

## Baptismal Call & Association



### Scripture

John 15:16 – 17

*"You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."*

1 Cor. 3: 6,8-9a

*"One waters, another plants, but God gives the growth...The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose...for we are all God's co-workers, working together."*

1 Cor 16:13

*"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."*

Micah 6: 8

*"And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."*

Psalms 96

### Cornelia's Thoughts

*"Yes Lord, I will, or say only Yes, Lord, yes my Father yes always." CC 23:8*

*"Let us try day by day to do what He would do, to speak as He would speak, to think as He would think, to desire what He desires, to love what He loves, and thus make our life one with His, being in one continued act of love from night 'till night and from year to year."*  
April 1854

*"I unite myself to the Father...I belong all to God. There is nothing in the world that I would not leave to do his holy will and to satisfy him." CC21:34-35*

*"I wish to follow my Lord, poor chaste and obedient. I abandon myself to thee, O my God, and beg of Thee to preserve me from all illusion and to keep me in the holy justice of humility." CC 21: 38*

*"O my good Jesus, I do give myself to thee, to suffer and die on the cross, poor as thou wert poor, abandoned as thou wert abandoned by all but thee, O Mary." CC 21:15*

*"To do anything well we must do it with our heart, with our mind and with our strength for the love of God, of ourselves, and of our neighbor." CC 1.27*

## **Resources**

1. [The Call to Holiness in Today's World](#), Pope Francis  
What do you see in the Pope's letter that resonates with the Holy Child charism, mission or values?

## **Reflection Questions**

1. How have you experienced God's call in the past?
2. How does your current state in life call you to holiness? How do you respond?
3. Consider how your daily duties are your way of sharing in the mission of Christ. What qualities do you bring to this mission?
4. The vision of Jesus challenges contemporary culture thereby creating tensions and conflicts. How do you experience this?
5. What do you see as your mission in life at this point in time?
6. How do you perceive your present attraction to the SHCJ Associates as related to your previous calls?

The following section is intended to help you reflect on whether or not you are called to Association at this time and want to proceed to the next section about what it means to be an Associate.

### **Summary and Reflection – Modules 1-4**

You have reflected together and with God on:

- Your attraction to the Holy Child Associates, how Association fits in with your deepest desires at this point in your life.
- The life of Cornelia Connelly, her charism, spirituality and mission.
- The founding of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus and it's expression of Cornelia's charism, mission and Incarnational spirituality.
- The history of the Society and its current endeavors to meet the wants of the age.
- The baptismal call to holiness.

Before you move into deeper reflection on what it means to be an Associate, spend some time reflecting on the following:

1. How has your initial attraction to the Holy Child Associates changed? In what ways?
2. How does the charism, spirituality and mission of the SHCJ resonate with your values, spirituality and way of life?
3. Can you imagine yourself as a Holy Child Associate?
4. What would Association with the SHCJ mean to you?

5. If Association does not seem like a good fit at this time, what other ways of connecting with the Society attract you? For example, as a volunteer? A financial supporter? A prayer supporter?