

“Nine days before the Passover...”

Six days before the Passover...

...Jesus went to Bethany, the place of intimate encounters, friendship and family.

He was offered a banquet, a sign of the feast and fullness of the Kingdom.

Mary served and Lazarus was one of the guests;

He is with his friends and trusted friends, comfort and refuge in weariness.

Mary took a pound of pure nard, followed by the anointing, the recognition of Jesus as the Messiah sent from God as the Messiah sent by God and the bearer of universal salvation.

The house was filled with the scent of perfume.

The atmosphere became pleasant; the space was filled with a sense of well-being: the joy of the encounter was celebrated.

(Cf. Jn 12:1-3).

Nine days before the Passover...

... We, Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Rosary, also celebrate the joy of our encounter with the Founder, loving father and friend.

In this family atmosphere, we are enraptured by the smell of the Missionary

who, seduced by Jesus,

made the Kingdom come alive in the Peruvian jungle, making possible the banquet of dignified life and including in it the excluded and exploited and neglected people.

The smell of abiding in Jesus who called us and of fidelity in following him, the smell of joy for the charism and the spirituality

bequeathed by Ramón, fills our communities

in these days of preparation for his Passover.



We are on the verge of the great feast of the Centenary of our Founder's death.

, and as the popular saying goes:

"The feast is known by the vespers".

With this **liturgical input**, let us pray and praise for 9 days
the life of Ramón Zubietta,

Complemented Missionary, Fellow Founder and Accompanying Father.

PRESENTATION

The life of Msgr Ramón Zubieta has been a point of reference and a source of inspiration for many reflections, psalms, songs and retreats in our communities. However, from November 2020 to November 2021 this reflection has been more intense and special, contemplating him as a person who loved without limit, "to the extreme", as Jesus did. (Jn 13,1).

In the letter received in November 2020 from our sister Raquel, we were told that the celebration of the feast of the Founder this year would have a special meaning for all of us, for with it we were entering into the preparation for the great celebration of the centenary of his death. And she encouraged us in this affirmation made alive in each one of us and in our communities scattered throughout the world: "We, Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Rosary, 100 years after his departure, we follow in his footsteps, his intuition, his inspiration and we wish to be faithful to the legacy he left us".

From this invitation we have been accompanied throughout these months by reflections of several sisters on aspects of the Founder's life. The guidelines for reflection presented have helped us to come together as a Congregation with the same sentiments and the same thanksgiving. This process has become "an opportunity to revisit his spiritual legacy, with the hope that the memory of Ramón Zubieta will kindle the missionary fire in all the sisters to respond like him to the great challenges we face today" (Ongoing Formation Team, January 2021).

On the basis of this process of study and deepening in our communities from November 2020 to November 2021, this liturgical input aims to gather the fruits of these reflections and to set the liturgical mood for the great Jubilee celebration of Ramón Zubieta on 19 November. The proposal is, for 9 days, to prayerfully collect each of the themes discussed. In each of these 6 themes received from the general level, we will pray gratefully about the qualities, spirituality and options of Ramón Zubieta, which have become a legacy and a source of inspiration for us as Dominican Missionary Sisters.

These meditations can accompany our community liturgies, celebrating our Missionary companion, companion Founder and Father who accompanies. We can also share this brief moment of prayer with the people and the different groups with whom we walk together in mission.

Ramón Zubieta, since he was a child, yearned to take the Gospel to distant villages. Hence, Jesus called him to be a missionary of the Good News and to reach the most remote places where the excluded people needed words of encouragement, helping hands and prophetic voices.

Jesus continues to call us every day to burn with love for Him through our commitment to evangelise, humanising realities of inhumanity and unworthy life. The example of his servant, Msgr. Ramón Zubieta, continues to encourage us in this task. And today we celebrate him.

¡¡¡Missionary, Founder, Father!!!

May your words continue to encourage the vocation of dedication and service of every Dominican Missionary spread in a multicoloured and intercultural way in the different parts of the world!:

*"...Did you not feel my spirit at your side, it always accompanies you, always,
but there are moments when I ask our Lord to make you feel it*

as if I were present to encourage you and strengthen you. ...”.

(Letter to M. Paz Velazco and sisters in Tahuamanu, Arequipa, June 1918).

PRAYER TO THE FATHER FOUNDER FOR EVERY DAY

Centenary 2020-2021

Sr. Jacqueline Sothers. Dominican Missionary.
(Each day will culminate with this prayer)

Lord Jesus, Missionary of the Father
you called Fray Ramón Zubieta to be your missionary disciple
and he responded joyfully and enthusiastically to your call.
You kindled in him passion for the Kingdom,
and you instilled your Spirit in his tender and compassionate heart.
You made fruitful his life as a prophet, shepherd and Amazonian brother.
The Good News he announced
was transformed into opportunity and dignity for the impoverished.

Thank you Lord for our Father Founder.
He preached your liberating love in the sacred land of the Amazon.
He made the cries of the natives his own.
Embracing your cross, he renewed his hope for a new humanity.
He believed in the transformative potential of women.
He wove networks of fraternity and built bridges of closeness.
The small seed of missionary women he sowed in the jungle,
germinated into communities of Dominican Missionaries
scattered throughout the world and committed to the cause of the Gospel.

Intercede Father, for your family of missionaries.
Help us to be faithful to your evangelising dream.
Make us courageous and available pilgrims,
journeying in hope together with our people. Amen.



Nine days before the Passover...

Day 1: Ramón Zubieta and his ability to build deep, reciprocal relationships

“Dearest daughter Sister Ascensión: I received your letter and I bless you a thousand times for the decision you show for me; I am very pleased to know that I am not alone and that there is a great soul who understands me; who understands the difficulties and works that God sends us and who gives me encouragement to suffer and accompanies me in my sufferings”.

(Letter to M. Ascensión, Lima, February 1914).

Ramón Zubieta:

It was God's plan for you to meet Ascension Nicol so that, together, you could collaborate in the mission of extending the Kingdom. They did not know each other, but throughout the process, Ascension identified more and more with the missionary ideal that you presented to her, and the personal exchange between the two of you became closer and more profound.

The reciprocal relationship that you established between you empowered you in such a way that it culminated in a project of great transcendence, which went far beyond each of you: the foundation of the Congregation. You both knew that what was definitive in this relationship was that it was grounded in God, and from God came the love and loyalty of this friendship, lived not by looking at each other, but by looking together in the same direction, towards the full realisation of the Kingdom of God. This relationship is the seed of the universal missionary dimension of the Congregation.

Therefore: We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.

All: We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.

From the góspel of John (15,15):

“I no longer call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing. I call you friends because I have made known to you all that I heard from my Father”.

Brief moment of silence.

Petition of the day: Today we pray for sisterly relationships in our communities.

Let us pray:

We ask you Lord, through the intercession of Fr. Ramón Zubieta, to give us the grace to continue to strive to weave sisterly relationships in our communities. May the study and reflection prior to the General Chapter 2022, which encourages us to congregational interculturality, strengthen us in sincere, deep and reciprocal relationships, following the example of our Founder and Blessed Ascension Nicol. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing antiphon: (May be replaced by another).

You did not choose me, it was I who chose you, / You are my friends, you will be my witnesses you will live in me. (2).

Founder's centenary prayer (the one at the beginning).

Eight days before the passover...

Day 2: Ramón Zubieta and teamwork

“You are well established here and in the Missions, I care nothing for my life. In receiving your letter today, I consider everything I have suffered up to now as well spent...”

(Letter to M. Ascensión. Lima. February 1915).

Ramón Zubieta:

From the beginning you pushed for the organisation of the missions in an accompanied way. Fr. Wenceslaus has already told us about the tenderness with which you embraced the arrival of three new Dominican brothers in 1912, who increased the community and joined the mission. Rather than seeing them as a shadow, for you it was a very pleasant surprise for your big heart, which lit up your face and turned your eyes into pearls, as Father Wenceslaus tells us.

Moreover, you felt it was essential to have nuns who would be directly in charge of the work with the women, an aspect of the mission that you felt you could not reach. You boldly knocked on the door of the convent of Santa Rosa. Once in Peru with the missionaries, you were always disdainful of their attention and, once established in Maldonado, you were satisfied, because you knew the missions were in good hands.

Therefore: *We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.*

All: *We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.*

From Paul's first letter to the Corinthians:

“Just as the body, being one, has many parts, and the parts, being many, form one body, so also Christ. You are the body of Christ, and each of you in particular, members of that body.” (1Cor 12:12, 27).

Brief moment of silence.

Petition of the day: Today we pray for our shared missions with lay women and men.

Let us pray:

We ask you Lord, through the intercession of Fr. Ramón Zubieta, to give us the grace to continue to commit ourselves to shared missionary work. Increase in us at congregational level the openness to work together at local, provincial, interprovincial and intercontinental levels. May the lay men and women with whom we share our spirituality and charism feel welcome and trust in their abilities in the different spaces in which we team up with them. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing antiphon: *(May be replaced by another).*

A man is only one and life is hard, two together walk better.

A man without friends is without support and it takes two to sustain him.

Founder's centenary prayer (the one at the beginning)

Seven days before the Passover...

Day 3: Razón Zubieta and his missionary creativity

“Three things I believe to be indispensable for the purpose: 1. To fix the road from Paucartambo to Ccosñipata... 2. To place on this route four tambos with two labourers, who will take care of the upkeep of the road. 3. To place a telephone line on the Asunción farm to the town of Paucartambo...”

(Report presented to the president of the Geographical Society. Lima. October 1902).

Ramón Zubieta:

As a good Dominican, you replicated the gesture of Father Preacher, refusing to "study on dead skins" and launching yourself into the missions in America, allowing yourself to be touched by the reality of marginalisation in which the native people of the Vicariate lived and by the minimisation and violence against women.

It is from here that, as a faithful missionary, you understood that for evangelisation to be coherent with the gospel, it needs to be integral. In a creative way, you threw yourself into other aspects of life, bringing to light your gifts as a geographer and writer. From your openness and enterprising spirit, you set out to explore the territories of the Apostolic Vicariate of Urubamba and Madre de Dios to get to know them better, as well as to get to know their inhabitants. You learnt the language of the indigenous communities, modernised telephone lines and roads, founded numerous missions and opened boarding schools, because for you there was no mission without a school.

Therefore: *We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.*

All: *We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.*

From the góspel of Mark (6, 38-42)

[Jesus] *“He ordered them to sit down in groups on the green grass. He took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to serve; and he distributed the fish among them all. They all ate and were satisfied. They gathered up the leftovers of the loaves and fish and filled 12 baskets. Those who ate the loaves were five thousand men”.*

Brief moment of silence.

Petition: Today we pray for vocations and for young women in initial formation..

Let us pray:

We ask you Lord, through the intercession of Fr. Ramón Zubieta, to give us the grace to continue to encourage young vocations in missionary zeal in these times of crisis that humanity is experiencing today. That, open to the gifts and creativity of the new generations, we may continue to revise and rediscover new lights to push the projects of life and mission according to the charismatic identity and the reality of the peoples. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing antiphon: *(May be replaced by another).*

We want to build a city, a city in peace / We want to achieve freedom, the fruit of truth.

Founder's centenary prayer (the one at the beginning)

Six days Before the Passover...

Day 4: Ramón Zubieta and his option for impoverished people

"The missions with their respective schools can be the best base and beginning of the villages in these regions... There the scattered savages are gathering together, those who would never have come together without the support of the missionary and the school founded and supported by him". The savages know very well that the missionary will not be their patron or their master, but their loving father, who will protect them against all the abuses to which they are subjected in many places, where there is no authority and no law other than that of brutal force...".

(Report to the Supreme Government. January 1910).

Ramón Zubieta:

From the moment you arrived in the jungle, you were very clear about one thing: your option for impoverished people. You were outraged by the colonisers' treatment of the natives, who, driven by their economic interests, kept them in a situation of slavery and objectification. From this preferential commitment, like Jesus, you fought to improve the living conditions of these populations.

A very striking aspect of your option for excluded people was the quality of your relationship with them. You had an attitude of friendship, love and respect for their dignity. Thus you brought to life in your gestures and words what Pope Francis invites us today to cultivate in his encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*: a social and universal friendship.

Therefore: *We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.*

All: *We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.*

From the góspel of Luke (4, 18-19)

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord".

Brief moment of silence.

Petition of the day: For the openness of our communities and the welcoming of impoverished people.

Let us pray:

We ask you, Lord, through the intercession of Fr Ramón Zubieta, to give us the grace to continue to support the dignified life of impoverished people and to seek friendship with them. May we continue to make a reality what we have reflected on, wished for and written about: welcoming communities with open doors. Keep in us the spirit of conversion of our Father Founder, to see simple people as friends with whom we share life, and not only as beneficiaries of our works and projects. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing antiphon: *(May be replaced by another).*

A new day will come to us, a new heaven, a new earth, a new sea.

And on that day the oppressed in one voice will proclaim freedom.

Founder's centenary prayer (the one at the beginning)

Five days before the passover...

Day 5: Ramón Zubieta and the humanising evangelisation of a new ecclesiality

"It would be a mistake if the work of spreading the faith in our mountains were purely religious", "First the villages have to be formed, then the people and ultimately the Christians, this is our present occupation".

Ramón Zubieta:

At the beginning of your missionary life, your main concern was the "salvation of souls". You understood that this meant conversion and the administration of the sacraments. However, this initial evangelising vision gradually changed as you contemplated reality. That is why in your new mission in Peru you opened up to new realities, moving with the signs of the times.

Your change of vision regarding evangelisation led you to propose an integral work, understanding that the gospel that does not penetrate to the depths of human beings remains a contradiction between faith and life. And therefore, preaching the Good News of Jesus involves humanising the conditions of people's lives and promoting their dignity. From there, you promoted and encouraged a church as the people of God, a sign of prophecy and a living presence of the Kingdom.

Therefore: *We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.*

All: *We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.*

From the góspel of Matthew (10, 5.7-8)

"Jesus sent these twelve out with the following instructions: On your way proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely you must give".

Brief moment of silence.

Petition of the day: We pray for our different areas of mission within society and the church.

Let us pray:

We ask you Lord, through the intercession of Fr Ramón Zubieta, to give us the grace to continue to develop a new way of being Church and a different way of being in the Church from the different areas of mission. From the incarnation in this new Samaritan ecclesiality, de-clericalised and going out to the peripheries, may the experience of our charism be directed towards an ever more humanising evangelisation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing antiphon: *(May be replaced by another).*

We will proclaim Your Kingdom Lord. Your Kingdom Lord, Your Kingdom (2).

Founder's centenary prayer (the one at the beginning)

Four days before the passover...

Day 6: Ramón Zubieta in defence of justice

“It is not only nature that is exploited here, but also the people and children of the region, who are squeezed and squeezed to the last drop. Nothing is done for them intellectually or morally. They are not provided with any means of education. The heart is oppressed and the soul is saddened when we look at these unfortunate people...”

(Letter of P. Pío Aza. 1912).

Ramón Zubieta:

You took up the mission at a very difficult time in the history of humanity, marked by widespread colonisation and the corruption of governments, bent on the pursuit of profit, the exploitation of the wealth of peoples' lands and enrichment at their expense. All this was to the detriment of the weakest and most defenceless people, who did not count for society and could not claim their rights. It was a sad situation that cried out for a response and action.

Touched by the suffering and the cries of the people, you indignantly confronted this inhumanising and dehumanising reality. From your prophetic dimension, you took on the task, without fear or trembling at the consequences it would bring. After getting to know the problems in depth, you documented all the facts, wrote to local and national governments, denouncing the atrocities found in the jungle tribes. In addition, you proposed solutions.

Therefore: *We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.*

All: *We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.*

From the gospel of Luke (11,42)

“Woe to you Pharisees, who pay the tax on mint and rue and all kinds of vegetables and neglect justice and the love of God!”

Brief moment of silence.

Petition of the day:

The prophetic sense of our being and doing in the world, in spite of the consequences.

Let us pray:

We ask you Lord, through the intercession of Fr Ramón Zubieta, to give us the grace to continue to cultivate our prophetic dimension inherited from baptism. From the attitudes, spirituality and practice of our Founder, may we be moved to continue manifesting our option for the impoverished and the defence of justice. Encourage us, Lord, to assume prophetism with radicalism in the new dehumanising and excluding contexts, aggravated by the pandemic of Covid-19. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing antiphon: (May be replaced by another).

Seek first the Kingdom of God and His perfect righteousness.

All things He will add to you: Hallelujah!

Founder's centenary prayer (the one at the beginning).

Three days before the passover...

Day 7: Ramón Zubieta and his commitment to women

“80% of the educated girls, it can be said, would form as many truly civilised families... The girl who has been educated... will be the trunk of a stable family faithful to the teachings received and the firm foundation of a population... the foundation of schools for nuns, which will soon be a reality, is one of the most beautiful hopes for the Vicariate....”.
(Memorial to the Director General of Justice, Worship and Welfare August 1915).

Ramón Zubieta:

When you went into the jungle and began to see the different realities to which the missions had to respond, you undoubtedly prioritised the face of the woman. You were outraged to see how they were the most exploited among the exploited, because of the lack of opportunities to speak out and to educate themselves.

You rediscovered with missionary clarity the need for their empowerment and protagonism in the processes of social transformation. Your capacity for teamwork, your options, attitudes and practices were placed at the service of them as agents of change and transformation of families and society.

Therefore: *We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.*

All: *We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.*

From the góspel of Luke (8, 1-3)

“Then he went through towns and villages proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom of God. He was accompanied by the twelve and some women whom he had healed of unclean spirits and sicknesses: Mary Magdalene... Joanna... Susanna and many others, who ministered to them with their goods”.

Brief moment of silence.

Petition of the day: Today we pray for us as consecrated women and for girls, adolescents, young women, adults, elderly women, who find themselves in situations of vulnerability and violence.

Let us pray:

We ask you Lord, through the intercession of Fr. Ramón Zubieta, to give us the grace to continue to value ourselves as women on a personal level and among each other, without distinction. That, from the empowerment that our Father Founder gave both to the sisters and to the women of the jungle, may we continue to be committed to the transformation of the situation of women today. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing antiphon: *(May be replaced by another).*

*Blessed is the woman who knows how to be faithful to the task of establishing justice and peace.
Blessed is the woman who makes an option for the cause of God by the law of love..*

Founder's centenary prayer (the one at the beginning)

Two days before the passover...

Day 8: Ramón Zubieta in the defence of all life (care of the common home).

“This place, located 7 leagues from Paucartambo, is a mountain whose summit overlooks an endless plain, covered with gigantic trees and bushes of all kinds, through which the great Madre de Dios River majestically crosses, as if it were a beautiful silver serpent, sleeping on a bed of emerald...”

(Expedition to Ccosñipata, June 1902).

Ramón Zubieta:

Being in the jungle and knowing the reality of general exploitation (of flora, fauna and, above all, of people), you felt challenged to fight for the defence of life in all its forms. You were aware that, behind all the deterioration, both the ambitious rubber tappers and the mercantilist governments were behind it all.

Contrary to this mistreatment, you lived with sensitivity and awareness of what today we call the integral care of the common home. You showed your Dominican ability to contemplate God in the immensity of the jungle nature and you tried to promote and care for life. We are moved by your stories in which you describe in a poetic way the beauties you observed, and we are moved by your anecdotes in which, from everyday things, you show your respect for life.

Therefore: *We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.*

All: *We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.*

From the gospel of Luke (12, 24.27)

“Look at the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have no barns nor storehouses, and God feeds them. How much more valuable are you than birds! See how the lilies of the field grow without toil or spinning. I assure you that not even Solomon, in the splendour of his glory, was clothed like one of them. For if God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more you, O men of little faith!”

Brief moment of silence.

Petition of the day: We pray on this day for ourselves and for the institutions and people committed to the defence of our planet.

Let us pray:

We ask you, Lord, through the intercession of Fr Ramón Zubieta, to give us the grace to continue to feel called to commit ourselves daily, locally and globally to the care of our Common Home. In line with Laudato Si, may we continue, together with the institutions, to take up the challenges presented to us by this globalised, segregated and computerised society. Make us women contemplatives of the wonders of creation and promoters of ecological spirituality, of the care and defence of life in all its forms. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing antiphon: *(May be replaced by another).*

*Great is your name Lord,
its majesty fills the earth...*

Founder's centenary prayer (the one at the beginning)

One day before the passover...

The alarm clock sounds.

Thanking God for one more day of life, I get out of bed, get ready and go to have some coffee, freshly made by the sister who will surprise us today in the kitchen service.

Then I go to the chapel.

The person in charge of the liturgy has decorated the place in a very beautiful way, placing with decorum and fine aesthetics the picture of the Founder on one of the mats that we put out for feast days. Flowers, a candle, sandals, a handbag, a newspaper and a bible accompany the picture. The atmosphere already immerses me in grateful joy for the significant company of Ramón Zubieta in the life and mission of the Congregation. I shudder to experience him present in my life, especially in some crucial moments of these years as a consecrated woman.

I am preparing to enter into this community thanksgiving.

The hymn, the psalms, the biblical text and the reading of a fragment of Ramon's odysseys in the jungle of Peru, reaffirm me in this option to collaborate from the sororal community in the construction of the Kingdom of God, through fidelity to the charism in the service of the most impoverished people..

All of us, with one voice, pray the prayer that has accompanied us during this year of preparation for the centenary of Zubieta's birth.

The vibration of our voices goes out through the windows of the enclosure and rises, interweaving with the vibrations of the prayers of other Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Rosary scattered throughout the world. Although the murmurs are whispered in different languages, they are not confused, but are perfectly understandable from the Spirit, weaving a multicoloured, pluri and intercultural, intergenerational and intercontinental carpet.

Together we praise the closeness of Ramón Zubieta, whom, from the beginning of my postulancy, I came to know as a "loving and caring father". Some proclaim thanksgivings and others ask for his sure intercession for the common project we are carrying out as a community. I join in these prayers and present a special intention: the next General Chapter to which we are convoked and in the spirit of which we have entered with the pre-Chapter work we did and sent a few weeks ago.

We finish the lauds, and with the confidence of his protection and the conviction of his mediation before God for this family of Dominican Missionary Sisters to which I belong, and in which I remain through the grace of Jesus who called me.

We conclud by exchanging smiles and hugs, saying to one another: Happy Founder's Day!

We go curiously and excitedly to the dining room, for last night the sound of a fork in a bowl, mixing flour, eggs, butter and spices, with the subsequent delicious smell that almost stole our sleep, reached our rooms from the kitchen.

Today is feast!

The day of passover...

Day 9: Ramón Zubieta: accompanied, companion and accompanist

"I will not send any missionary to unknown or dangerous places; in any case, I will either accompany them or precede them. I will not permit them to go without safe guides, provisions and medicines for themselves and their companions".

(Written on his first contact with the jungle. May 1902).

Ramón Zubieta: Today we celebrate you as:

- a. **Missionary accompanied** by other brothers to enter the jungle at the beginning of the 20th century. So much in need of accompaniment for such an undertaking, you went to Spain in search of Dominican Sisters, because you knew you needed other people to respond to realities in which you felt your work would be more effective. In your missionary work, you were always accompanied by other people, trusting in their abilities and counting on their valuable contributions.
- b. **Fellow Founder**, brother among brothers, close friend of the sisters, confidant of Ascension Nicol, collaborator in the mission. You did not boast of your gifts to feel above the rest of the group, but you lived what today at church level we call synodality, working together, valuing and counting on the diversity of contributions of the men and women missionaries and the rest of the group that accompanied the expeditions and collaborated in the missions.
- c. **Accompanying Father**, concerned and always attentive to the needs of the sisters, father, conscientious and protective. You felt responsible for the work you had begun and, knowing that you were ill, limited and close to death, you promised the constant presence of your spirit in each missionary, in each community and in the whole Congregation.

Therefore: *We bless you and celebrate your Passover with joy.*

All: *We bless you and we celebrate your Passover with joy.*

From the gospel of Mark (6,30-32):

"The apostles met with Jesus and told him everything they had done and what they had taught. Then he said to them, "Come, let us go to a lonely place and rest a while. For there were many people coming and going, and they had no time even to eat".

Brief moment of silence.

Petition of the day: We pray this day for the whole Congregation extended throughout the world.

Let us pray:

We ask you Lord, through the intercession of Fr Ramón Zubieta, to give all the Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Rosary the grace to be companions to one another and to allow ourselves to be accompanied by the sisters and by the people with whom we journey. Make us women of accompaniment, with a capacity for empathy, listening and mercy. May the presence of our Founder encourage, animate and inspire us in this process of transformation which we are entering and which we want to concretise in the next General Chapter in order to respond faithfully to the new demands of our world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sing the antiphon:

*¡On Ward sisters! ¡Missionaries! This is what God ask of us:
Let us help build God´s kingdom by our daily acts of love (2).*

WE CONCLUDE WITH A FINAL PRAYER TO THE FATHER FOUNDER

Sr. Jacqueline Sothers. Misionera Dominica.

Free and driven by the wind of the Spirit
you fly missionary where your heart leads you,
like God's kite
soaring through the skies of the world,
sustained by your faith in Jesus and his
Kingdom.

You fly Ramón Zubieta,
messenger of hope,
from Spain to the Philippines
and from there to the Peruvian jungle.
And in your luminous step you are pouring out
kindness,
love without measure and dignity to the
natives.

Comet, you dreamt of a new world
where education is a right,

where women have a voice,
where the natives are free,
where everyone has bread;
you worked to make this utopia
to become a reality.

Today your multicoloured comet continues to
fly
through the skies of Africa, Asia, America and
Europe,
bringing Good News, crossing borders,
sharing the joy of the gospel.

Father, strengthen our pilgrimage;
may we follow in your footsteps, sowing
fraternity.

May we be missionaries of hope,
of tenderness and dignity.
Amen.



*“We can affirm that the most tender and affectionate father could not do more for his beloved son (...).
If he had the heart of a lion for great enterprises, he had the heart of a mother for his missionaries. (...).”
(Annotations by Fr. Wenceslao Julio 1912).*