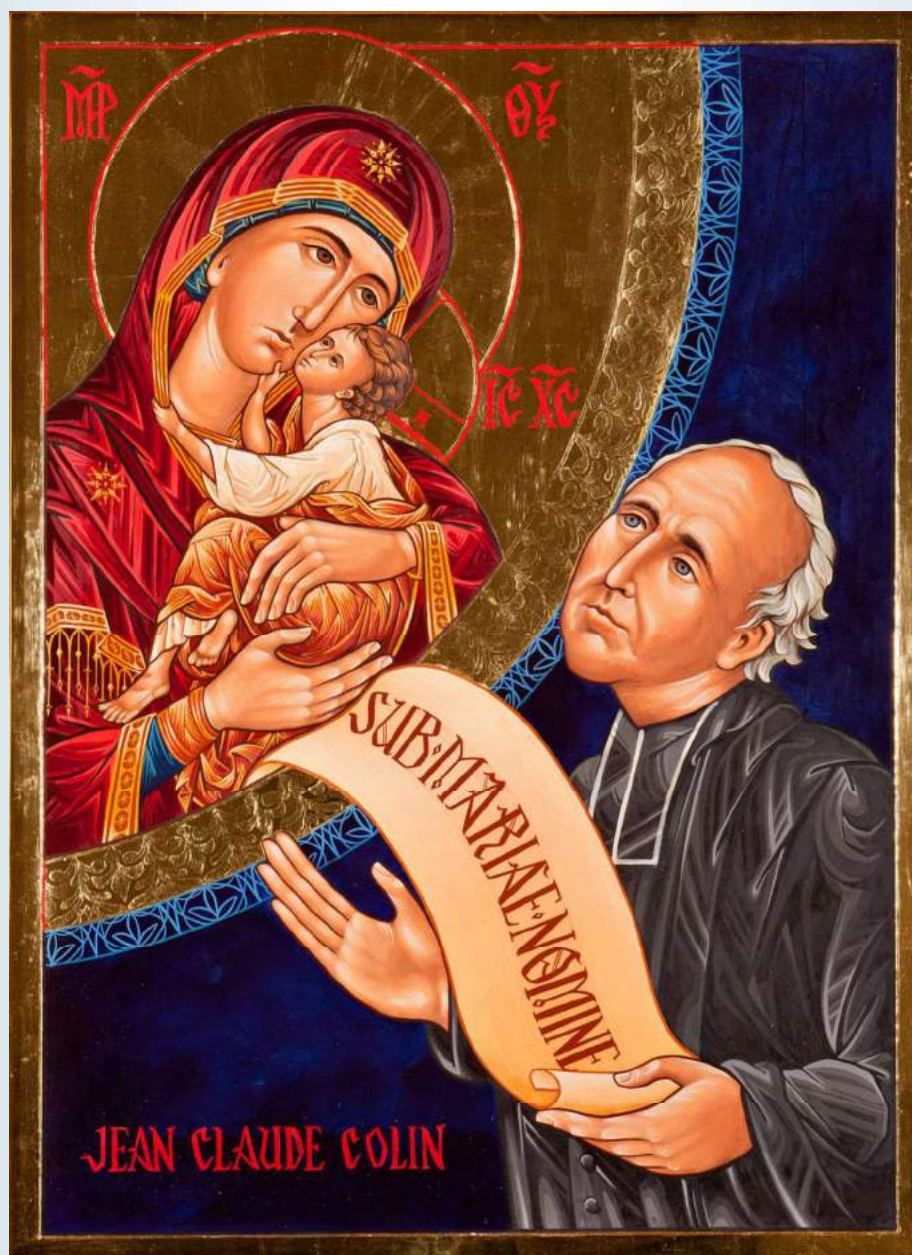




**Bulletin Issue No. 3 December 2019**



**TASTING GOD**

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## EDITORIAL

At the beginning of the novitiate journey, we were worried and concerned about how we would begin the journey well. Now that we are now towards the end of our journey, we ask a similar question: how do we finish the journey well?

During last few weeks, we experienced many strong earthquakes, nearly every day. It shook not only the building, but also every member of the community. In one way or another, sometimes in our novitiate journey, we experience being shaken. That experience of being shaken will become stronger once we are aware that we are about to finish the novitiate formation journey. The usual tendency and danger are to slowly give up, lose interest, slow down; and to just sit down, relax, count the remaining days, and start packing. To be honest, this can be a big challenge to both formators and novices.

Both self-evaluations and group evaluations are finished; applications for the first profession have been made; and planning for the profession liturgy has already begun. These are valid reasons to slow down, be lax, and relax; this is one way of looking at the journey.

There is another way of looking at the journey, even while aware that the journey is about to end – this is the calling and invitation to finish the novitiate journey well. The words of St. Paul will be a big help and encouragement to finish the journey well: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

What St. Paul is conveying is that we must stand firm and endure to the end. Remember, though, that standing firm is more than just standing still – if we don’t get that



idea, we’ve missed the point. We must move forward; we must persevere. We must be like Paul and say, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” St. Paul is actually giving us a model to finish this long journey well, to keep going in spite of the hardships and obstacles. It is not just a matter of simply keeping going, but rather a matter of sustaining and maintaining the form, remaining consistent, keeping the discipline, and staying focused.

As you and I run continue the race set before us yesterday, today, and tomorrow, take time to reflect on your own journey. Remember Paul’s words to Timothy, and realize that with the Lord, you too can fight the fight, run the race, continue the journey, and keep the faith. Keep going; with the Lord, we can run well and finish strong! May you and I be like the apostle Paul as we come to the end of our journey.

**Fr. Fernando INGENTE, SM**

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