

Vision

A Team's Prayer

Call to Prayer

Let us remember we are in the holy presence of God.

Leader: Lord, open our lips.
All: **that we may speak your words.**
Leader: Lord, open our eyes
All: **that we may discover your presence in our midst.**
Leader: Lord, open our hearts
All: **that we may know your love.**
Leader: Lord, open our hands
All: **that we may receive your gifts and more readily share of ourselves with those to whom you send us.**

Opening Prayer

Leader: Lord, you have given us the gift of vision
-- the ability to look beyond the difficulties that surround us.
Help me to use that vision to be able to stand back from immediate problems, to see them against the immensity of time.
For against a vision like that my problems begin to look small.

Lord of life, help me to recognize the moments that are given to me each day:
-- moments of stillness that can bring me into your presence,
-- moments that glimpse eternity through the flickering seconds.
Let me see the peace that exists in the eye of the storm:
peace in the midst of activity.
Let me have that vision in which problems are lost in the vastness of the endless love that surrounds me this day and always.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Brother. **Amen.**

First Reading

(Hosea 2)

Thus says the LORD:
I will lead her into the desert
and speak to her heart.
She shall respond there as in the days of her youth,
when she came up from the land of Egypt.
I will espouse you to me forever:
I will espouse you in right and in justice,
in love and in mercy;
I will espouse you in fidelity,
and you shall know the LORD.

Second Reading

(Helen Keller)

We differ, blind and seeing, one from another – not in our senses, but in the use we make of them, in the imagination and courage with which we seek wisdom beyond our senses...

I have walked with people whose eyes are full of light, but who see nothing in wood, sea, or sky, nothing in the city streets, nothing in books. What a witless masquerade is this seeing! It were better for to sail forever in the night of blindness, with sense and feeling and mind, than to be thus content with the mere act of seeing. They have the sunset, the morning skies, the purple of distant hills – yet their souls voyage through this enchanted world with a barren stare.

Intercessions

God our loving Father, we are here now in your loving presence, stripped of our pretences, aware that you understand us and know our needs before we ask them. In your loving mercy, pardon our failings and hear our prayers.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, bring to us something of your peace and stillness. Come to meet us in the quiet of our hearts, for you are there already, forgiving us, redeeming us, assuring us, healing us.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

May we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith as we journey through life. May He who has begun this work in us, bring it to completion in Him.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving Father, you are full of love and generosity. Continue to fill us with love and gratitude. Lead us to celebrate your constant goodness to us.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we bring to you all the hours of our days, all our talents and gifts, all our successes and failures, all the love we have received and given, all those to whom we owe a debt of gratitude. May your love and light continue to heal, restore, and inspire us.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

[We pause to voice our own prayers.]

God our loving Father, we lay before you all the petitions we have in our hearts, our concerns and problems. Speak to us, lead us, and guide us. Deepen our trust in your holy will.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Closing Prayer (together)

Dear Lord,
I ask of you for

The strength
To go my very limits
And, if possible, to go a little further
Without fear.

The strength
To play not so much for myself
But for my teammates.

The strength
To be faithful in friendship,
Strong in service,
Passionate for what is best.

The strength
To be humble enough to know
My own worth and what I owe others:
My parents, my coaches, my friends.

The strength
To never forget that the real competition
Is running the race of life.
And the real victory is everlasting life.

Saint John Baptist de La Salle...Pray for us!
Live, Jesus, in our Hearts...Forever!