

SUNDAY NIGHT PRAYER
The Salesian Family—Sons and Daughters of a Dreamer

GATHER

PRESIDER 1: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

“Dear young people,” says Pope Francis, “do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you. Do not be afraid to dream of great things!” We are sons and daughters of a dreamer, a dreamer who was not afraid to dream of great things. We are the dream, the living dream of a man who dared to answer “yes” to God’s plan for him. Don Bosco’s yes inspired the creation of a vast global movement of people who are signs and bearers of God’s love to the world, especially to the young. Today, the various groups of the Salesian Family are active throughout the world and continue Don Bosco’s ministry for the young and with the young. You and I are part of that family. You and I are part of that dream. You and I are that dream. “Dear young people... do not be afraid to dream of great things!”

LISTEN

PRESIDER 2: As we listen to the Word of God, let us ponder and reflect on some of the ways God is inviting us to be courageous in embracing God’s dream for us, as impossible as that dream may sometimes seem.

READER 1: A reading from the Book of Genesis:

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Do not fear, Abram! I am your shield; I will make your reward very great.” But Abram said, “Lord GOD, what can you give me, if I die childless and have only a servant of my household, Eliezer of Damascus?” Abram continued, “Look, you have given me no offspring, so a servant of my household will be my heir.” Then the word of the LORD came to him: “No, that one will not be your heir; your own offspring will be your heir.” He took him outside and said: “Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so,” he added, “will your descendants be.” Abram put his faith in the LORD, who attributed it to him as an act of righteousness.
The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPOND

Invite the participants to reflect individually on the the following questions. They may write the responses in their journal. After some time, have them share in their discussion small groups. Play “A Million Dreams” as part of the reflection.

PRESIDER 1 - Reflection Questions: Is there something I need to surrender in order to be fully present and respond to God’s invitation to me this week? How am I being challenged to live out Don Bosco’s dream today?

A Million Dreams

*I close my eyes and I can see
The world that's waiting up for me
That I call my own
Through the dark, through the door
Through where no one's been before
But it feels like home*

*They can say, they can say it all sounds
crazy
They can say, they can say I've lost my
mind
I don't care, I don't care, so call me crazy
We can live in a world that we design*

*'Cause every night I lie in bed
The brightest colors fill my head
A million dreams are keeping me awake
I think of what the world could be
A vision of the one I see
A million dreams is all it's gonna take
A million dreams for the world we're
gonna make*

*There's a house we can build
Every room inside is filled
With things from far away
The special things I compile
Each one there to make you smile
On a rainy day*

*They can say, they can say it all sounds
crazy
They can say, they can say we've lost our*

*minds
I don't care, I don't care if they call us crazy
Runaway to a world that we design*

*Every night I lie in bed
The brightest colors fill my head
A million dreams are keeping me awake
I think of what the world could be
A vision of the one I see
A million dreams is all it's gonna take
A million dreams for the world we're
gonna make*

*However big, however small
Let me be part of it all
Share your dreams with me
You may be right, you may be wrong
But say that you'll bring me along
To the world you see
To the world I close my eyes to see
I close my eyes to see*

*Every night I lie in bed
The brightest colors fill my head
A million dreams are keeping me awake
A million dreams, a million dreams
I think of what the world could be
A vision of the one I see
A million dreams is all it's gonna take
A million dreams for the world we're
gonna make*

For the world we're gonna make

SEND

PRESIDER 1: Convinced that God's Spirit continues to inspire and move us each day, let us pray...

God of promise and source of our hopes, you call us out of spaces of comfort into a ministry of leadership. You remind us we are called to contribute to a work far greater than ourselves. Help us to respond with courage to your invitation. Give us your Spirit so that, like Don Bosco, we may be unafraid to dream of great things. We ask this in Your Son's name.

All: Amen.

PRESIDER 1: St. John Bosco.

All: Pray for us.

PRESIDER 2: At this time, we invite _____ to come up and share with us our Salesian Good Night.