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LET US ALSO GO, THAT WE MAY DIE WITH HIM *John 11:16*

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# APOSTLE

Newsletter of the Society of Saint Pius X, 1 Marcel Lefebvre Place, Annie Nagar, Seevalaperi Road, Palayamkottai, TN 627002, India

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Dear Friends and Benefactors,

Our first duty as Christians is not to receive the sacraments; it is not to obey the commandments of the Church; it is to pray, to raise the heart and the mind to God.

In these days of technologically enlightened urban living, it might seem that those ancient ceremonies of the Church, the Major Litanies (25th March) and Minor Litanies (the three days that precede Ascension Day), in which the

clergy and faithful process around their fields praying the Litany of the Saints, have outlived their usefulness. Most of us now depend on huge multinational companies to provide us with our food and few of us have fields to process around anyway. But as we witness the soaring price of food throughout the world (brought on by the inept or intended planning policies of those in power), the possibility of famine in many less developed countries of the world, oil prices at record levels, the banking system in crisis, a

global recession looming and war gestating in the Middle East, it is clear that the Major and Minor Litanies (also called Rogation Days) are far from being anachronistic. Indeed, they now appear more urgent than before. The sign of the times is that man without God makes a fine mess of things.

The Major Litanies are of the most ancient origin (unknown). The Minor Litanies were instituted by the Council of Orleans in 511. They have as their intentions not just to pray for an abundant harvest, but also to appease God's anger at our sins and to pray for relief in times of calamity.

Let us, therefore, pray for these intentions. Please also pray for our humble mission; pray that its priests may be holy, its sisters and postulants be examples of virtue, its volunteers plentiful and dedicated and its children aspiring saints.

We, in turn, pray that you all be filled with the Holy Ghost in this time after Pentecost and make of your own homes mission outposts from whence your prayers bring upon you every blessing.

In Jesu et Maria,  
Rev. Robert Brucciani.



*Fr. Francis Chazal blesses the coconut trees and the football pitch.*