



AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE, WE BELIEVE: TOGETHER, WE WILL BE LIVING STONES IN GOD'S TEMPLE.



“Like living stone, let yourself be built into a spiritual house”

— 1 Peter 2:5

REFLECTION:

The Lord compared Himself to the stone which the builders rejected, but which was made into the cornerstone¹ – and upon this cornerstone the Church is built. In *Lumen Gentium*, we are reminded that “the disciples of Christ, persevering in prayer and praising God, should present themselves as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God”. We must “bear witness to Christ and given an answer to those who seek an account of that hope of eternal life which is in them”.² The spiritual house of God is a building designed for His glory, and we, the living stones, glorify the Lord in all we do (1 Cor. 10:31). The baptized have become “living stones” to be “built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood” (1 Pt. 2:9). As living stones, our belief and faithfulness to Christ is strong, firm and not easily moved. To be a “living stone” is to be a “speaker of praise, a declarer of truth and love and light” (1 Cor. 10:31).³ By baptism, we “share in the priesthood of Christ, in his prophetic and royal mission”.⁴ We “must bear witness to Christ and give an answer to those who seek an account of that hope of eternal life that is within them”.⁵ As **Pilgrims of Hope**:

- We allow ourselves to be a “spiritual house” when we share in Christ’s priestly office through our vocation, prayers, penance, worship, in every sacrament we receive, and through works of mercy.
- We share in Christ’s prophetic mission when we profess the Creed, and when we praise, Him, who has called us “out of the darkness of sin into the light of life and glory” (1 Peter 2:9).
- We are living stones when we uphold the beauty of God’s love and light in our protection of human life and the pursuit of the common good, especially for the most vulnerable.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How can I live like a “living stone” sharing in the offices of Christ the Priest, Prophet and King so that I am a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God?
2. How do I encourage others to become “living stones” in holy temple with Christ as the cornerstone, that is the Church? In my family? At my school? In my workplace? In my community?

SHARE YOUR
REFLECTIONS
& DISCUSSION
NOTES HERE:



¹ *Lumen Gentium*, no. 6 | ² *Lumen Gentium*, no. 10 | ³ *Lumen Gentium*, no. 10 | ⁴ *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1268 | ⁵ *Lumen Gentium*, no. 10

