



ESCUCHAR
PARA
Comprender



RETREAT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2024

Lord, just as Mary knew how to accept the angel's announcement, allow me to know how to listen and accept what you want to say to me in prayer today. My desire is that the truth of your Gospel will permeate my way of seeing, thinking, and acting.

A Woman Educator



Jeanne de Lestonnac knows that to educate is to give one's life, to be a mother, to bring to life the new person that is within each of us. It is to engrave in the hearts of children and young people the values that are capable of transforming the world according to God's plan. Some of her students know that this great work requires advocates to extend it. Where the Community is, there is hope for the future.

**It's time to celebrate,
rejoice, and share...
May 15, 2024**

**75th Anniversary of the Canonization of
Jeanne de Lestonnac
By Pope Pius XII in 1949.**

The Company of Mary is celebrating...



On this date, in 1949, the Church publicly recognized the sanctity of Jeanne de Lestonnac. Her name was thus united with that of other men and women who are a light on the path for humanity. Today she lives on through each and every one of us. Her wish: "If only I had a thousand lives to go all over the world to make the love of Jesus present", is now a reality, as can be recognized by our service to the many different peoples in the world, in the far and widely extended hands.

Let us remember and pray:

- **The aspects of Jeanne de Lestonnac herself that at this point in my life are meaningful to me.**
- **The signs that, in my field of mission, make visible and confirm that Jeanne de Lestonnac is a prototype and model.**



Time in a life full of God and persons...

The page we have to write today is certainly complex. It requires discerning in our world the signs of hope that show that something new is being born. However, we must also discern those signs that point to situations in need of Salvation that today would move Jeanne de Lestonnac and make her understand that it was she who would have to extend a hand.

What concrete signs of your daily work make it visible to others that your vocation is a service that is lived in community?

We live in a world of news. Today, much more than ever before, we watch the news, read the newspapers, and many people follow the news through the Internet. The stories follow one another: politics, society, events, economy, culture.... There are those who say that the media takes delight only in bad news, perhaps because of the ability to capture attention through tragedies.

The truth is that we are thirsty for good news because human beings have an enormous capacity to desire, to dream, to aspire to what is good.

Jesus turns to us and commands us to proclaim the "Good News" (the Gospel) to all.

Put yourself in the presence of God and enter into silent prayer to contemplate the Good News of Jesus in the Gospel. These texts can help you: (or the texts you want to choose).

John 4:1-42; Luke 5:12-15; John 6:1-13; Matthew 9:27-31.

How can you apply to your daily life what these texts have given you?

What signs of your life, in your mission, make visible the way Jesus acts?



Mary is the mother who cares for life, the one who understands and encourages, the one who, from her closeness to God, knows what we need. Jeanne reaffirms that Mary is a model and example and she used to present her as **Protector, Model and Mother of the Company.**

Mary is the companion on our journey who encourages us, shows us how to face the difficult moments of our journey in faith, keeping pace with life and events as they unfold.

Mary, our model, is for us today a source of inspiration, a presence that embodies a concrete feminine way of making God present and of following Jesus in his mission to proclaim the

coming of the Kingdom of God.

What newness do you discover in Mary that is a source of inspiration for your life and educational mission?

Now let us look around us... Let us look in silence at the faces that we encounter... Let us ask for each of these people the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Write their names)

For Pope Francis, Pentecost is the time to pour out love on the world; And it is also the time for mercy. Love is what the world needs, and also, as the Pope has repeatedly insisted, mercy.

We need a lot of love and much mercy. The Pope insists on the idea of the Paraclete as a comforter in difficult moments such as the ones that are presently challenging us.



SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION

SONG: Hymn to St. Jeanne de Lestonnac, Woman of Faith.

To share with newness the gift that we have received through Jeanne de Lestonnac.

Song: Hymn to our Foundress

Together with Mary, we sing the Magnificat in thanksgiving for the journey we have made in these 75 years since the canonization of Jeanne de Lestonnac.