

## Prayer Gathering for 29<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**Father of Jesus, Father of us all,  
You saw us wandering in confusion and sent your Son to shepherd us home.  
Help us to give up our frivolous fascination with worldly power and comfort  
and set us on the path Christ walked,  
so that we may join with him in the glory you have prepared for us.  
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

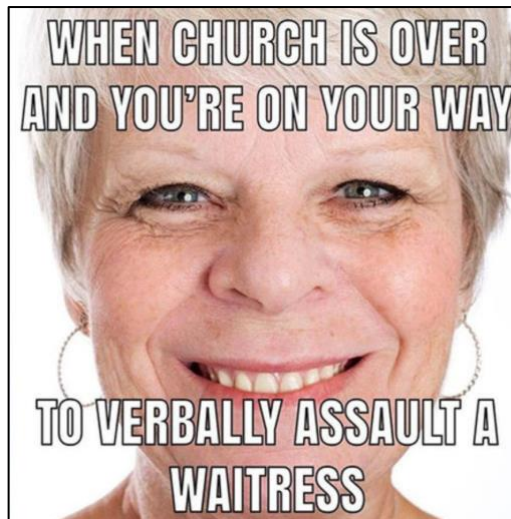
GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

*"If he gives his life as an offering for sin...  
the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him."*  
**Giving our lives away is how God's will gets accomplished.  
In what ways has God asked you to give away your life?**

*"The cup that I drink, you will drink..."*  
**How much thought do you give to the cost of following Jesus?  
What scares you about following Jesus closely? How do you manage that fear?**

POSTED RECENTLY



DISCUSSION

*"Whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all.  
For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve"*  
**Because of our service-based economy and the popularity of the concept that  
"the customer is always right," many of us are served more than we serve.  
How do you make it clear to others that your life is not about being served, but serving?**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That the Church may be a school of discipleship for all its members; we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may grow in our resemblance to Christ each day of our lives; we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That our loving actions may unleash a domino effect of kindness and mercy; we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may interrupt our judgements of others by looking at them as God does; we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all of us may grow in our reverence for life, in all its stages: from the womb to the tomb; we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the poor may benefit from the goods and funds we give from our excess; we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the sick may have their pain alleviated and loneliness soothed; we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That there may be peace on earth that begins with the next right choice we make; we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That those who have died may glory in the splendor of heaven... ..we pray...

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

OUR FATHER

[OPTIONAL] PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.**

**I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.**

**Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.**

**I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.**

**Never permit me to be separated from You. 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.**

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

## READING 1

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

The LORD was pleased  
to crush him in infirmity.

If he gives his life as an offering for sin,  
he shall see his descendants in a long life,  
and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him.

Because of his affliction  
he shall see the light in fullness of days;

through his suffering, my servant shall justify many,  
and their guilt he shall bear.

The word of the Lord

*Thanks be to God*

## READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and said to him,  
*"Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."*

He replied, *"What do you wish me to do for you?"*

They answered him,  
*"Grant that in your glory  
we may sit one at your right and the other at your left."*

Jesus said to them,  
*"You do not know what you are asking.  
Can you drink the cup that I drink  
or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"*

They said to him, *"We can."*

Jesus said to them,  
*"The cup that I drink, you will drink,  
and with the baptism with which I am baptized,  
you will be baptized;  
but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give  
but is for those for whom it has been prepared."*

When the ten heard this, they became indignant at James and John.

Jesus summoned them and said to them,  
*"You know that those who are recognized as rulers  
over the Gentiles lord it over them,  
and their great ones make their authority over them felt.  
But it shall not be so among you.*

*Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant;  
whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all.  
For the Son of Man did not come to be served  
but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

The Gospel of the Lord

*Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ*