

ROW OUT INTO THE DEEP!

- Fr. Cedric Prakash sj*



Row out into the deep!
Where only the brave dare go
Into waters distant from the shore
From our comfort and security
To a deeper contextual spirituality
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
With the sturdy oars of today
Ones that neither bend nor fray
Oars which can be firmly gripped
For a journey, partially equipped
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
Into tempestuous, turbulent seas
Which consume poor and refugees
Into waters with undercurrents rough
This journey is only for the tough
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
Into the dark and stormy night
With full faith in the one true light
Knowing fully well that come what may
He is there, always directing our way
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
Be brave and expert rowers
Listen to coxswain hollers
He calls to discern the way to go
To listen, to pray and then to row
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
The banner of the cross is our sail
As His Spirit headwinds without fail
Challenging and invigorating us
Demanding from us that 'magis'
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
Into the far and misty horizon
Endowed with a vision Ignatian
Rowing confidently in uncharted zone
Knowing fully well we are just not alone
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
With our Founder and Father Inigo
Right down to Pedro, Peter-Hans and Adolfo
With our numerous saints, martyrs, brothers
Those who did not count the cost for others
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
With our dear brother and Pontiff Francis
With the whole Church and with the masses
Specially the poor, suffering and all excluded
Our identity is clear, for this we are called
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
To deepen commitment to today's mission
Serving the faith and justice promotion
Being a burning wick that never goes out
A fire enkindling other fires now, throughout
Row out into the deep!

Row out into the deep!
With undaunted courage to new frontiers
Our charism has always been one of 'soldiers'
Who give of all we have: will, memory, liberty
The world now awaits our availability and generosity
Row out into the deep!

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*(**Fr Cedric Prakash sj**, is a Jesuit of the Gujarat Province, India. He is currently working as the Advocacy and Communications Officer of the Jesuit Refugee Service(JRS)of the MENA Region and based in Beirut, Lebanon.

This **ODE- 'Row out into the deep'** is a poetic reflection based on the logo of the 36th General Congregation(GC36) of the Society of Jesus and what he thinks are some of the challenges ahead! GC36 began in Rome on October 2nd 2016).

