

## The 'politics' of the Our Father

You are **Our Father!** A Father of infinite mercy; not a small or trivial presence, but Your presence, with the infinite power of holiness and love that patiently educates His children.

**Thy Kingdom come!** The very Kingdom that Jesus has begun in this world, fulfilling your mission. We welcome without reservation what you intend to do for us and for the young.

**Thy will be done,** by living the dynamics of your Kingdom, the dynamics of the Spirit of Pentecost that prompts us to be constantly on mission, so to give birth to signs of liberation and reconciliation among your children and our brothers and sisters.

**On earth as it is in heaven.** Together with the young, like Don Bosco, we proclaim your YES to the fullness of life for every young person and for all young people, so that they may be citizens and Christians fully committed here on earth, and forever happy inhabitants of heaven.

**Give us today our daily bread;** the bread needed for life, so that the Kingdom of God may be manifested in your providential care for our needs, and so that we may also see and confess that the work of our hands is actually the fruit of your grace; and let us be moved and energized not by the greed for possession, but by the sharing with the poor.

**Forgive us our trespasses,** while we do our best on our side in forgiving our brothers and sisters. Help us to put the Preventive System into practice in patience, in magnanimity, in coming lovingly to the rescue of young people who made mistakes; in exemplary, joyful, smiling self-giving; in faithful and resilient dedication to our daily commitments.

**Lead us not into temptation.** The temptation to look back, to look in the wrong direction, to oppose the Spirit, to blush because of you, our Master, when we are exposed to the judging court of men, of fashions, of ideologies; when we are allured by the flattery of the powerful; when we are challenged by our conscience.

**Deliver us from evil.** Let us never doubt that, in spite of everything, You are the only One in control over the history of the world; let us never doubt that it is You indeed who wants us to be fully committed as educators, in order to set young people free from despair and from all their prisons.

**Deliver us from the evil of forever moving away from your face.** For this, we wholeheartedly pray, send us the Holy Spirit, so that He may heal the wounds of body, heart and spirit and awaken in us an ever new hope in carrying on with joy the mission that our father Don Bosco has opened before us.

**AMEN!**