

ABCs of Salvatorian Life, Vol. II



POVERTY

... when we see the destitute, the most abandoned, lowest person, that we see in him an immortal soul for whom Christ died and shed his blood – whose beauty is so great that St. Catherine said she would gladly die a hundred times to rescue just one. So let us look and see that each human being is an image of God.

[Father Jordan, *Jordan Talks*, 1898/02/18]

Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him?

[James 2:5]

Through our life in evangelical poverty,
we free ourselves.
to place ourselves, our talents, our abilities,
and all that we have
effectively at the service of God's people.

[Society's Constitution, no. 311]

We involve others in our mission and seek to collaborate with those involved in promoting truth, justice and the defense of life, making a preferential option for the poor and for those whose humanity and dignity are not recognized.

[*Charter of the Salvatorian Family*, no. 8-B]

I place in your hands the faithful observance of poverty. It is a treasure to of great price and a precious pearl for which, God will demand an account from you on the Day of Judgment.

[Father Jordan, "Last Will and Testament," in *Spiritual Diary*, 2011, p. 346]

Reflection Starters

- What does living simple mean to me and how does it "free me?"
- At the heart of Fr. Jordan's concept of poverty was his fundamental trust in Divine Providence. Do I feel comfortable trusting God with the direction my life is currently taking?
- Who are "the poor" that I have encountered?

For further reading and reflection:

1. Fr. Daniel T. Pekarske SDS, *God's Strength Shining Through Our Human Weakness; Contributions on Salvatorian History, Charism, and Spirituality*, Vol. 11.
2. Fr. Peter Schuessler, SDS, "Father Jordan and the Poor," Reflections on the Centennial of Fr. Jordan's Death. 8/8/18. Available in Online SDS Library.
3. Father Jordan, *Jordan Talks*, 1899/04/21.