

**LET US NOT TIRE OF
PREACHING LOVE; IT IS
THE FORCE THAT WILL
OVERCOME THE WORLD.**

ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ROMERO

Youth Ministry Sunday 2018

Over the past few months throughout the Diocesan Youth Ministry Programs we have been exploring liberation; liberation of culture, society and personal liberation. The exploration of this theme concludes at NYC August 26-31 at Canterbury Hills.

This liturgy has been put together with the theme of liberation in mind using various resources that highlight and call us to respond with love; to individuals and the world around us, as well as to ourselves.

This is the Gospel message, and through our baptism, confirmation and the receiving of the sacrament, we commit to living this message of hope, love and liberation.

“We Know that every effort to be a better society , especially when injustice[s]...are so ingrained Is an effort that God blesses, That God wants, That God demands of us. “

*Spoken by Archbishop Oscar Romero
In his final homily, moments before he was
assassinated whilst celebrating Mass*

Gathering

Leader: If we can see that Christ is the needy one,
The torture victim,
The prisoner,
the murder victim,
the homeless,
the under employed and unemployed,
the sick and infirm,
the trafficked,
the refugee,
the addicted.
And in each human so shamefully thrown by our roadside
we would see Christ himself cast aside,
We would pick him up like a medal of gold
to be kissed lovingly

**Response: The person is Christ,
and in the person viewed and treated with faith
we see Christ and reflect Christ.**

Archbishop Oscar Romero (adapted)

Readings

Colossians 2: 1-5

Luke 6:20-23

Prayers

Leader: For all of us it is important to know that we are loved,
that people care for us and stand up for us.
We need food to eat a safe place to sleep
and work and play. For all of us, it is good
to have places where we feel comfortable
and safe, people we enjoy being with, and
friends and family who love us. In a minute,
I invite you to get in to groups of four or five,
maybe with people you do not know very well,
and talk together about the place where you
feel safe and the people you enjoy being with, and,
if you’ve time think about what make that place and
those people feel safe and good.
When you hear some music, it will be time to be
quiet and come back to your seat.
So go and talk together about those places and people.

Leader: We are going to pray now for people around the world, who, like us, need to know that God loves them. We light candles as we pray, as a sign that God brings light and love into the world. after we have lit the first five larger candles, and when the music plays, you are invited to come and light a candle for anyone you know, or have heard about who needs to know that God loves them.

Leader: Into the dark places of our world where people are fighting and hungry,

Response: God, bring light, bring love

Leader: Into places where people are fighting, into places where people have no homes,

Response: God, bring light, bring love

Leader: Into the places where we feel unsafe, into situations that hurt us and scare us,

Response: God, bring light, bring love

Leader: We ask these prayers in Jesus' name and in the Holy Spirit's power

Response: AMEN!

The Pattern of our Days, Worship in the Celtic Tradition for the Iona Community

The Peace

The communion

Leader: May God's life enfold our lives.

Response: May our minds be turned to the hope of the resurrection.

Leader: Let us rejoice,

Response: May our hearts be compassionate and strong.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God,

Response: May we work for our hands to be turned to healing.

Voice 1 Mother God, we give you thanks for the gift of your Beloved, who has become for us a sign of healing and new life. out of the Divine Self, you formed all that we are, and more

beyond our senses.
You named it Good.
When we open ourselves,
we are surrounded by the holiness of the creation
and by your presence within us and beyond us.
With the song of all creation,
we raise our voices in vibrant hope:

**Holy, holy, holy
God of glory and grace,
Heaven and earth are full of
your radiance.
Hosanna, all creation sings.
Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of God.
Hosanna, all creation sings.**

Voice2

As a sign to us of your ever-abiding love,
you called the Christ into being in Jesus.
He learned and grew in wisdom and the Spirit.
He responded to you and you called him "Beloved."
He laughed and danced with the wedding guests;
he healed the sick and rebuked the powerful.
He stood in solidarity with the poor,
the outcast, the victims of his society.
He wept and he feared
and he raged at injustice.
In all things,
he shared our lives and experienced
the fullness of your presence.
With a full heart, with insight and compassion,
a woman anointed
him as prophet
and in recognition of his imminent death,
he received her blessing
and instructed us to remember her
whenever the good news is told.
At supper with his friends, Jesus offered them bread,
a sign of labour and unity.
He gave you thanks, broke the bread,
gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."
After supper he took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them,
and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant

which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

**Response: In Christ we are one; one body, one blood, one family.
May this become the truth for us.**

Voice 3: Remembering Jesus became the Christ for us,
may the Spirit of wind and fire sweep through us,
opening us to new vision,
filling our mouths with a new language
and freeing us to hear your words again.
May we connect ourselves to the Jesus of history.
May we find revealed to us the Christ of tomorrow
who greets us at every crossroads
and loves us into resurrection.

Response: May it be so, today and ever more.

Leader: Together we say
**Loving God,
Who lives within us and beyond us,
may your will for justice be realized in our
communities and by the nations of the world.
Grant us all that we need to fulfill your purpose
and to taste the hope of abundant life for all.
Forgive us our sins, helping us to forgive each other
and to entrust to you the judgement of others.
Save us from testing beyond our resources
and protect us from evil.
For yours is the hope, the power and the grace,
now and forever.
Amen.**

Leader: Through faith and the power of the Spirit,
we recognize Christ's presence in this Eucharist.

Response: Blessed be the indwelling Spirit of Christ

Prayer after Communion

Leader: Together we say

**It is with Joy that we have received the gift of food for the journey
in the bread and wine that we have shared.**

We give thanks to you, God, for Jesus, our peace and hope.

**Unite us in a community of love. In continuing Christ's ministry of love
and friendship may we praise your name in all the world.**

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer and Prayer after Communion from *Out of the Fire,
Worship and Theology of Liberation*. By Gertrude Lebens. (*adapted*)

Blessing

Blessing and laughter and loving be yours
the love of a great god,
who names you,
and holds you,
while the earth turns and flowers grow,
this day,
this night,
this moment,
and forever.

A book of a thousand prayers, edited by A.Ashwin