



Notre Dame Morning Prayer November 18-21, 2019

+ = In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

Monday, November 18, 2019 - World Day of the Poor

Yesterday was the third annual World Day of the Poor, an observance instituted by the Catholic Church to bring focus on the needs of the poor. When he proclaimed this day, Pope Francis said, 'The poor are not a problem: they are a resource from which to draw as we strive to accept and practice in our lives the essence of the Gospel.' At our school, we are collecting this week in support of Operation Come Home which helps young people living on the street in Ottawa and Interval House which supports women and their children in Carleton Place. Supporting the poor in our own communities in one way to make the Gospel real in our life.

Let us pray. + Lord, we pray for all those who experience poverty and injustice around the world, that they will be able to have all they need to live a good life and care for their families. Show us how to love the poor as You do. We pray this together with the words that You taught us: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 - God is with us

In Psalm 16, we read: 'I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With Him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because You will not abandon me ... You make known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasure at Your right hand.'

Let us pray. + Lord, may we understand what it means to see You in our lives and in seeing You, to truly know that You love us, are always with us, and want the best for us, even when life seems challenging. We pray this together with the words Your Father gave You: *Our Father*. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. + Amen.

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 - Red Wednesday

Today is Red Wednesday, a day to remember that more than 1 in 10 Christians worldwide (over 250 million people, most of them poor) face persecution or discrimination for their faith.

Let us pray. + God of all the nations, the One God Who is and was and always will be, in Your providence You willed that Your Church be united to the suffering of Your Son. Look with mercy on Your servants who are persecuted for their faith in You. Grant them perseverance and courage to be worthy imitators of Christ. Bring Your wisdom upon leaders of nations to work for peace among all peoples. May Your Spirit open conversion for those who contradict Your will, that we may live in harmony. Give us the grace to be united in truth and freedom and to always seek Your will in our lives. We ask this through this prayers of our Mother in faith, the Queen of Peace: *Hail Mary*. + Amen.

Thursday, November 21, 2019 - Presentation of Mary into the Temple

Today is the feast day of the Presentation of Mary into the Temple. Although this event is not described in the Bible, early Christian writings describe Mary being brought as a young age to the Temple to serve God. Being young did not deter Mary from choosing God and she reminds us that no matter our age, we can decide to follow Him.

Let us pray. + The Saviour's pure temple, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasury of the glory of God, is brought today into the house of the Lord, and with her, she brings the grace of the divine Spirit. God's angels sing in praise of her: she is indeed the heavenly dwelling place. To this righteous Mother of God we can bring our intercessions: *Hail Mary*. + Amen.

Friday, November 22, 2019 - Holodomor Awareness Week

Tomorrow is Holodomor Remembrance Day. The Holodomor refers to a deliberate famine in Ukraine in 1932-33 that was orchestrated by the Russian government in order to take control of agricultural land. Ukraine, known as the breadbasket of Europe for its expansive grain fields, much like our Prairies, had much of its food forcibly removed, sometimes for export to the West, and the resulting famine killed around 5 million people. Holodomor means 'death by hunger' and the killing of this many people in less than a year is recognized by Canada and many other nations as a genocide.

Let us pray. + Lord, all suffering is difficult to comprehend, but the deliberate attempt to kill an entire population because of their identity is beyond understanding. Have mercy on the souls of all who perished during the famine-genocide in Ukraine and help all of us to work together to create a world where we hear You, see You, and feel Your presence in every human being regardless of race or belief. We ask this through the prayers of Your Mother: *Hail Mary*. + Amen.