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## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

### January 5, 2014 Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

#### OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly God, you are the God of surprises. You chose us to do your work, to bring light to the darkness of our world. We praise you and bless you for giving us the courage to work with you in *Making All Things New*. We can do this work and offer this prayer only through our Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

#### Reading 1 Isaiah 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **ALL:** Thanks be to God.

#### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. In what ways has the planning process excited you and made your heart throb?
3. What are some ways this excitement can be shared with others?

#### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

##### **Response: God, help us to bring light to the weary world**

- That we more readily work with God to bring hope to our community, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may gratefully recognize the wealth given us and willingly share it thereby *Making All Things New*, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may remember the hungriest and loneliest among us, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the peoples of the world suffering the ravishes of war and natural disasters, know the love of God through us, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions.

Loving God, we are confident that you hear our spoken and unspoken prayers, and so we ask them in Jesus' name by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

#### CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

### January 12, 2014 Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

#### OPENING PRAYER

Blessed and gracious God, your Son through words and actions showed us the creative power of great humility. Help us to follow him and seek your will not our own as we continue *Making All Things New*. We ask this in Jesus name by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

#### Gospel Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?"

Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

Then he allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." The Gospel of the Lord. **ALL:** Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

#### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. When during the process of *Making All Things New* have you in all humility had the conviction that God is pleased with our work?
3. What other areas of your life have been enriched by your work in *Making All Things New*?

#### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: God, we thank you for calling us your daughters and sons.**

- That we may deepen our understanding that we are sisters and brothers to all the peoples of the world, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may work tirelessly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we learn to use the waters of the earth as the sacramental signs God created them to be, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we help each other live our baptismal promises, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Lord, hear our confident prayers spoken and held in silence. We ask this through Jesus, our brother, by the power of his Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. Amen

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**January 19, 2014 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, *Making All Things New* helps us to know fully, like John the Baptist, that our work is not about us, but can point the way to you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to hear your Word and do your Work. We ask this through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

### Gospel John 1:29-34

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel."

John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God." The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL:** Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Who has helped or helps you recognize the Son of God today?
3. How can *Making All Things New* foster evangelization in the parish and community?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: Holy God, send your Spirit upon us.**

- That we may deeply understand that our sins have been taken away and so live renewed in Christ, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we learn to preach more effectively good news to the poor, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we join people of good will to work for righteousness in our criminal justice system, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we have the courage to face our own need for conversion, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Loving God, hear the prayers we have shared and those still held in silence. We ask this in Jesus' name by the power of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. Amen

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**January 26, 2014 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### OPENING PRAYER

Loving and gracious God, by your Son you formed us into the Body of Christ. May we always be one in intention and spirit. Help us to truly listen to each other never glossing over our differences, but openly working them through so that our time together for us and for our parish is truly *Making All Things New*. We ask this through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### Reading 2 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose. For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers and sisters, by Chloe's people, that there are rivalries among you. I mean that each of you is saying, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with the wisdom of human eloquence, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning. The Word of the Lord. **ALL:** Thanks be to God.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. When and where have you experienced a temptation to gloss over differences instead of working them through to achieve true unity?
3. How has this planning process fostered or deepened the unity of the parish?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

#### **Response: God, mold us into the Body of Christ**

- That Christians of every tradition may focus on our powerful belief in Jesus Christ, while honoring our differences, let us pray to the Lord...
- That inter-religious dialogue in our own country and around the world may lead to respectful understanding, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our country may be healed of racial divisions and injustice, let us pray to the Lord...
- That each of us acknowledge how we are part of the political discord in our nation and work together for justice, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions.

Loving God, grant all our prayers, those shared and those hidden in our hearts. We ask this through our Brother and Savior by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen**

**CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer**

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

February 2, 2014 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

### OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the Temple, and so, Simeon and Anna were given hope in the face of death and hope that the Good News arrived. May our *Making All Things New* free us from fear of the future and hope that you will lead us and be with us there. We ask you this through Our Brother by the power of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### Reading 2 Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children share in blood and flesh, Jesus likewise shared in them, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the Devil, and free those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their life. Surely he did not help angels but rather the descendants of Abraham; therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God to expiate the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. The Word of the Lord **ALL:** Thanks be to God.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Who in your life has given you a model for facing death?
3. What are the fears you or the parish may face in *Making All Things New*?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

#### Response: God, free us from all anxiety

- That we have faith that our efforts at planning will bring us closer to God, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we cultivate understanding hearts towards people who cannot see God in their futures, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our lives of active faith and hope enliven the faith and hope of others, let us pray to the Lord...
- That true justice and peace is a cornerstone of *Making All Things New*, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Loving God, we know you hear our prayers and so we thank you through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### CLOSING PRAYER: MAGNIFICAT

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; because God has regarded the lowliness of the handmaid; for behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed; because God who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is God's name; and God's mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear God. Amen.

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

February 9, 2014 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### OPENING PRAYER

You have called us to salt the earth with signs of your loving care, gracious God. With the lavish grace you sprinkle upon us we are *Making All Things New*. Continue to strengthen us for our work through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

### Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: “You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **ALL:** Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Who has seasoned your life with the love of God?
3. How will the parish become a city on a mountain through *Making All Things New*?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: God, let your light shine through us**

- That we may be empowered to shine God’s love into the darkest corners of our community, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may be signs of God’s love to the forgotten of our society, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the elderly, forlorn, and depressed among us may feel the warmth of God’s care through us, let us pray to the Lord...
- That those struggling for peace and justice may see glimmers of God’s light, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Generous Lord, hear our prayers and answers our longings. We ask this through our Brother and through the power of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord’s Prayer**

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**February 16, 2014 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### OPENING PRAYER

Source of all life, each day you bring us closer to yourself. While *Making All Things New* help us to deepen our understanding of your deepest desire for us: Life in Jesus Christ united by the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

### Gospel Matthew 5:20-22A, 27-28, 33-34A, 37

Jesus said to his disciples: "I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.* But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment. "You have heard that it was said, *You shall not commit adultery.* But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. "Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow.* But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one." The Gospel of the Lord. **ALL:** Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Who are the people who support you in deepening your commitment to the Jesus' commandments?
3. How have you grown in your understanding of what Christ asks of us?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: God, write your commands on our hearts**

- That our nation may cast aside all desire for revenge and power over our enemies, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our community may be a haven for those who feel the sting of discrimination in all its forms, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our families may be shelters from pettiness and jealousies, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may live our lives with integrity, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Lord, hear our prayers shared and kept in silence. We ask this through Christ, our Lord by the power of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer**



## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

February 23, 2014 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, so often we fall back to old ways of thinking about your Commandments. Help us in *Making All Things New* to rediscover our Brother's new way of living your way of love. We ask you this through your Son, Jesus Christ and through your Holy Spirit, One God of all.

**ALL:** Amen

### Gospel Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples: "You have heard that it was said, *An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth*. But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go for two miles. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. "You have heard that it was said, *You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy*. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have?

Do not the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same? So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

The Gospel of the Lord. **ALL:** Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. As you have matured how has your understanding of "sisters and brothers" expanded?
3. Who are neighbors our parish should embrace?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

#### Response: Lord, expand our sense of neighborhood

- That we may respond with love to the least lovable among our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we appreciate the many good works ordinary people do every day, let us pray to the Lord...
- That those who have taught us to love will experience the joy due to the quietest disciples, let us pray to the Lord...
- That those dying alone today will feel God's love, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Generous God, grant our prayers for the sake of your Son, our brother, Jesus. **ALL:** Amen

### CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**March 2, 2014 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### OPENING PRAYER

Lord, we ask you to grant us the wisdom and honesty we need to use our gifts wisely. We seek your grace in Jesus' name by the promptings of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### Reading 2 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Brothers and sisters: Thus should one regard us: as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Now it is of course required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. It does not concern me in the least that I be judged by you or any human tribunal; I do not even pass judgment on myself; I am not conscious of anything against me, but I do not thereby stand acquitted; the one who judges me is the Lord. Therefore do not make any judgment before the appointed time, until the Lord comes, for he will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will manifest the motives of our hearts, and then everyone will receive praise from God. The Word of the Lord. **ALL:** Thanks be to God.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. How has your idea of stewardship grown in the last several years? What life-style changes have been made because of this understanding?
3. As we continue *Making All Things New* whose and what support do I need to overcome fear of criticism for this work?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

#### **Response: Lord, create in us a desire to care for Creation**

- That we may cultivate a spirit of gratefulness for all the goods and talents we possess, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may assess how we can better use the resources of the earth which we have access to, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we develop creative compassion for those to whom little has been given, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our nation and the nations of the world develop the will to live in harmony with each other and the earth, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Creative God, you made us co-workers with you. We promise to be good steward of our gifts by the grace given to us through Jesus Christ in unity with the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Gracious God, Lent approaches. We have a strong desire to grow in faith, hope and charity through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Strengthen our resolve to focus on you and on whom you are calling us to be. We ask this in Jesus' name with the Holy Spirit. Amen

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**March 9, 2014 First Sunday of Lent**

### OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, during this Holy Season help us to resolve to work with your grace to draw closer to you through the practices of Lent. We ask this in Jesus' name by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

### Reading 2 Romans 5:12, 17-19

Brothers and sisters: Through one man sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all sinned. For if, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous. The Word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Is it easier for you to identify with the sinfulness of Adam or your freedom from sin through Jesus Christ? Why?
3. How does our freedom from sin empower and enliven *Making All Things New*?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: Forgiving God, free us from the fear of sin**

- That *Making All Things New* will reflect hope in our life with God, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we have the courage to name structural sinfulness and work for justice, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our Lenten worship moves us to clear our lives of mindless busyness, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the poor and dispossessed feel the fruits of our Lenten practices, let us pray to the Lord.
- Please add your own intentions

Lord, graciously hear our spoken and unspoken prayers. We ask this through Jesus Christ in unity with the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Forgiving God, we enter the desert with Jesus. While we are there help us to imitate Jesus and focus on our mission of *Making All Things New*. We ask this by the power of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' name. Amen

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**March 16, 2014 Second Sunday of Lent**

### OPENING PRAYER

Most amazing God, when we sit quietly with you, you reveal your mystery to us. Help our resolve to use this Lenten season to deepen our prayer life. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**ALL:** Amen

### Gospel Matthew 17: 1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." The Gospel of the Lord

**All:** Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Consider and share an experience of being in touch with the mystery of God.
3. How will *Making All Things New* reveal the mystery of the Resurrection?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: Mysterious God, help us to reveal your love for others**

- That our nation and the nations of the world hold sacred the personhood of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord...
- That Church leaders strive to teach the mystery of God's love in clear language of today, let us pray to the Lord...
- That all Catholics become so familiar with God's Word that they evangelize through actions, let us pray to the Lord...
- That those longing for peace and justice experience God's love through us, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Mysterious God, grant us a sense of awe and gratitude that you have revealed yourself to us. We ask this in Jesus' name by the grace of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer**

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**March 23, 2014 Third Sunday of Lent**

### OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, we see the state of the world and injustice in our own communities, and often we want to give up. Increase in us the hope that *Making All Things New* will bear gifts for our parish and our community. Strengthen our resolve through our Brother who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### Reading 2 Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. The Word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Who do you know personally who has given you a sense of hope when you could only see darkness?
3. How will *Making All Things New* bring hope to the parish and the wider community?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

#### Response: God, fill us with hope for the future

- That diplomats and all who work for peace will be filled in the hope needed to try again, let us pray to the Lord...
- That those working on environmental issues will have hope in God's love for Creation, let us pray to the Lord...
- That those striving for justice for the poor and working poor will continue to struggle in hope, let us pray to the Lord...
- That *Making All Things New* will bring renewed hope to the parish and neighborhoods, let us pray to the Lord.
- Please add your own intentions.

Hear our cries and our whispered petitions, O gracious God. We ask this in confidence in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### CLOSING PRAYER:

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**March 30, 2014 Fourth Sunday of Lent**

### OPENING PRAYER

All-seeing God, look at us with pity and cure our blindness. Strengthen our resolve to rise up to join your work of *Making All Things New*. Grant us this through Christ our Lord in the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### Gospel John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" — which means Sent. So he went and washed, and came back able to see. His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a Sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out. When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.

The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Share your experience or instance of another's wanting to change, but being held back by the disbelief of others.
3. What insights have you gained through *Making All Things New*?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

#### Response: Lord, open our eyes

- That our national leaders and the electorate may see how public policies harm the most vulnerable of our citizens, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we bring to the light of God's love those undocumented families who fearfully stay hidden away, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may see with new compassion the poor and discounted among us, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may support and pray for all who struggle with faith, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Compassionate God, hear our prayers through the love of Jesus Christ and compassion of the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**April 6, 2014 Fifth Sunday of Lent**

### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, attempting to live in the spirit we ask you to send your Spirit as we continue *Making All Things New*. Consider our efforts and our prayers this day. We ask this in Jesus's name by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

### Reading 2 Romans 8:8-11

Brothers and sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, his spirit is alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you. The Word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. How have you experienced the tension between living in the flesh and living in the spirit?
3. How would you think about our bodies being temples of the Holy Spirit?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: Lord, keep us holy**

- That we may honor all Creation as a place where the Spirit dwells, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the dignity of each life in all stages be held sacred, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the sick and dying of the parish be given the ministry they need, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we in *Making All Things New* live as holy people, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Spirit of Christ, answer our prayers especially those held in secret. In Jesus' name we pray.

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy. Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy. Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy. Amen

St. Augustine

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**April 13, 2014 Palm Sunday**

### OPENING PRAYER

Suffering God, in *Making All Things New*, give us compassionate hearts and help us to raise up the needs of the least among us. May peace and justice come in our time. We ask this in union with Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

### Reading 1 Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. The Word of the Lord **All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Who has been an inspiration to you by their willingness to suffer for justice's sake?
3. How do you practice the virtue of open and holy listening?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: God, give us a share of your compassion for the world**

- That we hear the cries of the poor as an echo of Jesus' suffering, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may be a voice for the voiceless, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may have the courage to stand for justice no matter the cost, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the unborn and weakest members of society gain recognition of their dignity, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Compassionate God, hear our prayers as we call to you in hope. We ask this as Christ's body through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER:** PS 22: 19-20, 23-24 R/ **My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots.

But you, O Lord, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me.

I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you: "You who fear the Lord, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him; revere him, all you descendants of Israel!" R/ **My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**



## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

April 20, 2014 Easter Sunday

### OPENING PRAYER

Glorious God, we praise you for your glory as we are on the edge of the Easter Season. *Making All Things New* reminds us that you are with us in all our good works. We give this praise in Jesus' name by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

### Reading 2 1 Corinthians 5:6B-8

Brothers and sisters: Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough? Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough, inasmuch as you are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.  
The Word of the Lord **All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. How has Lent helped prepare you for the celebration of Easter?
3. Silently consider what old yeast you will toss out. Share as much or as little as you would like.

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: God, help us celebrate our salvation**

- That the final days of Lent renew our desire for life in God, let us pray to the Lord...
- That *Making All Things New* adds to the hope and promise of salvation, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the joy of our salvation is lived as an inviting sign to our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our Easter joy overflows into actions for peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Living God, hear our pleas for healing and wholeness. We ask this as confident sisters and brothers of Christ unified by the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**April 27, 2014   Second Sunday of Easter   Divine Mercy Sunday**

### OPENING PRAYER

God above and within, fire us with the hope that *Making All Things New* has enkindled in us. Help us stay the course so that our parish may celebrate the effects of the Resurrection. We ask this through the Risen Lord and the power of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

### Reading 2   1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith, to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time.

In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire, may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Although you have not seen him you love him; even though you do not see him now yet believe in him, you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.   The Word of the Lord   **All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. Who makes Christ visible to you?
3. In your opinion who are the people or groups of people who most need to feel God's mercy?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: Merciful God, hear our prayer**

- That we may be instruments of God's mercy, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the creatures and resources of the earth feel the mercy of God through our respectful use, let us pray to the Lord...
- That mercy be coupled with justice in our prison systems, let us pray to the Lord...
- That those languishing in refugee camps experience the mercy of God, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Merciful God, we cry out in hope knowing you hear our prayers. We call to you through Christ and his Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER: Our Lord's Prayer**

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

May 4, 2014 Third Sunday of Easter

### OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, grant us the grace to humbly and reverently conduct *Making All things New* in a way that gives new life to us, the parish, and the community. We ask this through our Brother who lives with you and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

### Reading 2 1 Peter 1:17-21

Beloved: If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb.

He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. The Word of the Lord **All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. What does it mean to "conduct yourselves with reverence"? Who has taught you reverence?
3. How has the work of *Making All Things New* been done with impartiality?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: Living God, give us the gift of reverence**

- That our nation and the nations of the world treat the earth with reverence, let us pray to the Lord.
- That out of reverence of God we work for government policies that promote peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord.
- That our sojourn on earth reflects our call to discipleship, let us pray to the Lord.
- That those dying alone today feel the loving presence of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- Please add your own intentions

Living and eternal God, listen to our prayers and give us hope in your generous love. We ask this in Jesus' name spurred by the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### CLOSING PRAYER:

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

May 11, 2014 Fourth Sunday of Easter

### OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, you filled the Apostles with lively faith. Empower us in our time to bring the Gospel to our neighborhood with you *Making All Things New*. In Jesus' name we pray.

**ALL:** Amen

### Reading 1 Acts 2:14A, 36-41

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?" Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call." He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

The Word of the Lord **All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. What support do you need to vigorously live your faith and touch the people around you?
3. What signs of hope do you see in "this corrupt generation"?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

#### **Response: Lord, teach us how to evangelize**

- That we experience the joy of Easter throughout this holy season, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our actions always preach the Good News, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we face our need for repentance with eyes fully open, let us pray to the Lord...
- That work for peace and justice continues unceasingly, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Loving Shepherd, we know you hear our prayers whether we voice them or they remain hidden. We thank you in unity with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER: From the Easter Sequence:** Christians, to the Paschal Victim Offer your thankful praises! A Lamb the sheep redeems; Christ, who only is sinless, Reconciles sinners to the Father. Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous: The Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal. Amen. Alleluia.

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**May 18, 2014 Fifth Sunday of Easter**

### OPENING PRAYER

Good and gracious God, as you called the Apostles you called us. Give us the grace to continue *Making All Things New*. Strengthen us through our Lord, Jesus Christ you Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. **ALL:** Amen

### Reading 1 Acts 6: 1-7

As the number of disciples continued to grow, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them. The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly; even a large group of priests were becoming obedient to the faith. The Word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. To which areas of service in the parish are you best suited? Who invited you to serve?
3. How will *Making All Things New* entice parishioners to serve within and outside the parish?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: God, give us the grace to answer your call**

- That we may be a people known for service, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may serve the neediest and least lovable without judgment, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may have the courage and will to work for policies that support the poor and the working poor, let us pray to the Lord...
- That the tiniest, the sickest, the oldest among us are served with dignity, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Enlivening Spirit, hear the prayers we offer aloud and silently. We ask this through our Brother and by the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer**

## PRAYERS BASED ON LITURGICAL SCRIPTURAL READINGS

May 25, 2014 Sixth Sunday of Easter

### OPENING PRAYER

Faithful God, empower us to work with the Holy Spirit to do you will. We often feel like orphans adrift in the world. Anchor us to you through Jesus Christ your Son and our Brother.

**ALL:** Amen

### Gospel John 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live.

On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him." The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God

### FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

1. What words particularly spoke to you in this reading? Why?
2. How have you been able to give hope to others who have felt lonely or abandoned?
3. Share a time when you felt one with God or united with the Body of Christ?

### GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Response: Come, Holy Spirit, come**

- That in *Making All Things New* we seek ways to bring unity to our parish and neighborhood, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our nation may become a safe haven for those feeling abandoned by unjust economic systems and war, let us pray to the Lord...
- That our neighborhoods may be violent-free zones, let us pray to the Lord...
- That we may open our hearts to the least welcomed members of society, let us pray to the Lord...
- Please add your own intentions

Loving God, you sent an Advocate, so we are confident that you hear our prayers. We voice them in Jesus' name by the power of the Advocate.

**ALL:** Amen

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. Amen.