

Ruach Feb 28, 2010

Opening Prayer –

O God, in this still moment we acknowledge your presence among us.

We remember with gratitude the gifts you have placed in our hands;

- The beauty of the earth, the gift of life, the blessings of home and friendship,
- The riches of a land that "flows with milk and honey,"
- A land shaped, strengthened, and continually gifted by its people and their wisdom.

We share the questionings of all those who want to build a more human world,

- A world where hunger is no longer the daily fare for so many, a world at peace,
- A world where all may live in dignity and freedom.

God, in this still moment we lift our prayer to you. We believe you are here - within us - among us - in this place - in this region - in our world and among the people we serve. Help us to recognize your presence. Amen.

(Laura Libertore, adapted, ASJP binder, Passion for the Mission)

Our Father – Call & Response from ASJP binder, Building Community

Gospel - Luke 13:6-9 -

Adele's Letter March 27, 1805 -

Gospel - Luke 13:6-9 -

Group Reflection

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Closing Prayer -

“To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything God has given us; and God has given us everything. Every breath we take is a gift of God’s love because it brings with it the opportunity to encounter God’s one image which is in us all, and we discover God by discovering the likeness of God’s image in one another.” (Thomas Merton)

Together: gesture the sign of the cross, while saying the following words:

(While touching the forehead) **“God, open our minds to new understandings”**

(While touching the heart) **“Spirit, touch our hearts with new insights”**

(While touching each shoulder) **“Christ, stretch out our arms and hands in compassion and blessing ”**

(Journey to Justice – adapted, ASJP binder, Saying Yes)

ALL: OUR FATHER AND OUR MOTHER

Who lives in the millions of hungry people of the world;
Who is in the lives of all who seek justice because they love their brothers and their sisters;

ALL: HALLOWED BE THY NAME:

In all of those who defend the poor;
in all the poor and humble that still have faith and hope in You
and because of this faith may become organized to fight for human dignity.

ALL: YOUR KINGDOM COME:

Your Kingdom of freedom and love,
of peace and justice,
of rights and life,
of truth without deceit.

ALL: YOUR WILL BE DONE:

Your will which lightens the burden that oppresses humanity.
Your will which proclaims the Good News to the poor, comforts the afflicted, frees the
prisoner, strengthens the weak and gives liberty and life to those who suffer violence.

ALL: GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD:

The bread of true freedom of spirit;
The bread of true equality for all;
The bread of joyfulness;
The bread of generosity;
The bread of being in the house or on the street without fear of being attacked;
The bread of housing for all those who desire a home;
The bread of medical assistance for our sick and elderly;
The bread of land and sun and rain for our farmers;
The bread of improved working conditions for our oppressed.

ALL: FORGIVE OUR TRESPASSES:

For not knowing how to share the bread that You give us;
For breaking away from our brothers and sisters;
For our lack of faith and courage to give ourselves to others.

ALL: AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION:

To resign ourselves to the values of this world and lose the clear vision that You want us to
have;
To believe that nothing can be done to better our world;
To seek selfishly our own betterment, forgetting the rest of our brothers and sisters.

ALL: BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL:

Our tendency to live our lives separated from our brothers and sisters when You invite us to
give our lives and possessions because of our friends.

