

RCIA WINTER ONLINE GATHERING



OPENING PRAYER

Sign of the Cross

Scripture Reading

Luke 6:17, 20-23a

Reflection (“*Be the People of the Beatitudes*”)

(by Pope St. John Paul II, Homily at “World Youth Day” in Toronto, Canada [2002])

“If you are the people of the beatitudes, you will be happy.”

Prayer (“*Lord Jesus be our wisdom, light and life*”)

All: Lord Jesus Christ,
proclaim once more your Beatitudes
in the presence of your people.

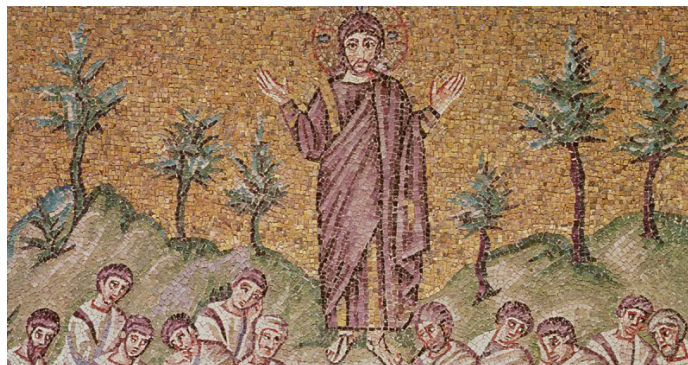
Look upon us with love and listen to our hearts.
You have called us to be the "salt of the earth and light of the world".
Continue to teach us the truth and beauty of the vision
that you proclaimed on the Mountain.

Make us men and women of the Beatitudes.
Let the light of your wisdom shine upon us,
so that in word and deed we may spread in the world
the light and salt of the Gospel.

Make our whole life a bright reflection of you,
who are the true light that came into this world
so that whoever believes in you will not die,
but will have eternal life (Jn 3:16).

Amen.

(Pope St. John Paul II, World Youth Day Toronto)



CLOSING PRAYER

Sign of the Cross

Scripture Reading

Luke 6:17, 20-23a

Reflection (“*Be Doers of the Word*”)

(by Dorothy Day, *Selected Writings*)

“Kindness seems a simple enough virtue...”



Prayer (“*Free the Oppressed*”)

Leader: Loving God, we ask for your protection this day:

Reader: You are gentle and kind, merciful to those in need:

All: *Send the light of your abundant love to those who are lonely and suffering.*

Reader: You desire freedom for the oppressed:

All: *Show the earth with justice for those who are imprisoned by hate and fear.*

Reader: You bring healing to the wounded:

All: *Wrap their pain in your loving embrace.*

Reader: You bring freedom to the captive:

All: *Break the chains of those bound by the darkness and evil forces at work in our world.*

Reader: You comfort those who mourn:

All: *Lift sorrow from their hearts that they may know joy.*

Reader: You bring peace to those in conflict:

All: *Guide us in the ways of reconciliation, and bring your people to deeper communion.*

Leader: God of justice and mercy, you are our saving God. Come with your power to save and free those held captive by oppression. Use us as your instruments of mercy and peace. Give us the courage to challenge all that enslaves the human spirit. This we ask in the name of Jesus.

All: *Amen.*

(Reprinted from, Intercessions of Mercy, Prayers by Members of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas / ACTA Publications)