



Saturday Morning Prayer 7-29-17

Leader:

Good morning, everyone! We are so glad that you are here safely. As we enter this day, let us rejoice in our opportunity to celebrate our Franciscan heritage and our fellowship with each other as we sing our opening song.

Opening Hymn:

Alleluia, Raise the Gospel #626 Music Issue

Reader #1: *Micah 6:8*

You have been told, O man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do the right and to love goodness and to walk humbly with your God.

An Invitation To Mercy (Pope Francis - from Beautiful Mercy introduction)

Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in Him. The Father, "rich in mercy", after having revealed His name to Moses as "a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness", has never ceased to show, in various ways throughout history, His divine nature. In the "fullness of time", when everything had been arranged according to His plan of salvation, He sent His only Son into the world, born of the Virgin Mary, to reveal His love for us in a definite way. Whoever sees Jesus sees the Father. Jesus of Nazareth, by His words, His actions, and His entire person reveals the mercy of God.

We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it. Mercy: the word reveals the very mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us. Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life. Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness."

Leader:

How grateful are we to our God and Father that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, is the Prince of Peace. Any true and lasting peace flows out of a personal relationship with Him. The Holy Spirit enables that peace to manifest through us as one of the fruits of His life in us. Mercy and justice are the outgrowth of that spiritual relationship, taking a lifetime to practice.



Saturday Morning Prayer 7-29-17

Psalm Response: *Psalm 34 (The left side will be side A, the right then B)*

Refrain: (sung) # 531 Music Issue verse 1

Side A: Come children, hear me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Which of you desires life and takes delight in prosperous days?

Refrain:

Side B: Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking guile.

Turn from evil and do good, seek peace and follow after it.

Refrain:

Side A: When the just cry out, the Lord hears them and from all their distress He rescues them.

The Lord is close to the broken hearted and those who are crushed in spirit He saves.

Refrain:

Side B: Many are the troubles of the just man but out of them all, the Lord delivers him;

He watches over all his bones; not one of them shall be broken.

Refrain:

Reader #2: *The Corporal Works of Mercy Matthew 25:31-46*

Jesus said to His disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels of heaven, he will sit upon his royal throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. Then he will separate them into two groups, as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. The sheep he will place on his right hand, the goats on his left. The king will say to those on his right: 'Come. You have my Father's blessing! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me, in prison and you came to visit me.' Then the just will ask him: 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you or see you thirsty and give you drink? When did we welcome you away from home or clothe you in your nakedness? When did we visit you when you were ill or in prison?' The king will answer them: 'I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.'

Saturday Morning Prayer 7-29-17

Then he will say to those on his left: 'Out of my sight, you condemned, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels! I was hungry and you gave me no food. I was thirsty and you gave me no drink. I was away from home and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing. I was ill and in prison and you did not come to comfort me.' Then they in turn will ask: 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or away from home or naked or ill or in prison and not attend to you in your needs?' He will answer them: 'I assure you, as often as you neglected to do it to one of these least ones, you neglected to do it to me.' These will go off to eternal punishment and the just to eternal life."

Leader: Let us pause a few minutes to center ourselves in the Presence of God, taking in this Good News. *(3-5 minutes of personal reflection)*

Closing Hymn: License number: E-803649

PEACE, MY FRIENDS

Ray Repp

Refrain



Peace I leave with you, my friends. Sha-lom, my peace in
all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends.
I give to you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

Verses

1. To share God's love is why I came; to show his
2. Take my hand and be at peace. The Spir - it
3. With this love the world will know that lone - li -

1. kind - ness with - out end. Go now, my friends, and
2. of our love I send. And with this love you
3. ness is at an end. Re - jice, my loved ones,

to Refrain

1. do the same un - til I come a - gain.
2. will be free un - til I come a - gain.
3. though I go, for I will come a - gain.

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