

Dear God,

This election process is a special journey. A journey I am more aware of your love and your love for DH CLC. I want you to be the center part of this process. I don't know yet my answer. What is more precious is to live it with you, in you. Please allow me to be connected to you, to feel that every second of my life. This is all I ask, this is all what I wish for my life.

In doing so, in being so, let me see the love I have for DH-CLC, let me see the love you have for DH-CLC so that it is through your eyes that I can feel how much you care about DH-CLC

My name is Nam Phan from Montreal, Canada. I came in contact with DH in 1993 by participating in a Come and See retreat organized in Montreal, Canada. Before, it was more going with my parents to their Linh Thao meetings. I joined the nhom Hiep Nhat that was formed after the Come and See retreat. I completed 19th Annotation in 2002 and Lighthworks in 2003. I made my temporary commitment in 2009. With some of the young family, we formed nhom SPA in 2009 to journey together. I was Pho of DH-CLC Canada from 2012-2015 although I felt I did not do much as I was more involved in YaYA and in the parish. For the past 3 years, I was involved in the Our Way of Finding God workgroup.

DH was my support when I was doubting of my existence and my relationship in God. I found support, inspiration and courage from the people in DH and more importantly, I felt God presence through all the activities I participated and organized. DH-CLC was the door I met God and let him enter in my life since then. From silent retreats, to discernment, to responding to God's love, DH-CLC provides the time, space and place to deeper my relationship to God. It is only after my temporary commitment that I started to be more aware of the way of CLC and its mission in the world as an apostolic body.

I am thankful for the gift of listening and discerning heart that God encourages me to develop and use through DH-CLC. With these gifts, I was able to become a spiritual companion for the Montreal diocese and am now be part of a team spreading the formation of spiritual companion in the French community while still involving with the young adult ministry I care so much.

I am thankful to the community who through their own discernment had invited me into this discernment process. The journey undertaken was refreshing and help me return to the basic: *If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing* (Jn 15, 5). I do have the desire to take an active part in DH-CLC. The role of Pho is a way. I do have the moral support of my family, region and nhom SPA and I know how much I did not yet use the potential of that support. When I received the new of my nomination, I ask a spiritual director to guide me and he provided me guidance to go deeper into God relationship and to give me a perspective of my relationship with DH-CLC. As I went through prayers for the past week, God is driving me somewhere else then being Pho. The initial sadness of that confirmation changes into joy in presence of God as He showed me the dream He already wants me to share with me: *Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid!* (Mt 14, 27)

Through this process and with my involvement in the Our Way of Finding God work group, I wish that in the next 3 years, discernment whether communal or personal can be integrated in the daily family life. Discernment should not be taught as a tool but really as **a way of living**. To make it happen, it requires a more domestic strategy with a creative medium to implement this in the daily family life without asking them to be in a multi-day workshop. Nhom would be a place to live this and to support family in doing so.

I really feel like I need to live my little life like Madeleine Delbr  l said in her book *We, The Ordinary People of the Street*: *for us, [ordinary people of the street,] the tiny circumstances of life are faithful "superiors." They do not leave us alone for a moment; and the "yeses" we have to say to them follow continuously, one after the other.* How beautiful is the gift of discernment to help us live fully those tiny "yeses" in our life!

I would like to end my sharing with this quote from her book that gives me joy and inner peace when accepting the path I am invited to follow to live discernment in my little daily family life:

For his brothers and sisters around him, the Christian is a man who loves the things of this world as they really are, according to their true value, but he is also a person who prefers the God in whom he believes to all other things. This preference leads him to make certain choices. People see him choosing the invisible God. These choices pose a new question to the world, a question about whether there may not be something greater than the world.

I would like you to continue to pray for me so that I could become that Catholic for the ordinary people of street that I encounter in my ordinary life... Thank you!

Nam Phan Huy

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