

ADVENT EVENING OF PRAYER

December 9, 2020





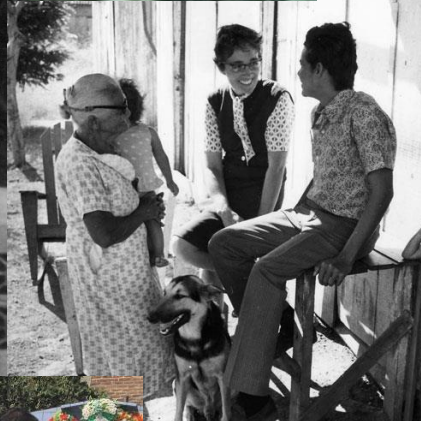


EVENING OF PRAYER

In honor of the 40th Anniversary
of the Martyrdom
of the four Churchwomen
of El Salvador







Melinda Roper,
Maryknoll President (1980)



“I hope that you come to find that which gives life a deep meaning for you. Something worth living for – maybe even worth dying for, something that energizes you, enthuses you, enables you to keep moving ahead.”

Ita Ford, MM

RESPONSE: These women sacrificed everything for the sake of God’s people.

“I don't know what tomorrow will bring. I am at peace here and searching — trying to learn what the Lord is asking.”

Maura Clarke, MM

RESPONSE: These women sacrificed everything for the sake of God's people.



“The steadfast faith and courage our leaders have to continue preaching the Word of the Lord, even though it may mean laying down your life in the very REAL sense, is always a point of admiration and a vivid realization that JESUS is HERE with us.”

Dorothy Kazel, OSU

RESPONSE: These women sacrificed everything for the sake of God’s people.





“Several times I have decided to leave El Salvador. I almost could except for the children, and poor bruised victims of this insanity. Who would care for them? Whose heart would be so staunch as to favor the reasonable thing in a sea of their tears and helplessness? Not mine, dear friend, not mine.”

Jean Donovan

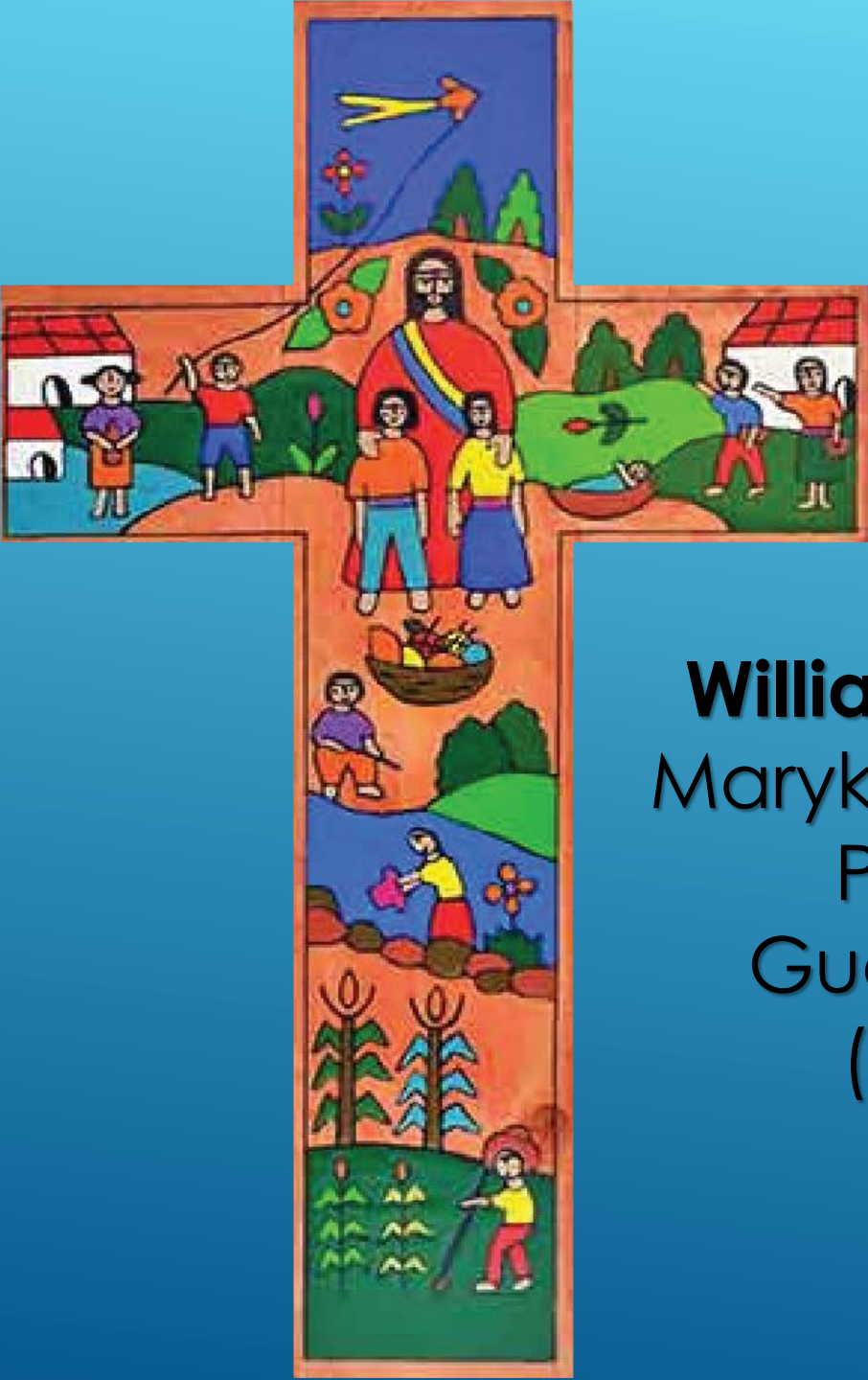
RESPONSE: These women sacrificed everything for the sake of God’s people.



The Churchwomen of El Salvador
join the company of countless
martyrs of Central America
who sacrificed their lives
for their sisters and brothers.
Those here mentioned represent
each and every one.
To each name, we respond:

¡PRESENTE!

¡PRESENTE!



William Woods
Maryknoll Father
Petén,
Guatemala
(1976)



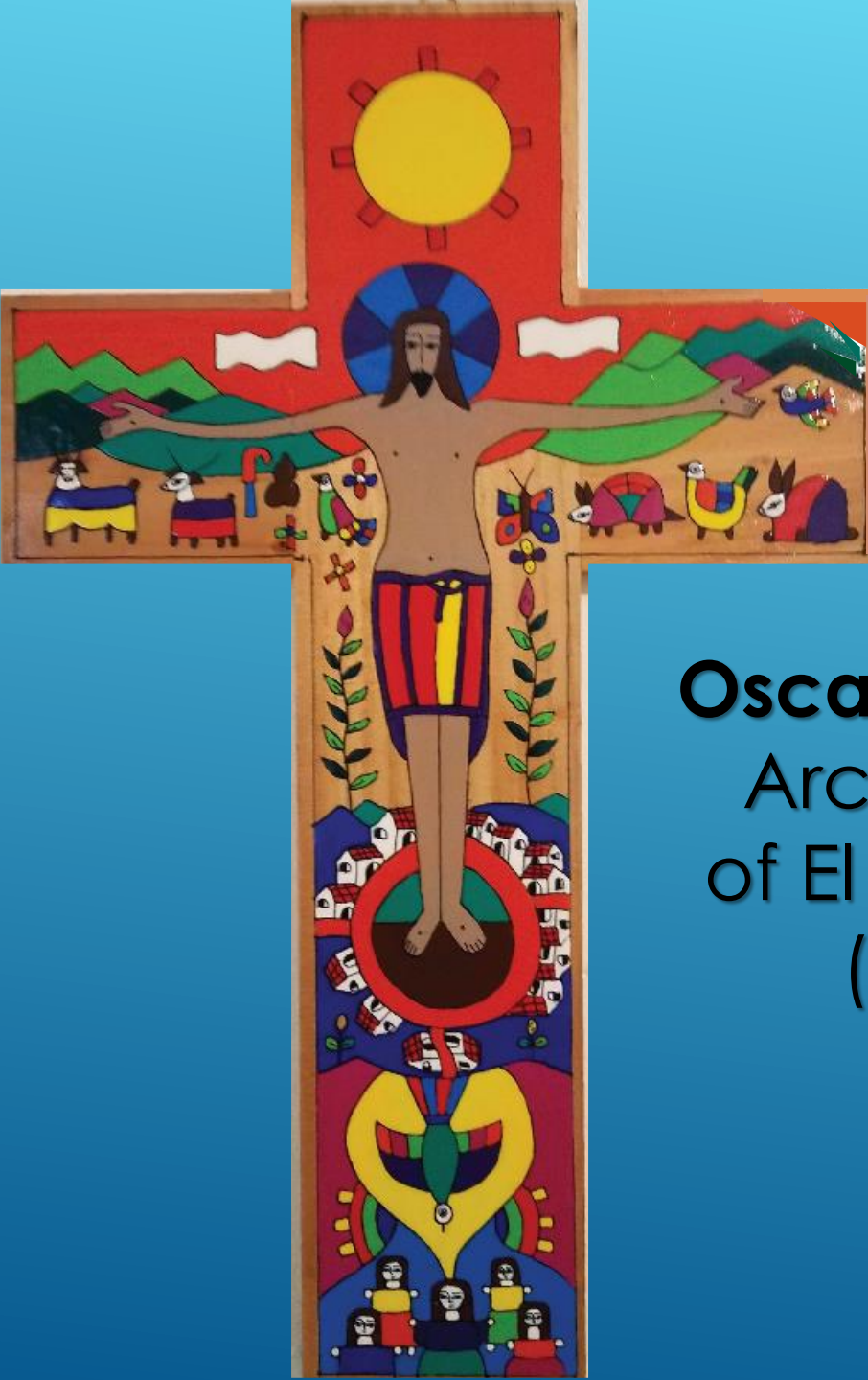
¡PRESENTE!



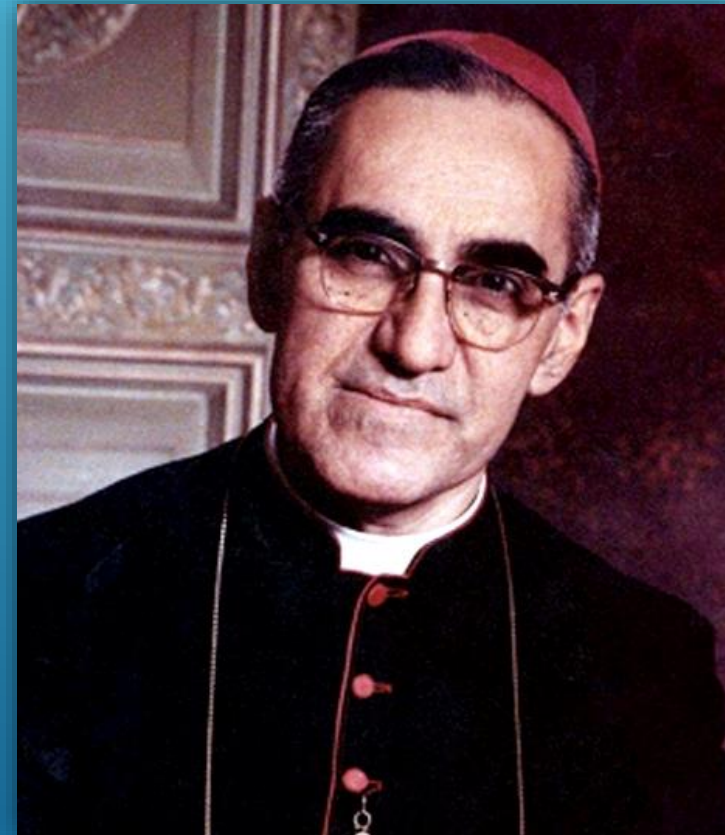
Carla Piette
Maryknoll Sister
El Salvador (1980)



¡PRESENTE!



Oscar Romero
Archbishop
of El Salvador
(1980)



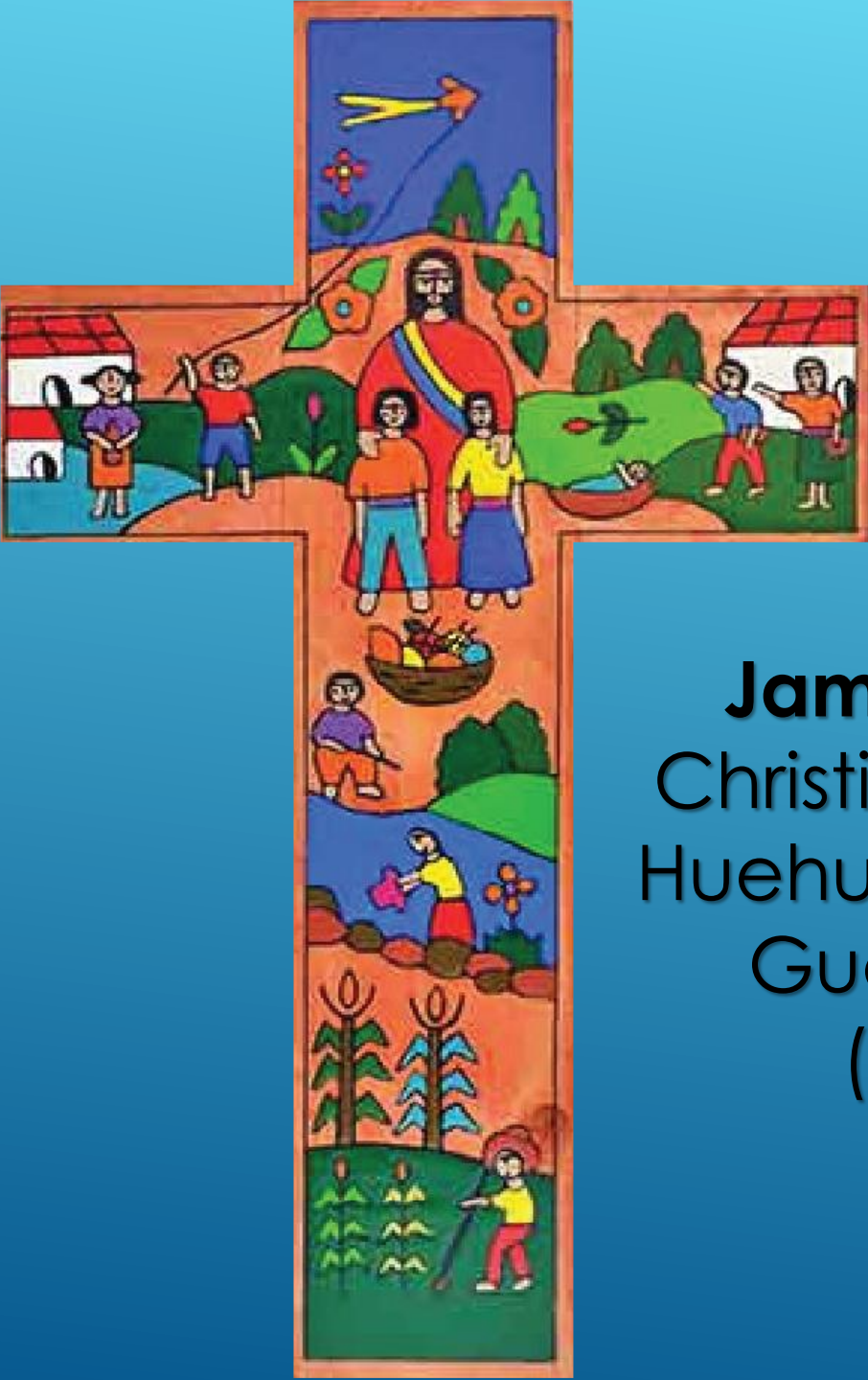
¡PRESENTE!



Stanley Rother
Parish Priest
Santiago, Atitlán
Guatemala
1981



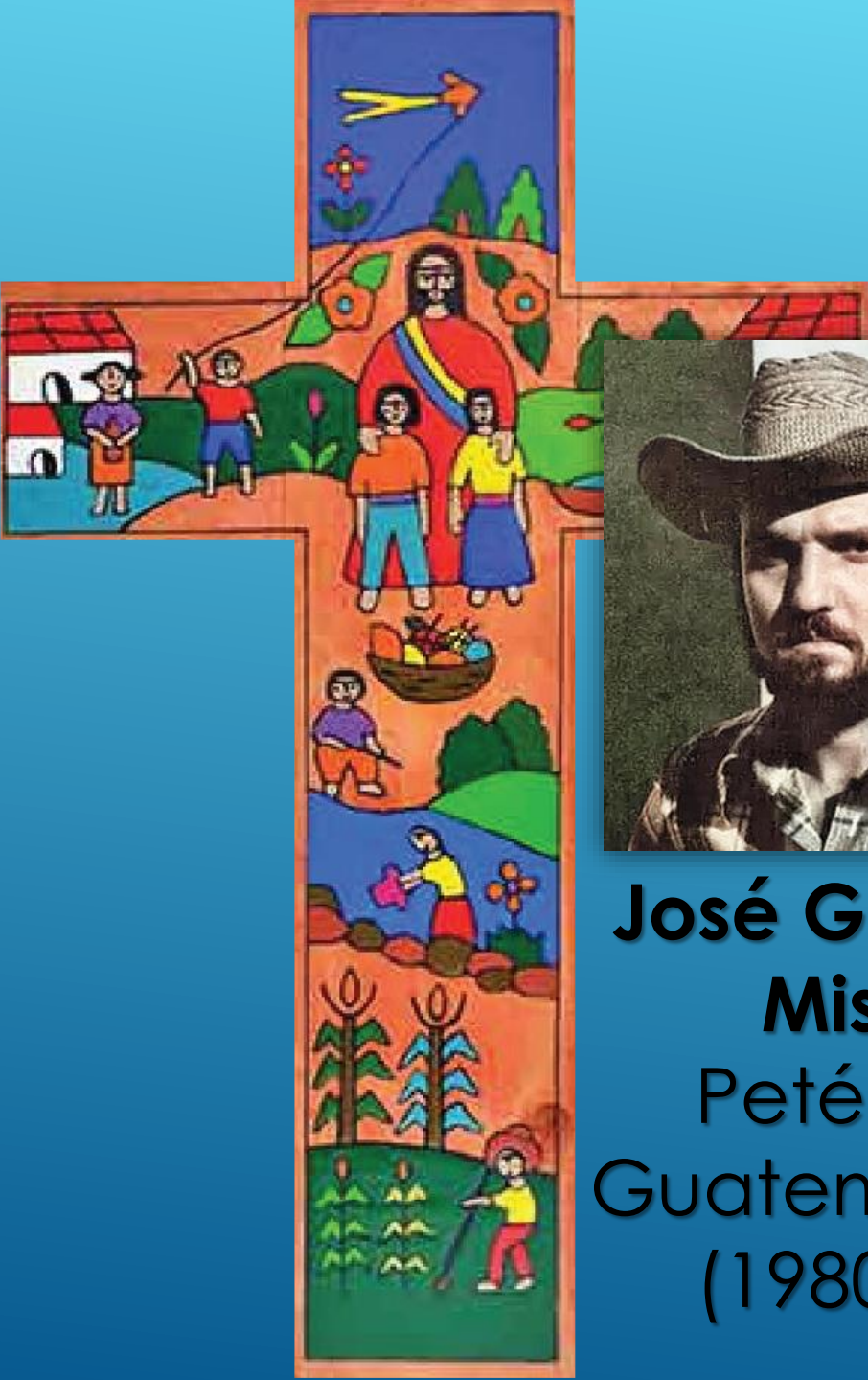
¡PRESENTE!



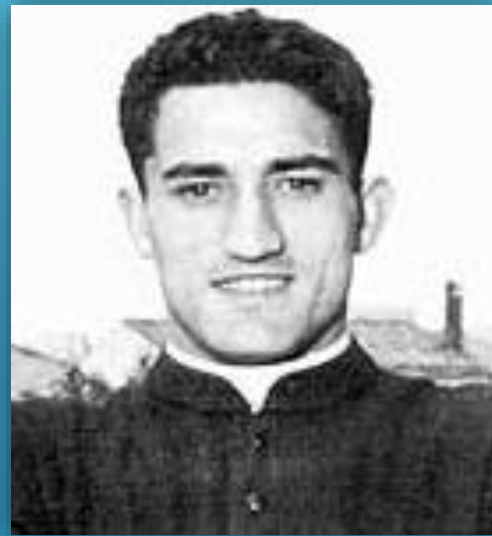
James Miller
Christian Brother
Huehuetenango,
Guatemala
(1982)



¡PRESENTE!



José Gran
Missioners of the Sacred Heart (MSC)
Petén
Guatemala
(1980)



Juan Alonso
Missioners of the Sacred Heart (MSC)
Uspantán
Guatemala
(1981)



Faustino Villanueva
Missioners of the Sacred Heart (MSC)
Joyabáj
Guatemala
(1980)

¡PRESENTE!



Elba Ramos Cecilia Ramos

Mother and Daughter, employed by Jesuit Fathers
University of Central America, San Salvador
(1989)



¡PRESENTE!

Joaquín López

Ignacio Ellacuría

Amando López



Ignacio Martín-Baró

Segundo Montes

Juan Ramón Moreno

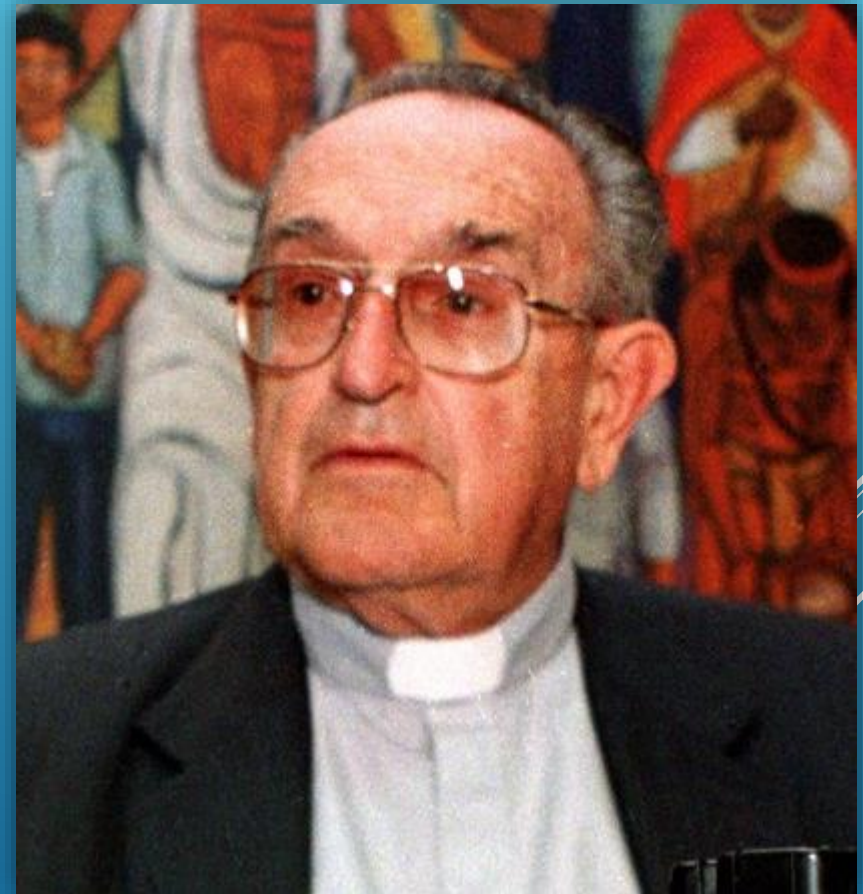


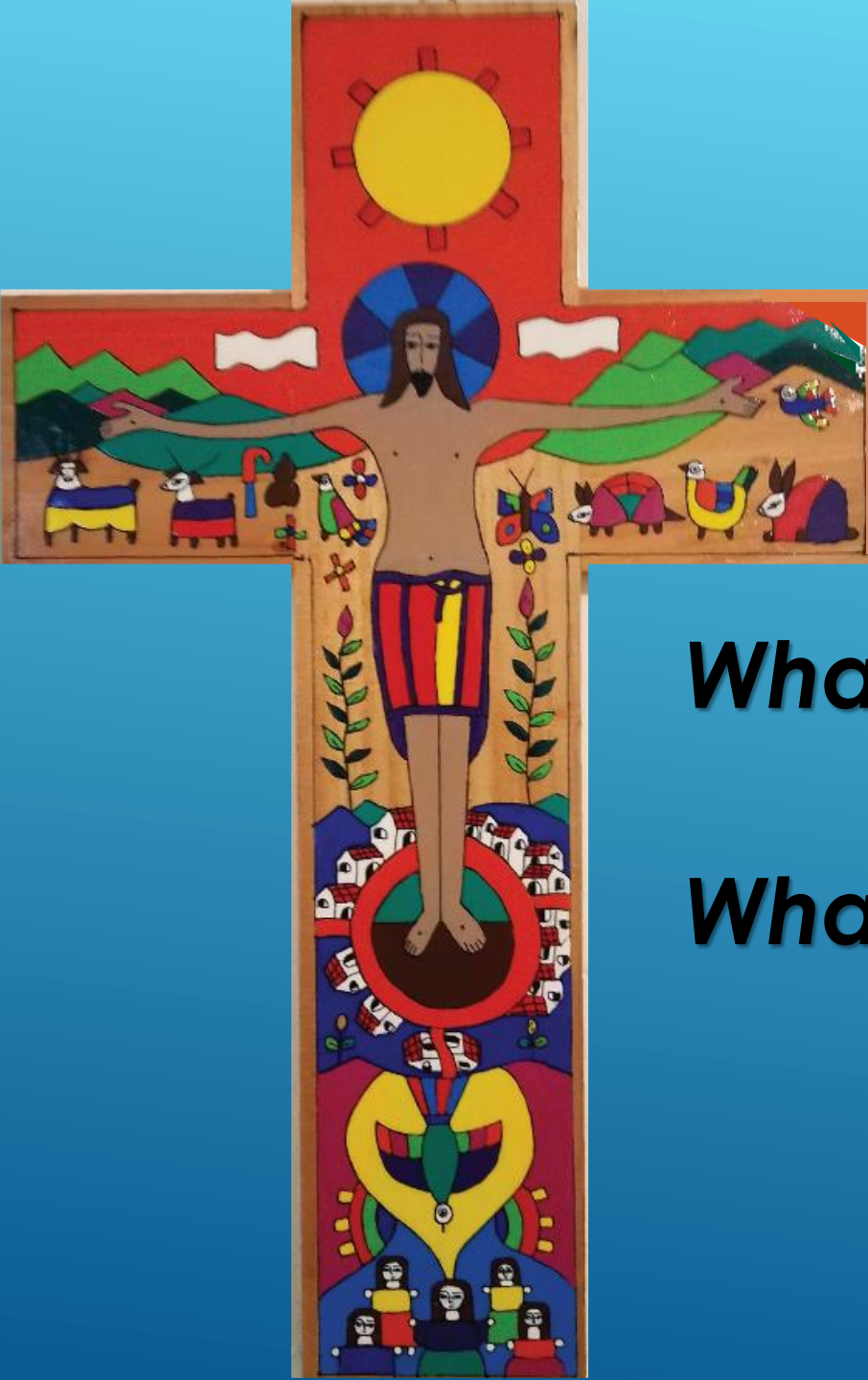
Jesuit Fathers
University of Central America, San Salvador
(1989)

¡PRESENTE!



Juan José Gerardi
Bishop
Guatemala City
Guatemala
(1998)





REFLECTION: Let us take some time to reflect on these questions:

What are you willing to live for?

What are you willing to die for?

“People Pushed to the Edge”

(from *Prayers of Boundless Compassion* by Joyce Rupp)

Companion of People Pushed to the Edge,
let me stand with the least and the lost.
I will reach out my hand and welcome them.
Let me become one with these sisters and brothers.
I will approach each person as my teacher.





Let me accept their empty, outstretched arms.
I will receive the bounty of their inherent goodness.
Let me come vulnerably close to their distress.
I will try to comprehend the reality of their rejection.
Let me know the breadth of their daily poverty.
I will work for justice that tends to their human needs.



Let me enter their loneliness and desolation.
I will activate my empathy
with compassionate presence.
Let me acknowledge that my privileged position
is part of the reason they live on the margins.
I will do my part so all may live in one large circle.

Companion of People Pushed to the Edge,
you walk among the ones easily forgotten,
those who are rejected, dismissed, and violated.
Your heart aches for how they are treated
and goes to stand with them on the far borders.



Your love knows no boundaries.
Your love does not judge or tally.
Your love accepts.
Your love gathers.
Your love embraces.



INTERCESSIONS:

God of Life, listen to our prayers
for our beautiful yet wounded world.

RESPONSE:

Make us one people fully alive.



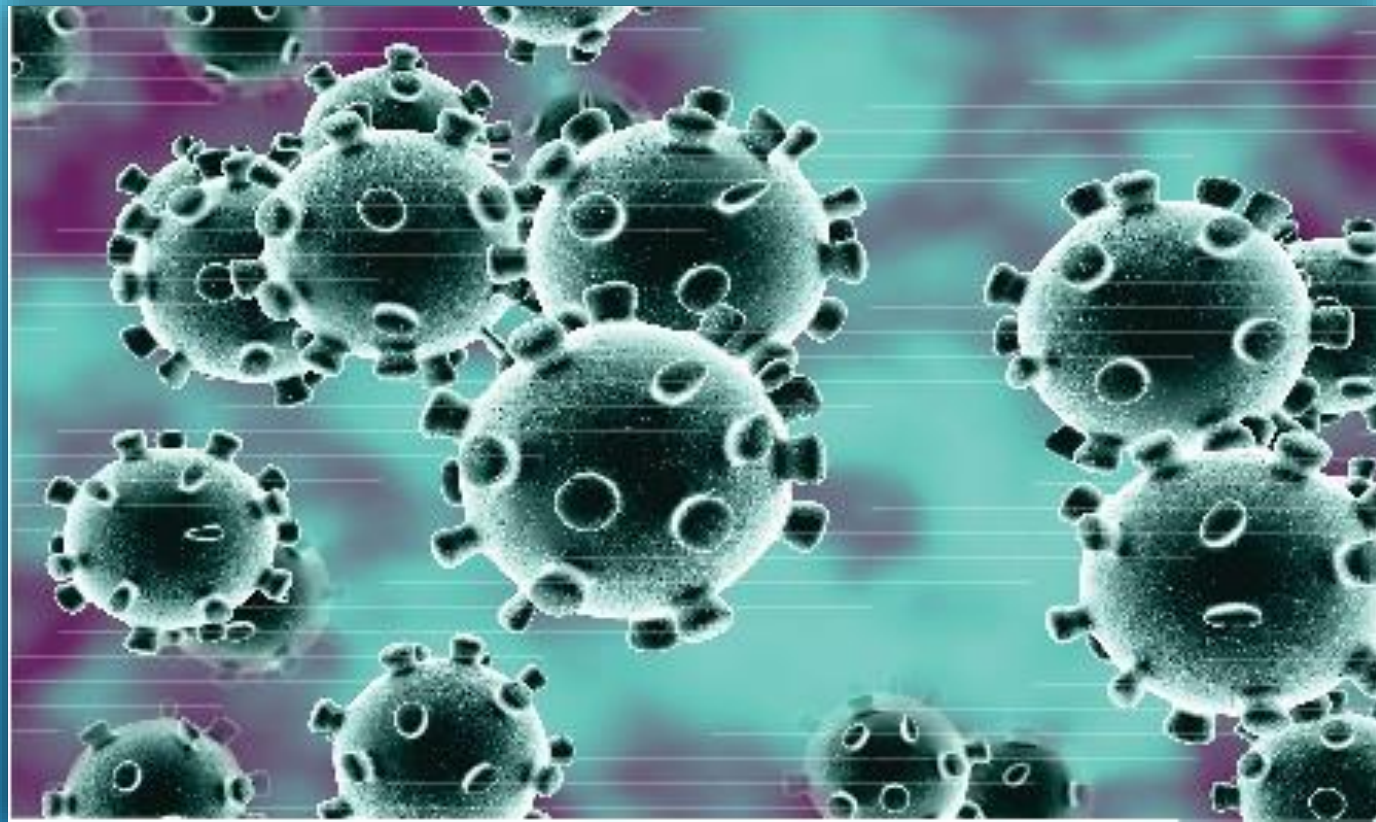
Make us one people fully alive.



Make us one people fully alive.



Make us one people fully alive.



Make us one people fully alive.



Make us one people fully alive.



CLOSING SONG: ON THAT HOLY MOUNTAIN

The wolf is the guest of the lamb,
on that holy mountain.

And the calf and the lion shall lie down,
on that holy mountain.

Together they shall rest with the child,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain of the Lord.



No harm or ruin on that holy mountain.
That sacred day shall be filled with knowledge.
There shall be peace,
led by all the children,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain of the Lord.





The poor shall receive from the rich,
on that holy mountain.
And the sick and the lame
shall be healed,
on that holy mountain.
The wicked shall be slain
by God's breath,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain of the Lord.

No harm or ruin on that holy mountain.
That sacred day shall be filled with knowledge.
There shall be peace,
led by all the children,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain of the Lord.





Justice shall flower for all time,
on that holy mountain.
As long as the sun still can shine,
on that holy mountain.
Peace till the moon be no more,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain of the Lord.

No harm or ruin on that holy mountain.
That sacred day shall be filled
with knowledge.

There shall be peace,
led by all the children,
on that holy mountain,
on that holy mountain,

on that holy mountain of the Lord.

Holy and peaceful day of the mountain.



Our gratitude to the following people:

On This Holy Mountain

Used with permission
Passionist Sacred Music

Every Knee Must Bend

Fr. David Cinquigrani, CP

People Pushed to the Edge

(from *Prayers of Boundless Compassion* by Joyce Rupp)

Sr. Grace Surdovel for technology assistance

Sr. Joan McCusker for accompanying
the prayer and reflection with music

Sisters Mary Elaine Anderson, Donna Korba,
Mary Rita Smith and Mary Ellen Higgins
for their work on this evening's Advent Prayer

