

*Sisters, Associates and friends,
As we prepare to open our Sesquicentennial Year with prayer,
We ask you to prayerfully ponder the following reflection
And answer the two questions below.*

*This audio link: [Compassion CSJ.m4a](#) is for you to use, perhaps,
as an invitation to prayer.*

*You can open it from any computer, ipad or phone (with data).
Please, then, follow the instructions at the end. Thank you.*



**Live your life with one desire only:
to be always what God wants you to be,
in nature, grace, and glory for time and eternity.**

Maxim 73

In just a few words, Medaille was able to capture a seemingly simple but deeply profound dynamic of life: to live fully in the present moment while also guided by an energy force of desire that propels us into a future. To steady those of us with trembling knees, he assures us that it is no less than God who desires this future for us. Medaille calls us into the cyclical nature of life, into the woven experience of beginnings and endings, blessings and challenges, call and response.

As we prepare to celebrate the 150 years that stand as testimony to God's desires for us, for our future, we invite you to pause in this cycle of life that is uniquely ours. Take some time to reflect upon the graces that have invited and sustained you as sisters, as associates. Through these reflections and eventual sharings, we hope to paint a collective picture that will capture not only who we have been and are now, but will also point to a future of continued call and promise for us the Congregation of St. Joseph.

We offer you these questions to guide your reflections:

1. As you reflect upon your life in the Congregation, what one grace stands out as sustaining your vocation, the *sine qua non* of your very life?
2. Now, turn to consider our future as the Congregation of St. Joseph. What one grace do you discern as propelling us into our shared life for the world; into a future where we "live with one desire only; to be, what God wants us to be, in nature grace and glory, for time and eternity"?

Please write your responses to the two questions and give them to the Prayer Committee for the 150th Celebration. Choose one of the following options:

*Leave your written responses in a designated box, "150th Celebration" in the Mail Room at Switchboard
Send them via email to kwray@stjoseph-baden.org*

Send a hard copy via U.S. mail to:

Prayer Committee, 1020 W. State St., Baden, PA 15005 attn: Kathy Wray

Responses are due by August 1.

*Gratefully and with continued prayer,
Prayer Committee for 150th Celebration*