

Zoom Meeting ID: 326 920 7504

Call-in option: 1) Dial 646-568-7788 or 929-205-6099, 2) Enter 326 920 7504 # and 3) Press # for a participant's ID

Officiant Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Psalm 19:14*

Confession of Sins

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **Most merciful God,**
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, ^{+(you may cross yourself)}
strengthen us in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

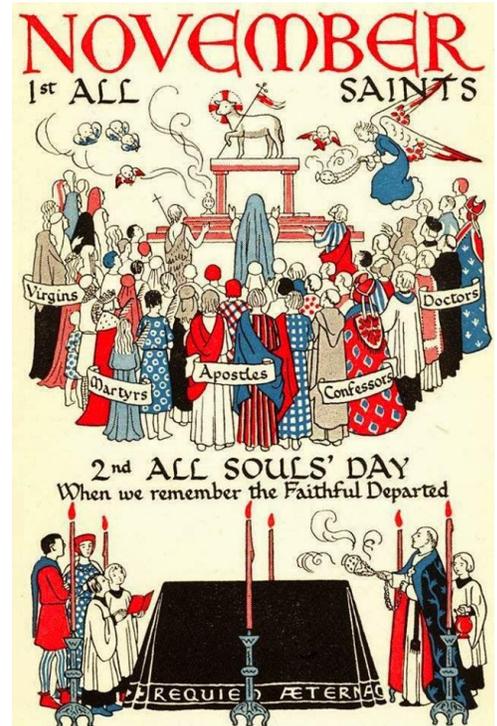
Officiant Eternal Spirit, flow through our being and open our lips, ^{+(you may cross your lips with a right thumb)}
Celebrants **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Officiant Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.

Jubilate Psalm 100

All **Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; ***
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Officiant Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.



The Lesson

Reader

A Lesson from *John 11:32-33*

Jesus looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Celebrants

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149

Cantate Domino

All

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song; *

sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *

let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *

let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people *

and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *

let them be joyful on their beds.

6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *

and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *

and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their kings in chains *

and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *

this is glory for all his faithful people.

Hallelujah!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Hymn

On Eagle's Wings

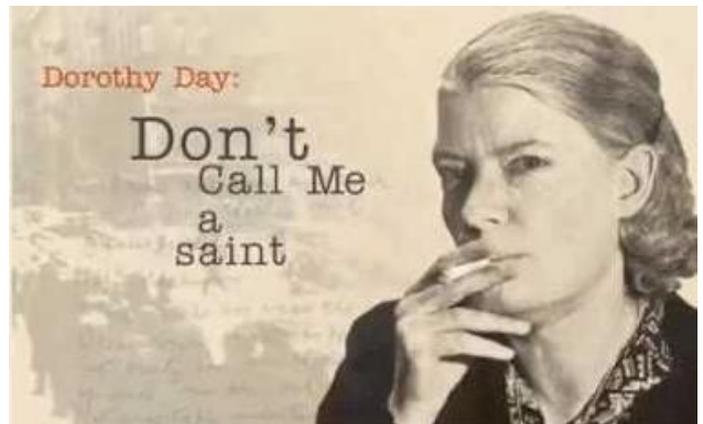
Michael Joncas

The Beatitudes we hear this morning may be considered a recipe for Christians to become a saint or Christlike. So, here's the recipe: be poor, hungry, weep, and be hated, excluded, reviled, or defamed. The saintly ingredients may be poverty, hunger, sorrow, and persecution. Here's what to avoid: be full, rich, laugh, and have an impeccable reputation. Now, would you apply this recipe to your life? Probably not. Who wants to be poor and hungry? Who wants to be in sorrow? Who wants to be hated and excluded?

We wouldn't and shouldn't blindly take this recipe at face value. To cook this recipe, we first need to learn how to cook and we learn it by doing it as Julia Child once said, "...no one is born a great cook, one learns by doing." I would suggest Dorothy Day as our cooking instructor who can certainly cook this saintly recipe well. Dorothy Day (1897-1980) was an American social activist. She's mostly known as the one who established the Catholic Worker movement that focuses on aiding the poor and homeless. She can be a great cooking instructor for us not simply because her life committed to the poor and homeless is saintly but she candidly talks about how sentimental hagiography or the "pious pap" describes saints as less attractive for us to imitate and follow.

If you look at any icon or painting of a Christian saint, there's at least one thing in common. No one smiles. They look rather melancholy. Dorothy Day points out something similar: "Blessed de Montfort sometimes shed tears and sobbed bitterly when sitting at a table to eat...no wonder no one wants to be a saint." This explains her famous saying about herself being called a saint, "Don't call me a saint. I don't want to be dismissed that easily."

She suggests a different depiction of a saint: "We are all called to be saints, and we might as well get over our bourgeois fear of the name. We might also get used to recognizing the fact that there is some of the saint in all of us. Inasmuch as we are growing, putting off the old man and putting on Christ, there is some of the saint, the holy, the divine right there...most people nowadays, if they were asked, would say diffidently that they do not profess to be saints, indeed they do not want to be saints. And yet the saint is the holy man, the 'whole man,' the integrated man. We all wish to be that...the significance of our smallest acts! The significance of the little things we leave undone! The protests we do not make, the stands we do not take, we who are living in the world." (All of Dorothy Day's quotes are from Robert Ellsberg's wonderful essay from catholicworker.org/pages/ellsberg-called-saints.html, which I highly recommend all of us to read.)



Now returning to the Beatitudes, Dorothy Day's hopeful perspective on "some of the saint in all of us" seems to be the key. Before getting stressed about being poor and hungry, defamed, and weeping, our own recognition and acceptance of this "some of the saint in all of us" makes our process of being holy, whole, and integrated rather easier and seamless. This "some of the t in all of us" is nothing unfamiliar to us. It is "God's presence" in all of us. The presence of the Spirit enables, empowers, and equips us to follow the recipe of sainthood. God's presence when contemplatively simmered produces a flavor of goodwill for all including those we like and dislike as well as those we don't even know. This goodwill when meditatively caramelized gives a taste of generosity.

I suggest all of us remember the three G's to cook it just right: God's presence, goodwill, and generosity. These are the skillful means of sainthood. We don't want to be poor out of deprivation. We choose to be poor and hungry out of abundance. With a sense of fullness, poverty and hunger are not a state of depravity or deficiency. There's no need to possess more than we need or to hoard. The more we give, the fuller we become. In giving, we become whole. Rooted in God's presence, compassion is then another name for our goodwill for those who are suffering. In compassion, we weep with them and hope to lessen their suffering.

All these actions patterned by the three G's are the actions of love. When we're committed to this practice of Christ's love, we may be hated or excluded. Herbert McCabe, an Irish Dominican friar prophetically says, "If you do not love, you will not be alive; if you love effectively, you will be killed."

The Apostles' Creed

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.
Celebrants **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray, singing
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 thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Supplication *Pray responsively.*

- V. For the hungry and the overfed
- R. **May we have enough.**
- V. For the mourners and the mockers
- R. **May we laugh together.**
- V. For the victims and the oppressors
- R. **May we share power wisely.**
- V. For the peacemakers and the warmongers
- R. **May clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony.**
- V. For the silenced and the propagandists
- R. **May we speak our own words in truth.**
- V. For the unemployed and the overworked
- R. **May our impress on the earth be kindly and creative.**
- V. For the troubled and the sleek

- R. May we live together as wounded healers.**
- V. For the homeless and the cosseted
- R. May our homes be simple, warm and welcoming.**
- V. For the vibrant and the dying
- R. May we all die to live.**

The Collect for All Saints' Day (November 1)

All **Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.**

The Collect for All Souls' Day (November 2)

All **O God, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to the faithful departed the unsearchable benefits of the passion of your Son; that on the day of his appearing they may be manifested as your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever. Amen.**

For All the Faithful Departed

Celebrant Let us remember all those faithful departed and nearer to God's everlasting presence, especially:

Cislyn Walker, Marie Patterson, Leo and Ann Adams, Ken Adams, Robert Volle, Jennifer Cornwall, Joy-Ann Tull, Guy Tull, Doris Bynoe, Gwendolyn Edwards, Grafton Merrit, Athelda Merrit, Joyce Malcome, Elise Henderson, Sylvia Vandorn, Tony Walcott, Alan James, Basil Merrit, Rita Remy, Gerald Remy, Sr., Steve Remy, Bertram and Enid Pilliner, Lascelles and Enid Tapper, Peter Fakourie, Shahini Robinson, Jose Solano, Anna and Robert Dransfield, Gene Young, John Murez, Valerie Lucas, Dorothea Schamberger-Marziale, Dorothy Meador, Carlotta Mayer, Len Hordyk, Carolyn and Harold Wagner, Robert Fruit, Robert Dowling, Lind Fruit Edwards, Anthony Ceriani, Richard Tissot, Richard G. "Rick" Tissot, Arthur and Mabel Wadsworth, Caroline and Jesse H. Krum, Daniel Seddon, Leroy and Margaret Sauter, Ruth Ann Sauter, Margaret Baker, John David Healy, Eleanor Galuska, Kyle Galuska, Ken Elliot, Andrea Dransfield, Robert and Mabel Keller, Vardaman J. Runnels and Virgie Tullos Runnels, Patricia Ward Borden, Jane Yoo, Bradley Barrington Box, George Lang, Doris and Augie Ploch, Joan and Martin Goerl, Jim Goerl, Rev. Jae Chung, Adelaide Bortey-Simpson, Chadwick Boseman, Kobe and Gianna Bryant, James Allen, John Allen, Patricia Amisson, Christiana Banitch, Felix Banitch, George and Twyla Banitch, Stephanie Banitch, Mary Barkelew, Patricia Boynton, James Burnett, Rosalie Burnett, Shirley Cox, James Doran, Martha Johnson, Rev. Edward Keller, Mabel Davie, Shirley Laird, Dorothy Paglieri, Helen Pain, Mimi Reed, Diane Reynolds, Roger Rossnagel, Robert Schappert, Benjamin and Edith Kosciuch, Alex McDonald, Howard Thoresen, Helen Foster, Rev. Lewis Marshall, Laurie King-Donohue, David Fabrizio, Claire King, John Bocchino-Werner, Debra Kaufman, the Right Rev. John Shelby Spong, Dr. Michael Giuliano, Caroline Bifalco, and all those who died of Covid-19

(You may add names silently or aloud if not mentioned above.)

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

For a Person in Trouble or Bereavement

Celebrant O merciful Father, who hast taught us in thy holy Word that thou dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men: Look with pity upon the sorrows of thy servants for whom our prayers are offered. Remember them, O Lord, in mercy, nourish their souls with patience, comfort them with a sense of thy goodness, lift up thy countenance upon them, and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For those we Love

Celebrant Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for the better things that we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the Light of Christ

Celebrant We praise you, God, that the light of Christ shines in our darkness and is never overcome; show us the way we must go to eternal day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For Caregivers and Others in Support of the Sick

Celebrant Compassionate God, support and strengthen all those who reach out in love, concern, and prayer for the sick and distressed. In their acts of compassion, may they know that they are your instruments. In their concerns and fears may they know your peace. In their prayer may they know your steadfast love. May they not grow weary or faint-hearted, for your mercy's sake. **Amen.**

For those Suffering from Mental Distress

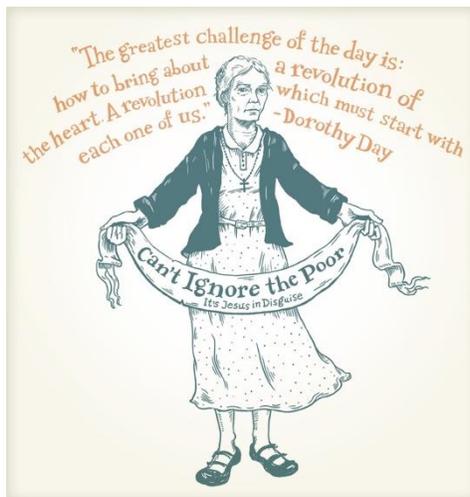
Celebrant Blessed Jesus, in the comfort of your love, we lay before you the memories that haunt those who are suffering from various mental distress, the anxieties that perplex them, the despair that frightens them, and their frustration at their inability to think clearly. Help them to discover your forgiveness in their memories and know your peace in their distress. Fill them with your light and your hope. **Amen.**

A General Thanksgiving

All **Be present, Spirit of God,
within us, your dwelling place and home,
that this house may be one where
all darkness is penetrated by your light,
all troubles calmed by your peace,
all evil redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed in your suffering,
and all dying glorified in your risen life. Amen.**

Officiant The divine Spirit dwells in us. Alleluia, alleluia!
Celebrants **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Officiant God be in our heads, and in my understanding;
God be in our eyes, and in our looking;
God be in our mouths, and in our speaking;
God be in our hearts, and in our thinking;
God be at our ends, and at our departing.
Amen.



Saint Agnes Church

65 Union Ave, Little Falls, NJ 07424

Serving people of Little Falls and surrounding communities since 1896,

Saint Agnes Church is a part of the Episcopal/Anglican branch

of the Jesus Movement in the Diocese of Newark, striving to be a contemplative community.