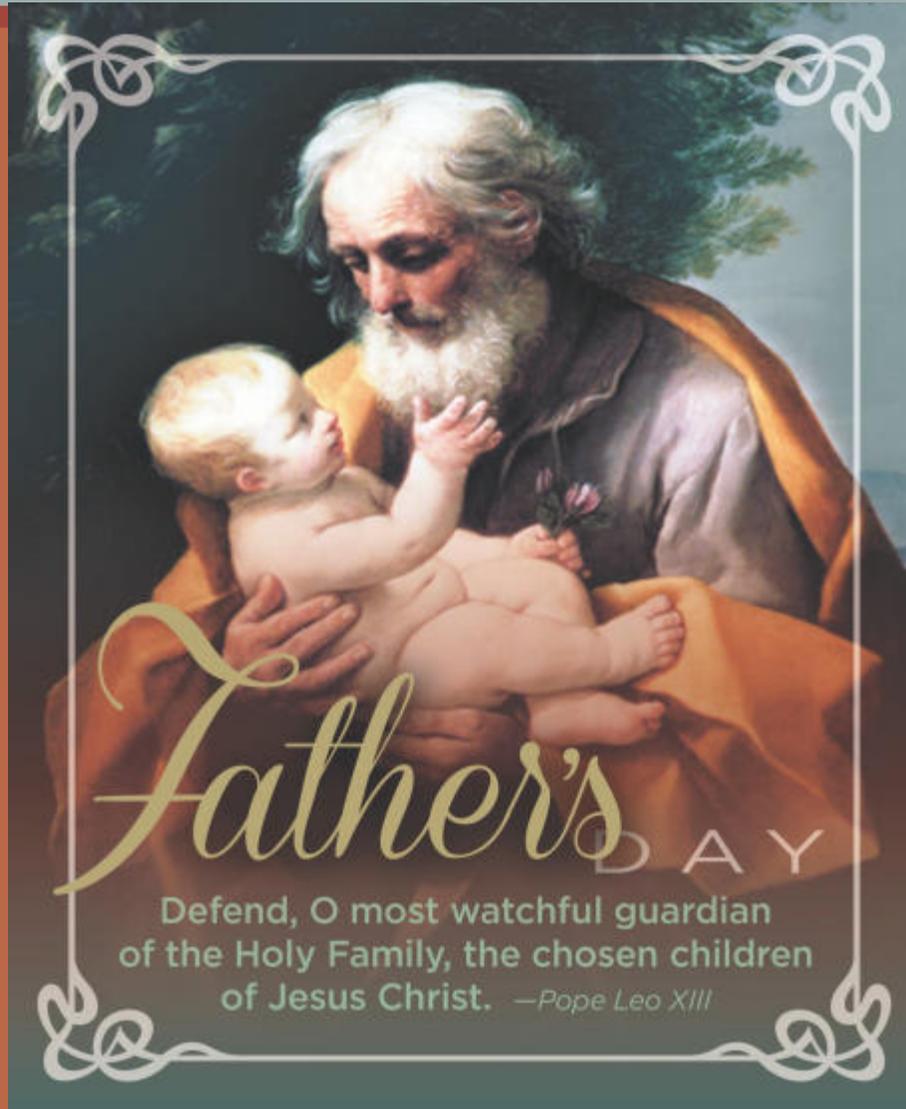




*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
June 21, 2020*

The 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saint John the Evangelist
210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333
Office –103 N. Main Street, West Bridge-
water
508-378-4207
E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net
Website: www.stjohneb.org
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring

Church of Saint Ann
103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379
508-586-4880
E-Mail: stanns@comcast.net
Website: stannswb.com
Facebook: St. Ann-WB
Collaborative Office Hours are 9-4 M-Th
For both Churches

TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

Brendan Fitzgerald (Sr. Deacon)
deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoe@comcast.net

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 4PM Monday -Thursday

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., See Schedule

Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday
9:00 a.m.

In the Chapel

Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., See Schedule

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.
9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the Month at St John's and the 4th Sunday of the month at St. Ann's. Prep classes are Wednesday before Baptism at St. John's. Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Other times as scheduled in the bulletin or call the Rectory Office to set up an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the Rectory 6 months prior to the intended date of marriage.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

If you are in need of the Sacrament of the Sick, please contact the Rectory to make an appointment for a visit from a Priest.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St John's - every WEDNESDAY from 7-8 p.m.
in the Church.

St. Ann's - First Friday of the month following the 9:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:30 a.m.

Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Donna Roderiques
donna.stannstjohn@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano
stanns@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education

Charlotte Leines
stannscdd@comcast.net

508-588-7140

Director of Music: Matthew Cunningham
matthewcunningham@bpsma.org

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Donna Roderiques
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Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
stjohnnebridge@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education

Lorraine Hopgood
repstjohn@gmail.com

508-378-1521

Director of Music: Paul Hoffman
p.hoffman@stjohnne.org

Music Minister: Erica Wasil

PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

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Paul Hoffman
Denise Robichaud

Ben Williams
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Margaret Mary Williams

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. John and St. Ann are Stewardship Parishes

MASSES OF INTENTION WILL BE RESCHEDULED
ONCE THE CHURCHES ARE OPENED FOR
GROUP GATHERINGS.

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES -

Readings for the week of June 21, 2020

Sunday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 [14c]/
 Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33
 Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13
 [7b]/Mt 7:1-5
 Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Ps 48:2-3ab,
 3cd-4, 10-11 [cf. 9d]/Mt 7:6, 12-14
 Wednesday: *Vigil*: Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17
 [6b]/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17. *Day*: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1-3, 13-
 14, 14-15 [14a]/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
 Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Mt 7:21
 -29
 Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Mt 8:1-4
 Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-
 21 [19b]/Mt 8:5-17
 Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-
 19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

Observances for the week of June 21, 2020

Sunday: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Father's Day
 Monday: St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Sts. John Fisher,
 Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs
 Tuesday:
 Wednesday: The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
 Thursday:
 Friday:
 Saturday: St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the
 Church
 Next Sunday: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

©LPi



My Dear Friends in Christ,

After a trio of “special” holy days (Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, Corpus Christi) which transition us out of the Easter Season, we find ourselves back in Ordinary Time. As I’ve said on occasion, Ordinary Time isn’t so named because there’s nothing “special” about it. It is given this designation because these are the weeks that are marked by number (from the Latin, *ordinalis* (numbered)). Truth be told, there is nothing ordinary about what we do here; it is an extraordinary thing to gather as a people of faith each Sunday to worship the Lord. It is a remarkable act of faith to come to believe, profess and live the truth that Jesus has come into the world to give us salvation and that by this act we are redeemed. This past Easter Season, while a challenge to us as we were unable to gather as a People of God in a public way for 10 weeks, was nonetheless an opportunity to renew our faith and trust in the plan God has for humanity. Hopefully the upcoming spring and summer months, as we venture into a “new normal”, will provide an opportunity to further reflect on this goodness of God. We may take a break from studies (online as they were), from work or from other such day to day activities, but we must never take a vacation from our faith life! Each and every day we have a chance to reflect on and act upon the plan God has for us.

This time of reflection can be, for each one of us, a fearful time. It is always challenging to look within oneself to see where it is one needs improving. But we need not fear to the point of paralysis. The gospel passage today calls us to trust in the Lord to “fear no one” (Mt. 10:26). It is that type of fearlessness that Jesus, as well as Jeremiah (in the first reading) exercised in their ministry. Even in the midst of betrayal and derision, neither Jesus nor Jeremiah lost their focus, never lost faith in God, never took their “eyes off of the prize” (i.e. salvation).

There comes a point in all of our lives when our faith is tested...for many this time has been now! At those times, we look within ourselves to see where God is in those moments. It could be like the “Footprints” story that, at our weakest, God was carrying us. It could be that we, like Jeremiah (in our first reading), are “tested” by God in spite of our doubt, to help us to realize how truly faithful we are to God’s plan. God does have a plan, despite the shape of our world - which, truth be told, is as much our own doing as anything else (i.e. wars, famine, “man’s inhumanity to man”)! We must be careful not to “lose the forest for the trees”, forgetting that God’s plan is for eternity, not just the here and now. As challenging as this is (to live in eternity), it can be done. We must attune our hearts and minds to live in the surety of God’s love, for it is with this love that all can be accomplished. May we have **faith** in God’s plan, **hope** in the coming of the Kingdom and **love** for all that God has in store for us. May we trust that, despite the challenges inherent in Christian living, we have a future in God’s Kingdom (both here on Earth, as well as the one to come). In this way, we can share this plan of Eternal Life with all whom we meet!

Have a Blessed Week,
Fr. Paul

COLLABORATIVE NEWS AT SAINT ANN'S AND SAINT. JOHN'S

The Next Second Collection

Financial Blessings

St. Ann's Budget

St John's

Budget

SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS

Thank you to those who gave to the Grand Annual

Thank you to all who contribute to our offertory through your weekly offering and other gifts! It is very much appreciated!
For more information on Online Giving, please contact us.

Cardinal proclaims Year of the Eucharist in 2020

Friends,

A recent Pew Study entitled "What Americans Know About Religion" reported that only 31 percent of Catholics believe that the bread and the wine consecrated during the Mass actually become the body and blood of Jesus, and that only half of Catholics know of the Church's teaching concerning the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

In order to help people gain a better understanding of the Eucharist, on Holy Thursday 2020, the Archdiocese of Boston will begin a Year of the Eucharist. It is my hope and prayer that through this spiritual initiative we can invite and encourage our brothers and sisters to find the consolation of the Lord through participation in the celebration of the Eucharist and in times of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

When my parents were married, my uncle, Father Jerry Reidy, gave them as a wedding gift Leonardo Da Vinci's iconic painting of the Last Supper. That painting hung in our dining room, and one of my earliest memories was my parents explaining to us that this painting depicted the first Mass, the first Eucharist. They made clear that is the reason we go to Mass, to partake in the same Eucharist that Christ shared with his closest followers at the Last Supper before he would suffer and die for us.

My mother and father held the evening meal as a priority for our family; attendance was not optional. It was an institution in our house to gather around the table and it was there that we bonded with one another. We shared our experiences of the day. We would laugh together, would even argue with each other. The evening family meal was essential to our formation and it was where we discovered our identity.

The same can be said of the celebration of the Eucharist. As Catholics, it is in the Eucharist that we learn our identity. At the table of the Lord, Jesus makes a gift of Himself to us because God loves us so much. Just as we discover our identity at the family table, it is in the Eucharist that we discover who we are, why we are here, and what is our mission as disciples of Christ.

Growing up, I remember many wonderful devotions that kept the Eucharist at the center of our lives as Catholics: the Forty Hours Adoration, Corpus Christi processions, and the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. From an early age, I knew the Eucharist is what distinguishes us from most other Christian churches, that the Body and Blood of Christ was actually, sacramentally, present in our Church.

At the Last Supper, Christ gave us the priesthood so He could be present everywhere in the world, not just in Jerusalem, in every time and age. Through the Eucharist, we have direct contact with the Lord at the celebration of Mass and in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. When we visit our churches at times other than the celebration of Mass, we can see the red glow of the sanctuary lamp and know that Jesus is there for us. He is always waiting silently and lovingly, ready to receive us and console us.

The Capuchin Friars have a commitment to make two periods of meditation a day and I always do mine in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. For me, as Archbishop of Boston, my holy hour is late at night when the phones stop ringing. It is a time when I am renewed by the assurance of the Lord's presence and His love for me, knowing He will guide me and give me the strength I need. Praying in the presence of the Eucharist, in adoration of the Lord, is a very important part of my daily existence; it is essential to perseverance in the vocation I have embraced.

Before I became a bishop, I served as a priest in Spanish and Portuguese ministry where I learned many of the hymns I sing to the Eucharistic Lord during my Holy Hour. I also love the Latin hymns I learned in the seminary, the "Pange Lingua," and the English hymn, "Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All." I memorized these hymns, and it is my hope that they can become a regular part of devotional practice at all our parishes, hymns that everyone learns by heart and sings together. As St. Augustine told us, singing is praying twice, because singing lifts our hearts to God and provides us with a glimpse of His beauty in the beauty of the music.

NEWS FOR THE PARISHES (St. John)

Cardinal Sean's Letter on the Year of the Eucharist con't

Recent times have been very difficult for the Church and her people. In the Year of the Eucharist, we all have the opportunity to renew and strengthen our faith and our closeness to the Lord. If we center ourselves in the Real Presence of Jesus, in His friendship, then everything else will make sense. At the celebration of Mass, Jesus is there, waiting for us, inviting us to the table where He is making a gift of Himself to us so that we may have the strength to make a gift of ourselves to others. That is what human fulfillment is about. It is about love and giving of ourselves on behalf of others. That is the meaning of the Eucharist, it is love taken to the extreme. The more we understand that, the more we will want to be present to the Eucharist and the more the Eucharist will transform us.

Discipleship is not a solo flight. Jesus sent people out two by two, not one by one, and spoke of the importance of "two or three are gathered in my name." The Eucharist is where we gather as Christ's family, where we can witness our faith to one another and grow in our capacity to love. The Eucharist gives us the strength to carry out our mission to transform the world, to work for justice, to serve the poor, to bring healing and reconciliation. But we can't do these things unless we have the strength that comes from the intimate contact with God's love that is given to us in the Eucharist.

Discipleship also requires a plan. We need to ask ourselves what we can do, individually and with our families and friends, to prepare for the Year of the Eucharist. We can find the answer to these questions in times of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in our churches. We can read and reflect on the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John. We can invite family, friends, and colleagues to join us at Mass and times of Adoration. We can reflect on the importance of receiving the Lord in the Eucharist, the difference that makes in our lives, and share that insight with those who are close to us.

We don't exist by accident. Our lives are a gift of God's gratuitous love, and the Eucharist is the most profound symbol of His love for us. Jesus comes to us in humility, in littleness, so that no one need be afraid or unsure of His acceptance. He makes Himself present to us so that we can have the strength we need to live our mission in the Church as disciples of Christ.

God created us and entered into creation in Jesus Christ so we could be close to Him, hear Him, know and love Him. The sacraments not only touch our lives, they mold our very being, and the Eucharist is the center of our sacramental life. That is why I am a Catholic. That is why I am a priest. Without the Eucharist, I would ask myself, "Is it worth it?" I know it is worth it, because Christ really is present in the Eucharist. May God bless you all abundantly with this assurance that Jesus will be with us always, even to the end of time. That is Jesus' promise and He keeps that promise in the gift of the Eucharist.

With the assurance of my prayers for you and all whom you hold dear, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, OFM Cap.

Archbishop of Boston

December 10, 2019

Feast of Our Lady of Loreto

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen DeBenedictis, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, JoAnn Micalizzi, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, Bill Frabetti, George Lepine, Dennis Green, Joseph Rizzitano, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Paul Currie, Dennis Green, John McCovy Murphy, Dana DeBenedictis, Harry Evans, Jerry Paluch, Frank Genatossio, Kathleen Jezard Maher, Dr. Irfan Francis & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

**The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul
Saint John's Conference
PO Box 544
East Bridgewater MA 02333**

Call the Saint Vincent DePaul HOTLINE at 508-378-3760 if you need food or other assistance.

The Food Pantry is open twice a month. — 1st Monday from 3:00-6:00 pm and the 3rd Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.

The Pantry is working to make food available for all in need while at the same time keeping within the guidelines of the pandemic. Please contact the Pantry if you need help. The only requirement to access the Pantry is to be an East Bridgewater Resident. All religions are welcome.

The Food Pantry is currently accepting donation at the bottom of the ramp. Please make sure you call to let them know you have dropped off food and that it is properly protected from the elements. Cash donations are always welcomed and can be mailed to the address above. **Gift cards are also a great help.**

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES (ST. ANN'S)



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095
or jchbaker@msn.com

New mailing address:
P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379



St Ann Prayer Line:

To request prayers from members of Saint Ann's Prayer Line for yourself, another person in need, or a special intention, please call or email Linda Santry at 508-586-6535 or linda@santry.org. If you would like to join the telephone tree or e-mail distribution list, please contact Linda. We would like to expand our membership for this worthy endeavor.

WHILE OUR SUNDAY MASS HAS GONE 'LIVE', THE DISPENSATION FROM COMMUNION IS STILL IN EFFECT. SUNDAY/DAILY MASS IS STILL ON LINE AND CAN BE VIEWED ON:

CATHOLIC TV - CHANNEL 268 IS BROADCASTING DAILY AND SUNDAY MASS

EWTN — CHANNEL 238 is also broadcasting masses.

Fr. Paul is conducting Daily Masses and a Holy Hour/Rosary on Facebook Live.

FR. PAUL'S FACEBOOK PAGE — Paul Ring

ST JOHN'S FACEBOOK PG — St. John the Evangelist—EB

ST ANN'S FACEBOOK PAGE - St. Ann - WB

Cardinal Sean encourages Catholics to participate in the daily and Sunday Masses broadcast from the Catholic TV chapel. Channel 268 (Comcast)

Daily mass aires live at 9:30 and is rebroadcast at 7 pm and 11:30 pm.

Sunday Masses air throughout the day at 10 am, 4 pm, 7 pm and 11:30 pm.

Viewers can watch these Masses on demand at anytime at www.WatchtheMass.com



Regrouping

When we encounter adversity or we experience anxiety, our first impulse is to *do* something. **Action** always makes us feel better. But perhaps that's not the best immediate response.

Mark recounts the story of Jesus curing a blind man. It is wonderful indeed that this healing moment happened, but one aspect of the story that's often overlooked is that Jesus took the man's hand and **led him out of the village**. He tenderly touched him and brought him away from everything that distracted, the chattering villagers, the bustle of life going on around them. He took the man to a quiet place, and there he gave him sight.

Jesus laid his hands on the blind man twice. The cure was not instantaneous. Perhaps the blind man felt disappointed, when after the first time he could only see shadows. When we ask Jesus for help in our times of need, sometimes we expect a miracle right away. But God's time is not our time.

When we experience adversity, or pain, or fearfulness, *that* is the time to regroup. To withdraw from the busyness and chatter of life around us. To go to a quiet and perhaps even lonely place, and ask God to heal us.

Take a few moments to become aware of God's presence. Close your eyes and take a few deep breaths, remembering that in this very moment you are under the gaze of God, who knows and loves you totally

Bring to mind some way in which you need God's help with your situation. It could be something that you're worried or unsure about. It could be a problem, a task, or responsibility. It could be anything.



FOOD DRIVE DONATIONS THANK YOU!

Venturing Crew 29 is doing a Food Drive for our local Food Pantries, at St. John's Church and the Union Congregational Church, on Saturday, June 20, 2020 from 9:00AM to 12:00PM. We will be at the St. John's Church parking lot. If you would like to make a donation of food or other contribution to help out, please stop by or get in touch with Venturing Crew 29 at this email address: venturingcrew29@gmail.com and we will be able to make arrangements to pick up your donation! You can also call Frank at 508.241.4597. Thank you for your help as we work to help our Food Pantries to help others!

Cont'd from page 6

Ask yourself: Is God telling me to slow down and pace myself, as Jesus does with the blind man?

Notice what arises within you. It could be a feeling, an image, a word, a memory, anything.

Slow down and wait for this feeling, image, or word to become clearer for you. Become fully aware of it and sit with it for a few moments.

Then, in the sanctuary of your baptized soul (which is the temple of the Holy Spirit) **speak to that Divine Spirit**, saying: *O Holy Spirit, beloved of my soul, I adore you. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I should do; give me Your orders. I promise to submit myself to all that you desire of me and to accept all that you permit to happen to me. Let me only know your will.* (Cardinal Mercier's Prayer to the Holy Spirit)

After a few moments of stillness, return to the situation in which you feel distress or anxiety and see how it may have shifted, even subtly.

Again, slow down and wait for an image, word, or feeling to come into awareness that perfectly expresses what is at the core of your present experience.

Place your feelings and thoughts in a package... and hand it to Jesus.

Prayer

Called away interiorly from the preoccupations, the noise and busyness of the day, I turn to you, my God, to lead me on the path of holiness according to your designs. Led by your Spirit toward a new way of seeing things, I believe that all is permitted by you for your greater honor and glory and for the good of my soul. In this manner, with St. Ignatius, "I can find you, my God, in all things." And see you in my neighbor who has been made in your image and likeness. Amen.

End your time of prayer with an Our Father, entrusting all your needs and feelings to God.

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