



Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters

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“May the darkness of sin and the night of unbelief vanish before the light of the word and the Spirit of Grace, and may the heart of Jesus live in the hearts of all”

- St. Arnold Janssen

The above verse reflects the deep concern of St. Arnold for the well being of every person and that every one will have the chance to hear the word of God and be saved through it. His vocation, as he recognized it, was to bring light to those places and situations that need it the most.

I always felt very proud to belong to the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, one of the congregations founded by St. Arnold Janssen. I think initially it was because our birthdays fall in the same month. Today I feel even more honored to celebrate his Feast Day at the end of the National Vocation Awareness Week. I am pretty sure that he intercedes for those who are searching to find God's will in their lives and helps them to find hope in despair.

St. Arnold knew deep in his heart what God was calling him to do and he truly followed it even though sometimes the road was obstructed with challenges. One of the stories says that at the beginning when he brought up the idea of establishing a mission house even the bishops laughed at him and doubted that any of his ideas will develop into something significant. It was during the time when situation in Europe was unstable and hopeless. To this challenge pointed out to him by a bishop, St. Arnold responded: “We live in a time when much is collapsing, and new things must be established in their place.”

Right now there are many things that shake our faith and challenge us to stretch our sometimes limited supplies of hope. Oftentimes we are lost in various choices that are possible and even good but often unsatisfying. In this kind of instability we are left with the LIGHT who was brought by the birth of Jesus.

*What do I do to find out the will of God in my life?
Am I able to hope despite the challenges that come my way?*

Let us pray to St. Arnold for the graces we and our families need, especially for the grace of finding our own place in God's plans; our place to share the light that we have received with those who still live in darkness.

Sincerely,

Sr. Veronica Marie Mikkelson and Sr. Elwira Dziuk

Called by the Spirit, Embracing the World!

