

## **A Brief Description of the Community of Jesus Crucified and its Priest/Brother and Sister Servants**

We, the Community of Jesus Crucified, are lay, cleric, Priest/Brother and Sister Servant members of the Roman Catholic Church who bind ourselves together to freely consecrate our lives, and the joys and sufferings inherent in our state of life, for the service of a suffering and wounded humanity undergoing purification in time and in eternity, and for those persons on earth who do not yet choose to consciously strive to live a life of union with Jesus in grace.

Our joys and sufferings are offered in union with the sufferings and passion of the Crucified Christ to our Father for the sake of the wounds of His Body, the Church.

This charism of the wounded Christ which we strive to live is the “fleshing out” in our lay and religious lives the words of St. Paul (Col. 1:24), “In my own body, I make up for what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ for the sake of His Body, the Church.” Members participate in the dying dispositions of Jesus as He was dying crucified upon the cross.

The Community recognizes Mary, our Mother of Sorrows, as the model lay contemplative and chooses her as the first and perpetual superior of the Community of Jesus Crucified.

The praying heart of the Community of Jesus Crucified is its residential community, the Sisters and Priest and Brother Servants of Jesus Crucified. They participate in the dying dispositions of Jesus as hung dying on the Cross by their religious consecration. They are inserted into the lay community as the “praying heart” through their common and personal prayer and by prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. The Priest/Brother and Sister Servants are primarily involved in spiritual formation and ministry to the sick and dying. They also accept secondary apostolic activities when possible in the dioceses where they are located, preferably unmet needs.

The Priest/Brother and Sister Servants of Jesus Crucified are contemplative missionaries who strive for a contemplative union with Jesus Crucified through prayer and works. They live a common life, chant the Liturgy of the Hours in common, have daily adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and assume vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. In addition to their service to the lay members, the priests are much involved in preaching, and the religious are involved in teaching, ministry to the sick and dying, spiritual direction and directing retreats. They also assist local diocesan clergy with parish programs and the priests give assistance with Masses in local parishes. The priests of the Community of Jesus Crucified are presently incardinated in the Diocese of Lafayette.