

**REMEMBERING IN PRAYER OUR BROTHER JOHN JOHNSTON, FSC  
SUPERIOR GENERAL 1986 – 2000**

**"His Master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.  
You were faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things;  
enter into the joy of your Master.' Matthew 25: 23**

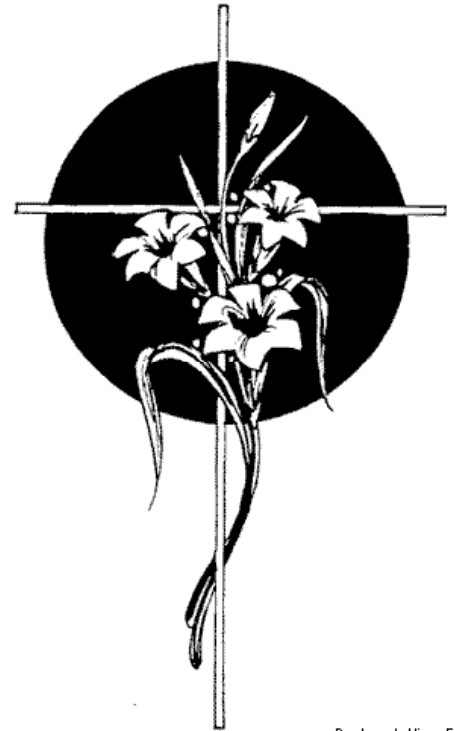
**Brother John Johnston, FSC,  
(formerly Brother John Joseph) the 25th Superior  
General of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian  
Schools and a member of the Midwest District,  
passed away on October 11 at the age of 73  
Brother John lived an illustrious life as a Brother  
that spanned 56 years. He received the habit of the  
Order in 1951 and professed perpetual vows in 1958.  
As an educator, he was a high school teacher, school  
administrator and Director of the Student Brothers. In  
1971, Brother John was appointed Provincial of the  
St. Louis District of the Christian Brothers. In 1976,  
he became Vicar General of the Institute of the  
Brothers of the Christian Schools.  
In 1986, he was elected Superior General of the  
Institute and re-elected for a second term in 1993.  
As Superior General, Brother John visited all of  
the countries where the Brothers of the Christian  
Schools ministered.**

**Brother John became known and highly respected  
for his great competence and influential leadership style.  
Time and again, he was asked to address special religious  
conferences, and in each group rose to such positions as  
Vice President of the Union of Superiors General in Rome,  
Auditor for the Synod of Priestly Formation and Consultant  
for the Vatican Congregation for Consecrated Life.**

**PRESENCE OF GOD**

**We pause and remember that in life and in death we are always in the  
presence of our loving God. Whether awake or asleep, living or dead, He  
holds us in the palm of His hand.**

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**



Br. Joseph Hiep, FSC

## **HYMN: GOD HAS CHOSEN ME**

**God has chosen me, God has chosen me to bring good news to the poor.  
God has chosen me, God has chosen me to bring new sight to those who  
are searching for light.**

**God has chosen me, God has chosen me.**

### **Refrain:**

**And to tell the world that God's kingdom is near,  
to remove oppression and break down fear,  
yes, God's time is near, God's time is near.**

**God has chosen me, God has chosen me set alight a new fire.**

**God has chosen me, God has chosen me to bring to birth a new kingdom on  
earth.**

**God has chosen me, God has chosen me.**

### **Refrain**

**God is calling me, God is calling me in all whose cry is unheard.**

**God is calling me, God is calling me to raise up the voice with no power or  
choice.**

**God is calling me, God is calling me.**

### **Refrain**

**Bernadette Farrell, © 1980, OCP Press**

## **PSALM 121**

**I raise my eyes toward the mountains. From where will my help come?**

**My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.**

**God will not allow your foot to slip; your Guardian does not sleep.**

**Truly, the Guardian of Israel never slumbers nor sleeps.**

**The Lord is your Guardian; the Lord is your Shade at your right hand.**

**By day the sun cannot harm you, nor the moon by night.**

**The Lord will guard you from all evil, will always guard your life.**

**The Lord will guard your coming and going both now and forever.**

## **BOOK OF WISDOM 3: 1 - 9**

**But the souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch  
them.**

**They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away  
was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction.**

**But they are in peace.**

**For if before men, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of  
immortality;**

**Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them  
and found them worthy of Himself.**

**As gold in the furnace, He proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.**

**In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;**

**They shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever.**

**Those who trust in Him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with Him in love: Because grace and mercy are with His holy ones, and His care is with the elect.**

#### **1 THESSALONIANS 4: 13 -**

**We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.**

**For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.**

**For the Lord Himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.**

**Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.**

#### **MATTHEW: 3: 1 - 12**

**When He saw the crowds, He went up the mountain, and after He had sat down, His disciples came to Him.**

**He began to teach them, saying:**

**Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.**

**Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.**

**Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

**Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.**

**Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you (falsely) because of Me.**

**Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**Response: Lord of Life and Hope, hear us.**

**That while mourning the loss of Brother John, we may rejoice in his new life in the Lord, we pray:**

**That the family, relatives, friends and confreres of Brother John will find consolation and peace as they mourn his passing, we pray:**

**That the worldwide Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools will find a renewed hope in the life and work of Brother John, we pray:**

**That we will seek out ways to aid the impoverished children of this world as Brother John did, we pray:**

**That those who have encountered Brother John on their journey through life, will know of God's care and concern for us, we pray:**

**That others will be inspired by Brother John's life so as to dedicate their lives to priesthood, consecrated life or dedicated lay ministry whether in the married or single state, we pray:**

**That each of us will lead a life worthy of our baptismal commitment so that one day, we too, may share God's glory with Brother John, we pray:**

**Let us pray: Amid our grief and joy, we place these simple prayers before You, O God. Answer them as only You know best for us and may we always graciously accept Your will in our regard. We ask this through our Risen Lord and Brother. Amen.**

## **A BLESSING**

**Brother John, may the hand of God hold you,  
the peace of God enfold you,  
the love that dreamed and formed you  
still surrounds you here today;  
the light of God beside you,  
above, beneath, inside you,  
the light that shines to guide you home  
to the loving hand of God.**

**May God's light shine ever upon you,  
may you rest in the arms of God;  
may you dwell for evermore in communion with all the blessed.**

**My the angels lead you into paradise;  
may the martyrs come to welcome you,  
and may Saint John Baptist de La Salle  
and all the holy Brothers who have gone before you,  
take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem.**

**Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!**