

CARING RITE

February 9, 2019

INTRODUCTION AND GATHERING SONG

Speaker: Jesus came to teach us how to love and care for one another.

As a Christian family,
we share in the joys and in the sorrows
of all our sisters and brothers.

So, today we gather to think about and to pray
for those people who need our love and care.

Let us begin this celebration of God's love
by singing "Gathered as One" #745

GREETING

Priest: In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

OPENING PRAYER

Priest: Let us ask Jesus to open our hearts to one another.

(Pause.)

God our Father,

you call us to love and care
for all the children of your family.

Give us your Spirit of joy
so that we may rejoice with those who are happy.

Give us your Spirit of compassion
so that we may help those in need.

Give us your Spirit of gratitude
so that we may be truly grateful
for those who love and care for us.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

(Romans 12:9-16b, *Lectionary for Masses with Children #302B*)

Lector: A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Be sincere in your love for others.

Hate everything that is evil

and hold tight to everything that is good.

Love each other as brothers and sisters

and honor others more than you do yourself.

Never give up.

Eagerly follow the Holy Spirit and serve the Lord.

Let your hope make you glad.

Be patient in time of trouble and never stop praying.

Take care of God's needy people

and welcome strangers into your home.

Ask God to bless everyone who mistreats you.

Ask him to bless them and not to curse them.

When others are happy, be happy with them,

and when they are sad, be sad.

Be friendly with everyone.

Don't be proud and feel that you are smarter than others.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

[Celtic Alleluia]

GOSPEL

(Matthew 5:1-12ab; *Lectionary for Masses with Children #65*)

Priest/Deacon: A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew:

When Jesus saw the crowds,
he went up on the side of a mountain and sat down.

Jesus' disciples gathered around him, and he taught them:

“God blesses those people who depend only on him.
They belong to the kingdom of heaven!

“God blesses those people who grieve.
They will find comfort!

“God blesses those people who are humble.
The earth will belong to them!

“God blesses those people who want to obey him
more than to eat or drink.
They will be given what they want!

“God blesses those people who are merciful.
They will be treated with mercy!

“God blesses those people whose hearts are pure.
They will see him!

“God blesses those people who make peace.
They will be called his children!

“God blesses those people who are treated badly for doing right.
They belong to the kingdom of heaven.

“God will bless you when people insult you, mistreat you,
and tell all kinds of evil lies about you because of me.
Be happy and excited!
You will have a great reward in heaven.”

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest: Each time we come to Mass,
we pray together for people in our world,
for our church,
and for those who need our prayers.
This part of Mass is called the Universal Prayer or Prayer of the
Faithful.
Let us pray together now just like we do on Sundays.

Cantor: Our response will be sung . . .
Come, hear your children. Lord, hear our prayer.

Lector: When Jesus lived on earth,
he welcomed everyone and showed great concern for them.
Through our love and care for others,
Jesus continues to touch those who need him.

For those who do not feel welcomed or loved,
we pray to the Lord.

All: Come, hear your children. Lord, hear our prayer.

Lector: When Jesus walked among the people of his country,
many did not understand who he was or what he did.
Today many people still do not know him.

For all those searching for Jesus,
we pray to the Lord.

All: Come, hear your children. Lord, hear our prayer.

Lector: Jesus was often invited to the home of his friends.
He loved to celebrate joyful events with them.
Today we also like to celebrate the great events of our lives
with our friends and our families.

For those who do not have the opportunity to join in celebration,
we pray to the Lord.

All: Come, hear your children. Lord, hear our prayer.

Lector: Jesus was a teacher.
He prepared some of his friends to continue his work.
Jesus' disciples went throughout the world
to spread the good news of God's love for us.
Today Jesus wants to continue to teach us about God's love.

For those in our parish and elsewhere who are bringing the Good
News to others through teaching,
we pray to the Lord.

All: Come, hear your children. Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: God our Father,
you have given us many people who care for us.
We thank you for them.
You also ask us to care for others –
those we live with,
those we play with,
and our sisters and brothers all over the world.
Give us your strength and your love
so that we may love others as you do.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

RITUAL OF CARING

Priest: As followers of Jesus,
We show our love and care for others in many ways:
by giving gifts,
sharing our toys,
doing kind things for our family and friends,
and by praying for others.
We especially need others to pray for us.

In a moment
I will ask all of our First Eucharist students
to come forward and receive a heart from the basket.
On each heart there is the name of one boy or girl who will
receive First Eucharist this year.

You may not know the child
whose name is on the heart you receive,
but you will become that child's **prayer partner**.

Please keep your paper heart in a special place,
maybe near your bed
so that each and every day
you remember to pray for that boy or girl
until your First Communion day.

Boys and girls, please come forward now.

Children process forward and receive a heart. Once everyone is back in place, the priest continues.

Priest: Now let us pray together in the words that Jesus taught us. Our
Father, who art in heaven, . . .

CONCLUDING RITE

Priest: God of love,
we thank you for this time that we have had to celebrate together.
We thank you for the example of Jesus,
who teaches us to love and care for others.
We thank you for your Spirit of love,
who helps us to see the needs of others
and fills us with desire to care for them.
May we always be led by the Holy Spirit
to follow Jesus in showing your love
forever and ever.

All: Amen.

Announcement

Speaker: Please come to the family reception in the Trumpet Room.

BLESSING

Priest: May almighty God bless you,
the Father,
the Son,
and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Cantor: Let us close our time together by singing “One Lord,” which can be found on the back of your program.

CARING RITE

Celebration of Caring and Prayer

St. Raphael Parish
February 9, 2019