

Our Household Church: June 28, 2020

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

CALL TO THE FEAST

All: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

(You may begin by singing a song together.)

Youngest: Out of darkness came light **All: and the Power of God was revealed:**

Men: in the running wave and the flowing air,

Women: in the quiet earth and the shining stars.

Eldest: Out of the dust came life, **All: and the Image of God was revealed**

Men: in the human face and the gentle heart,

Women: in the warmth of flesh and the depth of soul

Youngest: out of justice came freedom. **All: The Wisdom which is God was revealed:**

Men: in the need to grow and the will to love,

Women: in the chance to know and the power to choose.

Eldest: Then God looked at the creation, **All: Behold, it was very good.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Youngest: Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, **All:** how can we season it?

Eldest: Giving God, You blessed us with saltiness, **All:** But we became bland.

Youngest: You trusted us with Your Word, **All:** But we did not keep it.

Eldest: You lit a flame in our midst, **All:** But we hid it under formality a basket of self-doubt.

Youngest: God, in Your mercy:

All: Forgive us.

(pause)

(silence)

Eldest: Forgiving God, we believe that You have called us. **All:** to be salt and light;

Youngest: that You offer us time and space and strength **All:** to begin again.

(pause)

(silence)

Eldest: Giving and forgiving God,

All: We thank you.

Youngest: Have salt in yourself, and

All: be at peace with each other.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Today's Gospel is from [Matthew 10:37-42](#). For the complete Readings [click here](#).

Each of the Readings can be read or simply you can choose the Gospel by itself.

WHILE SOMEONE READS THE SCRIPTURE(S), LISTEN WELL.

BE AWARE OF THE IMAGE BEING PAINTED, OR THE STORY BEING TOLD. DOES THE STORY OR THE IMAGE CALL TO MIND ANYTHING SIMILAR IN YOUR OWN LIFE OR EXPERIENCE? FEEL FREE TO SHARE THAT IMAGE OR EXPERIENCE IN THE GATHERING.

After reading, share your impressions of the reading (s) with each other:

✓ *What aromas from nature, a kitchen, a car backfiring or a campfire cause you to be aware of something else – another time – another place? Good memories? Difficult memories?*

✓ *How often are you able to complete somebody else's sentence before they do? (for who)*

How did you "know" where they "were going"?

✓ *Tell of a time when you felt respect for someone because she/he was the son or daughter of someone you know. <<<>>> Have you ever had that happen to you? <<>> And you felt...?*

✓ *Tell of an instance when an unknown person stopped to help you in a parking lot, along the road, in a store or the neighborhood because they thought you could use a hand. How did you respond? <> Shoe on the other foot: ... for you to get help from someone unknown.*

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In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us:

- ✓ “WHOEVER RECEIVES YOU RECEIVES ME, AND WHOEVER RECEIVES ME RECEIVES THE ONE WHO SENT ME.”
 - *Who sends us when we offer good to someone we do not know? We have received. How do we give?*
- ✓ “Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward”
 - *Rather than foretelling the future, a prophet reads where we are and where we are going. Another name could be “mentor.” What have mentors shown me for me to mentor in turn?*
- ✓ “Whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man...”
 - *A “righteous” person knows personal limits and attempts to SEE in order to DISCERN and JUDGE before SPEAKING/ACTING - for the “common good.” Responding for the sake of Good: to be Peace*
- ✓ will receive a righteous man’s reward
 - *Who needs a reward? Why do we do what we do?*

SHARING THE FEAST

Youngest: We are all invited to the common table to share in this Agape Feast.

Elders: At this table we come as brothers and sisters in the Holy Family of God.

Youngest: Taste and see that God is good.

Share a meal as your feast, or, at least, a loaf of bread (rice-cakes, chapati, naan, pita, tortilla, oatcakes, sweet bread, baguette, etc.) and a glass/cup (or individual glasses) of (wine, water, cider, grape juice). The bread and the beverage are passed to one another. Each person serving the individual next to him or her.

PRAYER

(at the conclusion of each one drinking and eating)

Elders: As we share this bread we thank You, God, for our daily bread - for the food which delights and nourishes us and for the companionship that sustains us as *[a family, friends, coworkers, Franciscans, etc.]*.

Youngest: We thank You, too, for rain, brooks and rivers which are filled with water to cleanse us and to quench our thirst and the thirsty Land. This represents our yearning for the Living Water with which You surprise, enrich and transform our lives. As we pour this *(water, wine)* we know our need for You and each other.

All: We give thanks for this feast at which we all can share, a foretaste of the Holy Realm.

All: Amen.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Elders: Living God, Loving Creator; You cherish Creation and:

All: We thank You.

Youngest: With earth, air, water, fire: in our element as Your children:

All: We praise You.

Elders: With our lips, lives and diversity, each made in Your image:

All: We honor You.

Youngest: Jesus, you came to share our human lives, our sorrow and joy:

All: We are humbled in You.

Elders: The Spirit at work today: encouraging, enabling, surprising us:

All: You warm us.

Youngest: Poor as we are:

All: You give us hope.

Elders: Salt of the earth, You give us meaning and purpose and

All: We praise You!

All: Amen!

All: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

(You may end by singing a song together.)

Excerpts taken from: <https://www.ofsusaecumenicalinterfaith.org/agape-celebration>