

# Guardian Angels Catholic Community

February 18, 2018 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

[www.guardianangelscatholiccommunity.org](http://www.guardianangelscatholiccommunity.org)

**Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15 (& 9-11)**

(everyone joins in with the text in **BOLD**)



Announcements

## **Gathering: Change Our Hearts**

Refrain: **Change our hearts this time;**

**Your word says it can be. Change our minds this time.**

**Your life could make us free.**

**We are the people, Your call set apart.**

**Lord, this time change our hearts.**

**Brought by Your hand to the edge of our dreams,**

**One foot in paradise, one in the waste;**

**Drawn by Your promises, still we are lured,**

**By the shadows and the chains we leave behind.** Refrain

**Now as we watch, You stretch out Your hands,  
Off'ring abundances, fullness of joy.  
Your milk and honey seem distant, unreal,  
When we have bread and water in our hands, but** Refrain

**Show us the way that leads to Your side,  
Over the mountains and sands of the soul.  
Be for us manna, water from stone,  
Light which says we never walk alone.** Refrain

## GREETING

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

The grace and peace of the Living God:  
Creator; Jesus, and Spirit, is with each of you!  
**And also with you!**

## INTRODUCTION AND PENITENTIAL RITE

Lent is a time to remember that God first reached out to us. This was not a meagre, one-time gesture like those we often make and withdraw, but a profound, lasting and healing covenant. During this season, we reflect on and ask forgiveness for our own alienating, sinful actions. We ponder in deep prayer and silence that God has invested everything, including a beloved Son, into this relationship.

Lord Jesus, your ministry was preceded by 40 days in the desert: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you, like your ancestors, were challenged by obstacles and adversaries: **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you call us into this Lenten time to challenge our own obstacles and adversaries that keep us far from you: **Lord, have mercy.**

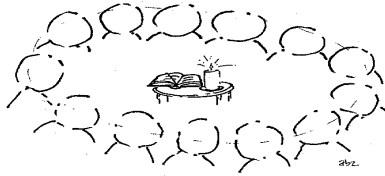
## ABSOLUTION

Know that our Merciful God has already forgiven us  
and cleansed us of our sins.

We need only accept this forgiveness + in the name of the  
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

## OPENING PRAYER

**Loving God, at times we feel that we have been driven into the wilderness. The difficulties and suffering in our lives overwhelm us and make us feel sorely tested. Let us know that the Spirit guides us and that Jesus, our brother, is with us. We ask this in his name confident that you will hear us. AMEN**



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**To you, O God, I lift up my soul;  
lift up my spirit to my Lord. To you I lift up my soul.**

2nd Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)

**Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

The Lord is with you. **And also with you.**

A reading from the holy + Gospel according to.....

**Glory to you, Lord.**

The Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Praise to you Jesus Christ! HOMILY**





**PROFESSION OF FAITH** (A creed from the United Church of Canada, 1980)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus,  
crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**



## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us now pray to grow in our relationship with God and one another during this sacred time.

\*For the whole church: that our covenant with a loving God may be strengthened during this Lenten season, we pray:  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

\*For the courage to contribute to a more just and peaceful world during this Lenten season, we pray:  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

\*For all who are facing “wild beasts”: that we may know God’s presence and strength as we face selfishness, greed, anger, addictions and all the actions and attitudes which destroy life, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

\*For those who died at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Ash Wednesday: Nicholas Dworet, Aaron Feis, Jaime Guttenberg, Alyssa Alhadef, Scott Beigel, Meadow Pollack, Christopher Hixon, Luke Hoyer, Carmen Schentrup, Gina Montalto, Alex Schachter, Peter Wang, Alaina Petty, Martin Duque Anguiano, Helena Ramsey, Joaquin Oliver, and Cara Loughran, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray?

For all these spoken prayers  
and for all those unspoken in our hearts, we pray:  
**Patient and loving God, out of love you have called us,  
an imperfect people, to be in covenant with you.  
Help us during this Lenten season  
to ponder your ways and follow your paths  
that we may be worthy of this calling. AMEN**

**Preparation: If We Just Talk of Thoughts and Prayers**

**(O WALY WALY - Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)**

**If we just talk of thoughts and prayers  
And don't live out a faith that dares,  
And don't take on the ways of death,  
Our thoughts and prayers are fleeting breath.**

**If we just dream of what could be  
And do not build community,  
And do not seek to change our ways,  
Our dreams of change are false displays.**

**If we just sing of doing good  
And don't walk through our neighborhood  
To learn its hope, to ease its pain,  
Our talk of good is simply vain.**

**God, may our prayers and dreams and songs  
Lead to a faith that takes on wrongs —  
That works for peace and justice, too.  
Then will our prayers bring joy to you.**

**SIGN OF PEACE**

Jesus you said to your friends, I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Grant that all of God's children may enjoy the peace and unity of your reign where you live forever and ever. **AMEN**

The peace of Jesus is with each of you! **And also with you!**

Let us offer each other a sign of peace and then join together around the Table of the Lord.

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*(Presider lifts paten with bread into hands and says:)*

Blessed are you, God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made, it will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God forever!**

*(Wine and water are poured into the chalice. Presider says:)*

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

*(Presider takes chalice and says:)*

Blessed are you, God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become for us our spiritual drink.

**Blessed be God forever!**

As we prepare to break this bread and share this cup we remember those who journey with us. For those who travel the way of the Hindus, those who follow the path of Buddha, for our sisters and brothers of Islam, for Native peoples everywhere, for the Jewish people from whom we come, for all Christians and for all others who walk the way of faith..

**Holy God, accept this offering,  
for the praise and glory of Your name,  
for our good and the good of all Your people.**

Christ lived and died for love.  
Let us remember him with this feast.

**All who seek God and are drawn to Christ  
are welcome at God's table.**

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

**God of the Covenant, receive our gifts. By this offering  
may we be victorious over every challenge and obstacle  
and be ready to follow Jesus. AMEN**

PREFACE

The Lord is with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, Creator of all, it is right that we give you praise and glory as we come in thanksgiving, for you are the one God, living and true. Source of life, you have blessed all creation in love and in joy. You never cease to call us to a new and more abundant life.

**You invite us to trust in your mercy for you are always  
ready to forgive us and to gift us with peace when we  
forgive, too. You ask us to serve the family of God by  
opening our hearts to the fullness of your Holy Spirit  
and to proclaim the power of your love.**

In wonder and gratitude, we join our voices with the choirs of angels and saints who have gone before us, as we sing together:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Loving God, you are holy indeed. All life, all holiness comes from you. We come to thank you for your Son, Jesus for it is through him that we experience your message of total acceptance of all people, a welcome that includes everyone and invites everyone to this Eucharistic table of equals.

**It was Jesus who healed all divisions and recognized You, His Father, present within all of creation.**

**He brought to light your way of compassion and justice, helping us to understand the need to care for each other with dignity and respect.**

He taught us by his life and by his death and resurrection to be true to ourselves, even if we, also, might need to give up everything as he did. For it is in our own dying, that we, too, rise to new life.

*(Presider extends hand over bread and wine and says:)*

So now we remember another table filled with love and thanksgiving – that of the Last Supper. Let your Spirit come upon these our gifts to make them holy so that they may become for us + the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*(Presider takes bread and says:)*

It was at table with his friends that Jesus took bread and broke it, gave it to his disciples and said,

**Take this, all of you, and eat it.**

**This is my body which will be given up for you.**

*(Presider takes chalice and says:)*

When the supper was ended, again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples and said,

**Take this, all of you, and drink from it: This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.**



Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: (sung)

**Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Compassionate God, this life-giving bread, this saving cup. May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ, be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.

One with the love of Christ, and joined with the love of all of us gathered here, we send prayers to all in leadership in every place of worship, especially for our Bishop Francis, and for all who serve the people of God.

**We pray for all countries and their leaders that they may create justice and equality for their peoples; may peace come to our own country as well as to all the troubled lands of our world.**

We pray for all who are sick that health may soon be theirs, especially we pray for all who have died: (pause)  
May they be in peace and may they welcome us, one day, into the place of eternal peace.

**In that new world where the fullness of your peace will be revealed, gather people of every race, language and way of life to share in the one eternal banquet with Jesus Christ the Lord.**



*(Bread and wine are held up as **WE** sing...)*

**Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, for ever and ever. Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen. (repeat)**

Let us join hands and pray what Jesus has taught us to pray (chanted):  
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come thy will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
Now and forever.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread and drink this cup  
for the earth we have wasted, for those who have no bread  
and for ourselves in our brokenness.

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy  
on us; Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have  
mercy on us; Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*(Presider breaks a small piece of host & drops it into chalice saying:)*

May this mingling of the holy body and blood of Jesus Christ  
bring eternal life to us who receive it.

**Jesus, with faith in your love and mercy we receive this  
Eucharist. Let it bring us health in mind, body and spirit.**

This is Jesus the Christ who taught us how to live.

Happy are we who are called to his supper

**May we receive this gift in purity of heart.**

**May it bring us healing and strength now and forever.**

Holy Communion is a great privilege, a precious feast. And the  
host invites us all. "In Christ, there is no Jew or Greek, enslaved or  
free, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus." (Gal 3:28) We  
encourage you to take your place at this holy table, for we  
understand and acknowledge that this is Christ's table and that  
this sacred meal is Christ's supper. We are all invited guests. No  
one is excluded. All are welcomed here!

### **Communion Songs: Comm 1: To You Who Bow**

**To you who bow, to you who bend,  
to you who do not cling to heaven, but unto us descend;  
you who summon us as servants  
and call your servants friends:**

Refrain: **To you we lift our song, love ever new,  
O God who bows, we sing our song to you.**

**To you who teach, to you who heal,  
to you, the leper's restoration, the victim's last appeal;  
you whose life is sown and gathered  
and offered as a meal: Refrain**

**To you who weep, to you who bleed, who dreamed the bound'ries of Orion, but will not break the reed; you who sow the end of empire with tiny, peaceful seed:**  
Refrain

**To you who starve, to you who thirst, to you condemned to death by malice, abandoned and accursed; you who promised to the wretched the last will be made first:**  
Refrain

**To you who rise, to you, our peace, to you who lead the way before us, whose spirit binds and frees; at once the Alpha and Omega, whose love shall never cease:** Refrain

**Comm 2: #195 Eagles Wings**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of New Life, may this covenant meal we have shared, make us strong to give our lives anew to the challenge of your reign. AMEN**

FINAL BLESSING The Lord is with you...**And also with you.**  
Let us bow our heads and pray for God's Blessing...

May God grant you strength to meet all challenges, wisdom to meet the questions, abilities beyond your expectations, peace sufficient to meet any troubles, surprising delights where none were expected, and love beyond measure; borne up by God's Holy Spirit every minute of every day.  
**AMEN!**

And may our loving God bless you today and always:  
Father, Son + and Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

DISMISSAL

**Our mass never ends, it must be lived. So let us go forth to love and serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!**



**Sending Forth: Beyond the Days**

Refrain: **Beyond the days of hope and mystery  
we see a light of faith renewed,  
and in our longing we thirst for guidance  
to walk with you day by day.**

**Forty days and nights,  
you guide the steps of our journey.  
May your presence be felt  
in the whisper of your voice.** Refrain

**Not on bread alone  
are we to walk on this journey.  
Speak the words that give life  
to the yearnings of our hearts.** Refrain

**In your hands, O God,  
we feel the touch of your guidance.  
Keep us safe in your care:  
may your gentleness be there.** Refrain

**On our Lenten path  
we see the dawn of a new day.  
Be our vision of hope;  
be the promise of our lives.  
Beyond the days of hope and mystery  
we see a light of faith renewed,  
and in our longing we thirst for guidance  
to walk with you day by day,  
to walk with you day by day.**

***In essentials, unity;  
In nonessentials, diversity;  
In all things, charity.***

Attributed to St. Augustine of Hippo