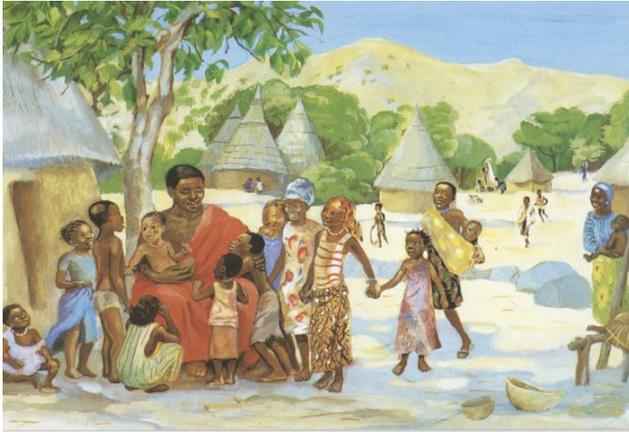


# Guardian Angels Catholic Community

## September 18, 2018 – Tuesday Morning Synod Mass

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

**Leviticus 19:33-34; Hebrews 13:1-2; Matthew 2:13-15**  
(everyone joins in with the text in **BOLD**)



Jesus welcomes the children

### WELCOME

It is good for us to be together. We gather to remind ourselves of the Gospel's call to welcome the stranger by ministering to people who are immigrants, migrants and refugees and serving the most vulnerable of God's people. We join our fierce prayers flung to our God, to protest the unjust separation of children from their parents as they crossed the border of this nation, those children and adults seeking asylum from violence and poverty consuming the homelands in which they would otherwise have preferred to remain. We join our prayers that God reunite migrant families harshly split at the border. We pray for those who continue to be held in detention centers – forgotten now that media attention has turned to something else. We join our prayers in solidarity with the strangers in our community, and all those who call upon government officials for a fair and compassionate immigration policy, that addresses the root causes of migration and poverty. Let us join our prayers in worship of God.

### **Gathering: Abraham Journeyed to a New Country**

**Abraham journeyed to a new country;**

**Sarah went with him, journeying too.**

**Slaves down in Egypt fled Pharaoh's army;**

**Ruth left the home and people she knew.**

**Mary and Joseph feared Herod's order;  
Soldiers were coming! They had to flee.  
Taking young Jesus, they crossed the border;  
So was our Lord a young refugee.**

**Some heard the promise—  
God's hand would bless them!  
Some fled from hunger, famine and pain.  
Some left a place where others oppressed them;  
All trusted God and started again.**

**Did they know hardship? Did they know danger?  
Who shared a home or gave them some bread?  
Who reached a hand to welcome the stranger?  
Who saw their fear and gave hope instead?**

**God, our own families came here from far lands;  
We have been strangers, "aliens" too.  
May we reach out and offer a welcome  
As we have all been welcomed by you.**

#### 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!**

#### PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord Jesus, you hear the cries of our sisters and brothers,  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, help us help our neighbors in this time of  
persecution, Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, remind us that you will never leave us nor  
forsake us or your little ones, Lord, have mercy.  
**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**

## **GLORY/GLORIA**

Refrain: **Glory! Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest!  
Gloria! Gloria a Dios! Gloria a Dios en el cielo!**

**Women: And peace to God's people on earth**

**Men: Paz en la tierra (repeat)**

**Lord God, Heavenly King, Almighty God and Father  
Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God only Son of the Father,**

Refrain

**You take away the sins of the world,  
You are seated at the Father's right hand,  
receive our prayer.** Refrain

**You alone are the Holy One.  
You alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father.** Refrain

## **OPENING PRAYER**

**God of us all,**

**we pray for our neighbors at our southern border.**

**That they will be treated fairly and just.**

**We lift up the children who have been  
forcibly separated from their parents,  
many still awaiting reunion.**

**We lift up the families to you.**

**We pray against**

**the spirit of fear and hatred that claims our border.**

**We call upon you, God, the author of peace and justice,  
to help us show your compassion at our border.**

**In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

First Reading

Leviticus 19:33-34

“When the alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Lord, let us see your kindness.**

**Lord, let us see your kindness.**

2nd Reading

Hebrews 13:1-2

“Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.”

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Give the glory and the honor to the Lord!**

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

A reading from the holy + Gospel according to Matthew

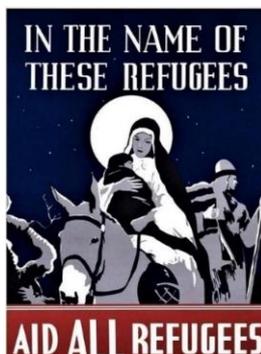
**Glory to you, Lord.**

Matthew 2:13-15

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

The Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Praise to you Jesus Christ! Homily**





## LITANY OF THE HELD

L1: If I asked you for water, the sun is so hot, would you help?

R: **God be with you**

L2: If I asked you to help me find my mommy, I'm so afraid, would you help? I'm only three, I know no one here. Where is she? Why did she abandon me? Why am I alone? Where is my teddy bear? I am so frightened. It's such a big feeling for someone so small. Why don't you hold me? Why don't you pick me up? I don't understand, I can't understand.

R: **God be with you**

L1: This tent is not a home, fences are for animals, why are things this way for us? Did your lady of liberty not say, give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free? Did you change your mind?

R: **God be with you**

L2: If I asked you to help me find something to sleep on, the cement is so cold, would you help? Do all Americans sleep on floors or cots or blankets of stone?

R: **God be with you**

L1: I rock back and forth, all night, all day. Through the passing of the moon, the passing of the sun. Again and again, I beg of you, help me, help me, find my child.

R: **God be with you**

L2: Can you tell me, will you tell me? Are my parents gone forever, how can I find them in so big a place? When can I leave, when can I go? I need to find them. Why did he leave, why can't I? I have so many questions and no one to answer them. How is this going to work? How can I find them?

R: **God be with you**

L1: If I asked you for a real blanket, not a shiny, stiff matt, would you help? I have no mother, no father to calm my fears, a blanket wrapped around me tight, could make the night terrors go away.

R: **God be with you**



L2: My body shudders with uncontrolled tears. I cannot settle down, I cannot stop crying, I cannot understand why my papa isn't here. Can you not break the rules and just hold me? Every day is long and lonely, something is very, very, very wrong. Please, don't let me be so alone. Please. Can you

not see my fear? You are the grown up. You can make this right.

**R: God be with you**

L1: The worst heat rose from the ground, not from the sun above. I'm grateful to rest, I'm grateful for some water and food. I look to America for our safety and hope. Yet the fences in this place are like the fences on the border. I fled the cartel, its guns and machetes. I fled the poverty, the hunger and despair. The daily fear of death was too much. I came here. I fled... to America, the land of the free.

**R: God be with you**

L2: Am I a person or a plague to you? I came in peace, I came in hope, I came as a friend, willing to work, willing to serve as my brothers and sisters before me. My hands grow weary of holding the wired fence, waiting for your compassion. I gaze out, waiting, for my chance at freedom. To be a part of you, to help, to contribute. Will you let me? Let us?

**R: God be with you**

L1: Do you, hate or love? **R: God be with you**

L2: What is this "God be with you"? Is this your only response? Does this mean you're going to help me? Does this mean your faith is in action? Does this mean that together we will find a way to bring about the light of the Creator to all who tread in search of a better tomorrow? Are you leaving it only up to God to intervene? Does God not use us all to teach one another, love one another, be with one another, and help, one another?

**R: God be with you**

L1: If today you learned that the face you now see, that my true identity is Jesus the Christ, that I have been looking to see you be my hands and feet to the strangers in your midst, would you change your mind, your heart, your helping hand? Did you fail my expectations, or did you love? Did you help My children...would you help My children?

Would you? Would you? Would you.

**S I L E N C E**



Forgive us, dear God, when we keep silent in the face of this monstrous evil of the abuse of Your children. Forgive us, dear God, when we turn away too quickly. Forgive us, dear God, when we erupt in anger because we feel powerless to change the wicked actions we see. Forgive us, dear God, when we slump into despair at the evil in our world that kicks those who are already down, violently shoves away those who are fleeing violence.

**Turn our hearts, O Lord,  
turn them toward Your love that welcomes all.  
Turn our hands, O Lord,  
turn them to serve the powerless.  
Turn our voices, O Lord,  
raise them to press the powerful toward justice.  
Turn us, O Lord, to love others as You love them,  
that Your Name be hallowed by freeing children from  
cages, Your will be done by reuniting migrant families,  
on earth as it is in heaven. AMEN**

**Preparation: The Children Come**

**The children come, not sure where they are going;  
Some little ones have seen their siblings die.  
They've traveled north—a tide that keeps on growing,  
A stream of life beneath the desert sky.  
Their welcome here? Detention, overflowing.  
O Lord of love, now hear your children's cry!**

**The children come in search of something better;  
They've traveled here with nothing in their hands.  
On one boy's belt, a number carved in leather  
Leads to a phone, a brother here, a plan.  
They come alone—or sometimes band together;  
They bring a plea that we will understand.**

**O Christ our Lord, you welcomed in the stranger;  
You blessed the children, telling them to stay.  
Be in the desert, with the tired and injured;  
Be at the border where they are afraid.  
Be on each bus where children sense the danger,  
As angry crowds are shouting, "Go away!"**

**God, let each one know justice, peace and welcome—  
And may your gift of mercy start with me.  
For unto such as these belongs your kingdom,  
And in each child, it is your face we see.  
May we, your church, respond in truth and action,  
And with you, Lord, say, "Let them come to me."**

### **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 Journey, accept the gifts of your church.  
May this eucharist help us grow in courage and faith.  
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 power, God of might,  
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)

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

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 all our Bishops, Lay Leaders, clergy 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 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, amen, amen.**

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: Pan de Vida**

Refrain: **Pan de vida, cuerpo del Señor.**

**cup of blessing, blood of Christ the Lord.**

**At this table the last shall be first,**

**Poder es servir, porque Dios es amor.**

**We are the dwelling of God,  
fragile and wounded and weak.  
We are the body of Christ,  
called to be the compassion of God.** Refrain

**You call me Teacher and Lord;  
I, who have washed your feet.  
So you must do as I do,  
so the greatest must become the least.** Refrain

**There is no Jew or Greek:  
there is no slave or free;  
There is no woman or man;  
only heirs to the promise of God.** Refrain

### **Comm 2: Neither Death Nor Life**

Refrain: **Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor trials in the present, nor any trial to come,  
neither height, nor depth, nor all of creation  
can ever separate us from the love of God  
poured out in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Dwell in the One who raised Christ from the dead;  
though your body shall die, in Christ you shall rise  
through the Spirit who brings you to life.** Refrain

**All who are led by the Spirit shall live as children of God,  
and hears with Christ Jesus,  
God's adopted and chosen and loved.** Refrain

**All of the suff'ring we now must endure  
Is nothing to the glory so soon to be revealed  
When creation itself is set free.** Refrain

**All of creation awaits the new birth,  
the fullness of redemption, through labor pains of love;  
and so we wait in patience and hope.** Refrain

**Who can separate us from the love of Christ?  
Will hardship or distress, persecution or famine,  
or naked ness or peril or sword?** Refrain

### **Comm 3: Para amar como tú**

Refrain: **O God, great is your love, everlasting and true.**

**Señor, danos tu amor para amar como tú.** (repeat)

(O Lord, give us your love that we may love like you.)

**To feed the hungry, y\_amar como tú.** (and love like you)

**To welcome the stranger, y\_amar como tú.** (and love like you) Refrain

**To clothe the naked, y\_amar como tú.** (and love like you)

**To bring your forgiveness, y\_amar como tú.** (and love like you) Refrain

**To love our neighbor, y\_amar como tú.** (and love like you)

**To shelter the homeless, y\_amar como tú.** (and love like you) Refrain

**To work for justice, y\_amar como tú.** (and love like you)

**To ransom the captive, y\_amar como tú.** (and love like you) Refrain

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of mercy and compassion, you gift us with family, friends and homeland – true marks of our identity.

Keep us ever mindful of those who suffer because of dispossession, homelessness and exile, who, through no fault or choice of their own, are forced to be pilgrims and strangers while others occupy their lands.

**Grant us, we pray, a far-reaching mercy and compassion, that we may open our hearts**

**and homes more fully in welcome**

**and care for the strangers and refugees in our midst.**

**Teach us your ways of justice, peace and reconciliation.**

**Grant us the strength and courage to face the systems, policies and structures of our day**

**that divide the human family, and transform them with Your love. We ask this in Your name.**

**AMEN!**

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

Let us bow our heads and pray for God's Blessing...

God of the way, you are the road we travel, and the sign we follow; you are bread for the journey, and the wine of arrival.

Guide us as we follow in your way, holding on to each other,  
reaching out to your beloved world.

And when we stray, seek us out and find us,  
set our feet on the path again, and lead us safely home.  
In the name of Jesus, our Companion, we pray. **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! Alleluia!**

**Sending Forth: Halleluya! We Sing Your Praises**

Refrain: **Halleluya! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.  
Halleluya! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

**Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger.**

Refrain

**Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,  
strong in faith, free of doubt,  
to proclaim the joyful Gospel.** Refrain



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

Attributed to St. Augustine of Hippo



**Undocumented: Immigration and the Militarization of the  
United States-Mexico Border Hardcover**  
– March 27, 2018  
by [John Moore](#) (Author)

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Phoenix Restoration Project

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