



UNITY

Live in unity because you can attain nothing without it.

[Father Jordan, *Jordan Talks*, 1896/10/04]

I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

[John 17:20-23]

To protect the precious gift of unity and harmony in a family, it is especially necessary to observe the law involving the tongue. ... How much disaster, strife, frustration, and vindictiveness are provoked by the tongue! Don't forget what St. James says. . . He compares it with a burning firebrand; he says animals can be tamed, but not the tongue.

[Father Jordan, *Jordan Talks*, 1897/01/22]

When we live our Salvatorian charism, we have something to offer our searching world. This is what the Holy Spirit unleashes within us. Life has meaning and the gospel message is at its heart. When our energies spring from the fountain of true life, our actions lead to unity not fragmentation. We believe that John 17:3 presents us with the golden key to a spirituality that responds to the needs of today.

[Sr. Carol Thresher, SDS, "Francis Jordan's Apostolic Vision a Light for Living in the New Millennium," *Salvatorian Key Elements*, Part 1, p. 28]

One of the most important issues that concerned our Reverend Father, Fr. Francis of the Cross Jordan, in relation to the Society of the Divine Savior founded by him was unity: Unity as a goal inherent in its founding, unity with him as Founder, unity with and amongst superiors, unity amongst confreres: unity at all costs! - thus proclaimed the Founder in his address on October 4, 1896, his nameday, among other things: "Unity! Unity! ... stand solidly together and prefer to be silent and humble than to disrupt unity." (Father Jordan, *Jordan Talks*, 1896/10/04)

[Fr. Gerard Rogowski, SDS, "Unity in Diversity," *Dialoguing with Fr. Jordan*, pp. 51]

Reflection Starters

- When there is a lack of unity, what can I do to help restore it? How have I built unity?
- How have I experienced "the tongue" in creating or destroying or creating unity?

For further reading and reflection:

1. Father Jordan, *Jordan Talks*, 1894/06/02.
2. Sr. Carol Thresher, SDS, "Francis Jordan's Apostolic Vision: A Light for Living in the New Millennium," *Salvatorian Key Elements*, Part 1, pp. 25-34.
3. Fr. Gerard Rogowski, SDS, "Unity in Diversity," *Dialoguing with Fr. Jordan*, pp. 49-52.