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- In certain ways, our fraternity provides for many lay persons and for many young people, who otherwise would feel marginalized within the Church, the place for living covenants and for building the Kingdom.

***Meditations #201, #202, #203, & #204:*** Brothers who live the *same demands as did the prophets*: an impassioned love for God and the procurement of God's glory, and an unconditional and ardent love for those who have been entrusted to us.

- Like Samuel, we are sentries and prophets captivated and seduced by the love of God, with our eyes set on the powerful Word of God that directs history. Our eyes are also set on the events of history. We are always ready to intervene prophetically with the force of that powerful Word. We are not teachers of the law that oppresses with obligation. We are prophets of love. To make others discover the mysterious plan of the Father who pardons, reconciles, sanctifies.
- We are not fanatical and inflexible defenders of the law. We exercise our role as prophet in the daily exercise of our employ, inventing the best teaching methods, mentoring, encouraging, critiquing, leading. Always loving with the passion of God for those who suffer.

***Meditations #205, #206, #207, & #208:*** We are *God's stewards and deputies*, visible signs of God's saving love. We are the bursars, the servants, sent by the Father to work in the Kingdom.

- As stewards, we do not act like landlords. We are workers in the Kingdom, building day by day through our work that new world and new creation, which will reach its fullness in Christ at the end of time. We do not dominate others. Our leadership is that of faith and love.
- We do not run away from the eschatology of end-time, nor are we prophets who threaten with destruction and punishment. Builders of the Kingdom, we believe that the saving force of the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, is here already and now active. We rejoice daily in the gifts and talents that we put into action to proclaim and to build the Kingdom that is growing in history without our being aware of it, until reaching its fullness.
- At the end, all icons are turned around. We are not the ones who are the saviors; rather it is those whom we serve, who become our defenders and saviors. We see ourselves associated with them, gathered in one communion, in one contemplation of the unfathomable mystery of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; and we will shine like the stars, with the light that burst through the darkness at the beginning of our journey.

In summary, we can say that the biblical icons of the *Meditations for the Time of Retreat* resound and converge with those proposed by De La Salle during those days of the Assembly in 1694. Each Brother, associated from deep within himself, from deep within each Brother, from deep within







