



PRESIDER'S TEXT
PRAYER SERVICES

FOR THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS NETWORK
ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION
ON
FRATELLI TUTTI
DECEMBER 2, 2020

OPENING PRAYER: A CELEBRATION OF THE WORD

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Sign of the Cross **(CHARLEEN)**

Leader: ✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.

Greeting

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
All: and with your spirit.

Introduction

in these or similar words

Leader: We gather here today in a world suffering from the effects of the pandemic.
We gather virtually because we cannot be together.
Yet, we gather because,
no matter what national organization may occupy our daily thoughts,
we share a common mission – the spread of the Gospel.
In this season of Advent, we gather in joyful hope
that the words of Jesus will continue to inspire men and women of goodwill
to share God's love with the least among us
and that the words of Pope Francis in *Fratelli tutti*
will inspire them to take concrete action
to serve our brothers and sisters, near or far.
May our time together this morning be one step in doing so.

Opening Prayer

from Fratelli tutti

Leader: Lord, Father of our human family,
you created all human beings equal in dignity:
pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit
and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter,
dialogue, justice and peace.
Move us to create healthier societies
and a more dignified world,
a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.

May our hearts be open
to all the peoples and nations of the earth.
May we recognize the goodness and beauty
that you have sown in each of us,
and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects,
and shared dreams.

Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading **(JOAN)**

Ephesians 4:1-6

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:
I, a prisoner for the Lord,
urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another through love,
striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace:
one body and one spirit,
as you were also called to the one hope of your call:
one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
one God and Father of all,
who is over all and through all and in all.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (ANNA)

Psalm 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37

R. (14c) Lord, in your great love, answer me.

I pray to you, O LORD, for the time of your favor, O God!
In your great kindness answer me, with your constant help.
Answer me, O LORD, for bounteous is your kindness
in your great mercy turn toward me.

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

But I am afflicted and in pain;
let your saving help, O God, protect me.
I will praise the name of God in song,
and I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

"See, you lowly ones, and be glad;
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!
For the LORD hears the poor,
and his own who are in bonds he spurns not."

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

For God will save Zion
and rebuild the cities of Judah.
They shall dwell in the land and own it,
and the descendants of his servants shall inherit it,
and those who love his name shall inhabit it.

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

“Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.

‘Teacher,’ he said, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’

He said to him, ‘What is written in the law? What do you read there?’

He answered, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind;
and your neighbor as yourself.’

And he said to him, ‘You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.’

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’

Jesus replied, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho,
and fell into the hands of robbers,

who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.

Now by chance a priest was going down that road;

and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him,
passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan while traveling came near him;

and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.

He went to him and bandaged his wounds,
having poured oil and wine on them.

Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said,

‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you
spend.’

Which of these three, do you think,

was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?”

He said, ‘The one who showed him mercy.’

Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Invitation to Prayer

Charleen: As brothers and sisters all,
let us confidently approach the Father with our petitions.

Petitions

Rita: For all members of the Church that we may recognize that our Baptism impels us to engage in social dialogue and to treat others with kindness and respect, we pray...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

That leaders of all nations may acknowledge that “mutual assistance between countries will prove enriching for each” and will benefit all of mankind, we pray...

That gospel values may inspire all Catholic organizations to develop policies and practices which promote the dignity of every human being, we pray...

For those who are victims of human trafficking,
for those who suffer from hunger,
and for those who are displaced by the ravages of war, we pray...

For our beloved dead,
for all those who have died world-wide from the pandemic,
and especially for those who have died alone today, we pray...

Lord's Prayer

Charleen Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

All: Our Father,...

CONCLUDING RITE

Greeting

Charleen: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.

Blessing

Charleen: May almighty God ✠ bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

AN ECUMENICAL CHRISTIAN PRAYER

drawn from Fratelli tutti

Rita: O God, Trinity of love,
from the profound communion of your divine life,
pour out upon us a torrent of fraternal love.
Grant us the love reflected in the actions of Jesus,
in his family of Nazareth,
and in the early Christian community.

Don: Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel,
discovering Christ in each human being,
recognizing him crucified
in the sufferings of the abandoned
and forgotten of our world,
and risen in each brother or sister
who makes a new start.

Krisanne: Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,
so that we may discover anew
that all are important and all are necessary,
different faces of the one humanity
that God so loves. Amen.