

Introduction to the Mass on 2nd December 2020
for the Members of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate who have died or are ill because of Covid-19
Chiesa SS.mo Salvatore in Onda

Tonight, we are gathered here - in person, or livestream or in spirit - at the altar of Saint Vincent Pallotti to celebrate the Holy Eucharist for our members and collaborators of the Pallottine Family who have died or are sick in many parts of the world because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Our thoughts and prayers go to those of the Pallottine Family who are facing a very difficult economic and social crisis due to this pandemic, and are living in poverty and in loneliness.

This celebration is for all of these sisters and brothers - young and elderly -: members of the Society, members of the Congregations of the Sisters, members of the lay communities, individual members. And the pain of each one, of each entity is the pain of all of us. As Pope Francis says: we are all in the same boat, we are interconnected. The pandemic shows it clearly and it's helping us grow in fraternal communion.

We also want to give thanks to our Lord for the gift of life these members offered and suffered. In return for this gift, we ask Saint Vincent Pallotti, Bl. Elisabetta Sanna and the Blessed Martyrs to guide us to revive our faith in believing that in this same boat Jesus is present with us and Jesus is infinite love, always; to guide us to rekindle our charity so that His infinite love may be visible in our concrete gestures of fraternal communion; and to guide us to revive our hope that Love conquers all, Love wins over death.

In the thoughts of many brothers and sisters who have passed on, let us ask Mary Most Holy, the woman of expectation, to accompany our steps during this time of Advent, and help us live it in the expectation and hope we will meet them again in Heaven.