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“Assembled in Unity“  
Introduction to Letters 59-68  
Fr. Henri Caffarel  
being present to God; Letters on Prayer  
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In Christ who has taken possession of him, the Christian is united to all his brothers and sisters, in heaven and on earth. Their spiritual riches belong to him, and his belong to them. Together with them, he accepts responsibility for all those who do not yet know their heavenly Father.

It is only in the Church, the gathering of the Lord’s children assembled in prayer, that we can encounter God and pray to him. There, everyone prays in the name of all, and all pray in the name of each.

59        *Shoulder to shoulder*—During mental prayer, we have available to us much more than our own individual resources. We have the inexhaustible love and prayers of all the members of God’s family.

60        *The organist’s little daughter*—At the hour of prayer, we must unite not only with the Church of this earth, but also with the Church of heaven, with the great heavenly liturgy of the angels and saints.

61        *Jacob’s ladder*—And at the center of the great assembly of all of God’s children, behold Mary, our Mother, who melds our prayer into her prayer!

62 and 63      *The presence of Mary*—To rally the Church to prayer does not mean that we are turning away from the multitudes who don't know the Lord, or who reject him. How could we glimpse the splendor, the sovereignty and the Fatherhood of God without feeling the need to make them known to others?

64              *Atheism and mental prayer*—The man of prayer, by his silent presence, is already doing the Lord's work, which is to "*gather into one all the dispersed children of God*" (Jn 11:52).

65              *Black Mimouna*—In addition, he intercedes for the world, so that it may be preserved from the punishments that men's innumerable sins call down loudly upon it.

66              *"In the breach"*—To intercede is much more than simply to plead the cause of one's brothers. It is to be eager to inaugurate God's reign, and to allow his all-powerful love to pass freely through oneself.

67              *With outstretched arms*—Through prayer, man collaborates in God's work, not only within himself but also in the entire world.

68              *To pray is to cooperate with God.*