

JTO Connect

FRANCIS NOW! Celebrating the Journey, Living the Dream

Date: July 29-31, 2016

Location: Bergamo Center

EVENING PRAYER – 9:00 PM, Saturday, July 30, 2016

Theme: Praying as Franciscans

Leader: Clarissa Millner

Reader 1: Barb Lang

Reader 2: Pam Hayes

Reader 3: Ron Ramhap

Location: Chapel

Needed materials: Several large candles, matches/lighter, chairs for each participant, song books, guitar/s. keyboard (?), music stand/s, music stand lights, individual copies of the Peace Prayer

Pre-work: Set up room, select 3 people to help with reading

Brief Introduction: Special Franciscan prayers Clarissa

A few moments of silence to quiet our minds and hearts

Hymn: Litany of Peace – cantor/singing group begins song: “God of all creation”....

All: respond in song “Let us be your peace”

Cantor/Singing Group: continues with Litany phrases

All: respond in song “Let us be your peace” until Litany is completed and music stops.

Reading: Paraphrase of the Our Father

Leader: Francis’ early years of conversion were marked by his struggle with his own father. Finally, the break came. Peter Bernardone wanted back what was his. So, Francis stripped himself of his clothes and returned them to their owner. In his nakedness he then returned to God all that was His. He said “Until now I called you, Peter, my father. But from now on I can say without reserve Our Father who art in heaven. He is all my wealth and I place all my confidence in him.”

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Francis' life is joyfully lived in the sight of this Father. In his own creative way, he prayed the Lord's prayer and absorbed the many commentaries on it. Then in a fruitful moment of solitude he dictated to Brother Leo his own commentary which captures his deep feelings toward his Father. The Our Father was the prayer he prescribed for his brothers' and sisters' daily Office, the Our Father was the prayer he enjoined on those who sinned, the Our Father was prayed for the dead. It united the living and the dead with their Creator and Redeemer. In his paraphrase Francis marvels at the Father who is God, Creator, Redeemer, Comforter, Savior, Light, Lord, Love, Good.

Leader: Our Father

Reader # 1: Most holy, our Creator and Redeemer, our Comforter and our Savior.

Leader: Who art in heaven

Reader # 2: In the angels and the saint. You give them light so that they may have knowledge, because you, Lord, are my light. You inflame them so that they may love, because you, Lord, are love. You live continually in them and you fill them so that they may be happy, because you, Lord are the supreme good, the eternal good, and it is from you that all good comes, and without you there is no good.

Leader: Hallowed be thy name

Reader # 3: May our knowledge of you become ever clearer, so that we may realize the extent of your benefits, the steadfastness of your promises, the sublimity of your majesty and the depths of your judgements.

Leader: Thy kingdom come

Reader # 1: So that you may rig in us by your grace and bring us to your kingdom, where we shall see you clearly, love you perfectly, be happy in your company and enjoy you forever.

Leader: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Reader # 3: That we may love you with our whole heart by always thinking of you; with our whole mind by directing our whole intentions towards you; and with all our strength by spending all our energies and affections of the soul and body in the service of your love alone.

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Any may we love our neighbors as ourselves, encouraging them all to love you as best we can, rejoicing at the good fortunes of others, just as if it were our won, and sympathizing with their misfortunes, while giving offense to no one.

Leader: Give us this day

Reader # 3: to remind us of the love he showed for us and to help us to understand and appreciate it and everything that he did or said or suffered.

Leader: Our daily bread

Reader # 1: Your own beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ

Leader: And forgive us our trespasses

Reader # 2: In your infinite mercy and by the power of the Passion of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, together with the merits and intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints.

Leader: And lead us not into temptation

Reader # 3: Hidden or obvious, or unseen

Leader: But deliver us from evil

Reader # 1: Past, present and future.

Leader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

All: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn: I Lift Up My Soul # 752 (sing all verses)

All:

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, the faith;

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Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Hymn: *Please join in singing*

Brother Sun and Sister Moon

I seldom see you, seldom hear your tune

Preoccupied with selfish misery

Brother Wind and Sister Air

Open my eyes to visions pure and fair

That I may see the glory around me.

I am God's creature of Him I am part.

I feel His love awakening in my heart

Brother Sun and Sister Moon

I now do see you

I can hear your tune

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So much in love with all that I survey.

Final Blessing: Leader

The Lord bless you and keep you. May He show His face to you and have mercy.

May He turn His countenance to you and give you peace. The Lord bless you!