



## E-BULLETIN # 23

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*"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5,16)*

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### ITEM 50

#### OUR FATHER THOU ART IN HEAVEN

O God...

I call you my father.

I believe that you live in heaven. But I am sure that you also live on earth, because you are the father of the human family.

You live in my heart. Therefore help me to keep your name holy in my heart.

I wish that I may do your will always so that your reign may be established in my daily living.

Give me the humility to ask for bread every day, because it helps to remind me that I am your child.

I acknowledge that I have walked away from your family. I have fought with my brothers and sisters, who are your children.

Therefore I ask your forgiveness. Help me to grow in the conviction that I have received your forgiveness as a gift without payment.

Hence, help me to respond to your gift when my brother trespasses against me, that I may console him with the same Gift of forgiveness.

I ask you to send the guardian angels to protect me.

So that I live like a child of God, and I die like a child of God.

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## is Springtime round the corner?

All of us know the five seasons of nature, even though we may not have experienced them all. Some seasons are looked forward to, others are not. Whether we like them or not, the seasons and change of seasons are a reality. Here in Melbourne [Australia] it is often jokingly said, 'you can have all seasons on a single day' and 'if you want a change of season, wait for five minutes'!

In southern India we do not experience the season of autumn/fall. Even so there is a time (season) when trees, e.g. rubber trees, shed all their leaves and look as good as dead. A little later a change of season happens, and the rubber trees are once again covered in fresh green leaves and are full of life and vigour.

Our lives have seasons, too. There are times (seasons) when we feel low and hopeless. At those challenging and disheartening times we are unsure of our own future. It can be compared to the season of 'fall'. We also experience times that are promising and satisfying. Such 'spring like' seasons are most looked forward to.

So also, we know there have been changing seasons in the long history of the Church. Even in our short history as Pallottines there have been changing seasons. We might recall that, according to St Pallotti, every season is a gift from God. Therefore no season is bad, each and every day is good no matter what the weather is like.

Right now, in some parts of the world, UAC/SAC is in full bloom – good numbers of vocations, varied apostolates, and lots of scope for development and expansion. There our future looks promising too. While in some other parts of the world we may be passing through dull times, moving away from the most memorable season of spring towards the unsure future of autumn.

Often we are left with happy memories of the past years of springtime. Such memories could be so sweet that the present may seem disheartening and hopeless in comparison. One might then become sceptical about the future, or become desperate for another spring time, without going through the necessary time of 'autumn'.

How we wish it is spring time once again for us throughout the world! Could it happen in our own life time? We are told that all seasons belong to God. He may take ages to change a season. He may do it in our own life time or maybe not! If we cooperate with Him, maybe the next spring time of our UAC/SAC is just round the corner.

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