

(Instrumental music is played while the Sisters reflect and write their word or phrase.)

Instrumental Music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ss7EJ-PW2Uk>

Guide: We are confident that God accepts all our experiences. As the smoke ascends into heaven, the Lord will receive our intentions, desires and gratitude.

(As the song plays each sister is invited to place her intentions, desires and gratitude into the container to be burned. After all have finished we will go to the Chapel for Mass.)

Song: May Our Prayers be like Incense

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCHmYiBbZhl>

Into Your courts we come
Deep in our hearts we long to be
Near to the throne of Your glory
As we draw near to You
Know that You're here
To do Your will
God how we long to be near to You
May our praise
Be like incense rising
Unto Your throne
May our songs

Be a fragrance unto You
May our lives
Be as pleasing offering
In all that we do
Oh God how we long
To be near to You

Oh God how we long
To be near to You

Into Your courts we come
Deep in our hearts we long to be
Near to the throne of Your glory
As we draw near to You
Know that You're here
To do Your will
God how we long to be near to You

May our praise
Be like incense rising
Unto Your throne
May our songs
Be a fragrance unto You
May our lives
Be as pleasing offering
In all that we do
Oh God how we long
To be near to You

Oh God how we long
To be near to You (2x)

MASS

(At the offertory time, each one will offer the symbol they have chosen to pray with during the day. The symbols are placed at the foot of the altar.)