**LITURGY**

**240 Birth Anniversary of M. Maria Rafols**

**5th November 2021**

**INTRODUCTION LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

The Lord opens today our lips to praise Him with gratitude for the life of Mother Maria Rafols, who 240 years ago was born to life to be God’s blessing.

In this Year in which the Church celebrates the synodality, from communion, participation and mission and in which, likewise, we prepare ourselves to celebrate the XXX Extraordinary General Chapter, our Mother María Ràfols reminds us that, as Sisters of Charity, we are called to manifest the infinite love of God where we are, to be generators of Hospitality, solidarity and communion and to trace paths of growth and future.

**PETITION LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

Lord Jesus, you who gave your life up, and gave it to us in abundance, teach us, each Sister and each Layty of Saint Anne Family, how to give it gratuitously, serving “with the greatest care, with full detail, with all love”.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE EUCHARIST**

She was born a 5th November… Today, 240 years ago, Mother Maria Rafols was born to life. She was God’s gift to the world, Good News proclaimed to so many people who, through her, knew about God’s Love and Mercy.

She, blessed with the gift of Universal Charity through the practice of Hospitality, knew how to understand and forgive in the midst of unjust and violent situations; she served and surrendered herself for the little ones; she did not store up grievances and was a maker of peace; she fought for justice, for worthier conditions of life… All this in the heroism of war and in the heroism of every day.

Today, as every day, we thank God for the Life that she received and surrendered and we especially remember the Sisters and Laity of the Province of Mother Rafols.

May, in this Synodal Year and in preparation for our XXX Extraordinary General Chapter, God grant us to be, like her, open hope to a world in need of light...

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

* We pray for the Church in her just inaugurated sinodal path. May the Church live the “you did it to me” of the Lord Jesus, by contemplating God in the brethren and reaching to them with concrete gestures of love and compassion. LET US PRAY
* We pray for peace in the world. May, as Maria Rafols, men and women be always there willing to make it possible, committed with the development and welfare of the people. LET US PRAY
* We pray for those who suffer from any kind of wants, for those who continue living the consequences of the pandemic provoked by COVID19. May, through the intercession of Maria Rafols, they discover the Provident God who reveals Himself in those who accompany them in their pain and need. LET US PRAY
* We pray for each Sister of the Congregation and the Laity of Saint Anne Family, for those who belong to the Province of Mother Rafols. May in this stage of preparation to the XXX Extraordinary General Chapter, and always, we be reflection of the Love that God has towards every person. LET US PRAY
* We pray for the Sisters, Laity, benefactors and friends of the Congregation, who already enjoy God’s Presence and who kept and updated the inheritance of Mother Maria Rafols. LET US PRAY
* We pray for those who feel called to the Consecrated, Priestly and Missionary Life. May they answer with trust to God’s call and be, in this way, Good News in our world. LET US PRAY
* We pray for each one of us. May, together with Mother Maria Rafols, we love God with our whole heart and surrender ourselves day after day to our brethren “with the greatest care, with full detail, with all love”. LET US PRAY