

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Service of acknowledgement, prayer and reflection

Friday 4th March 2022

We cannot measure how You heal
Or answer every sufferer's prayer
Yet we believe Your grace responds
Where faith and doubt unite to care
Your hands though bloodied on the cross
Survive to hold and heal and warn
To carry all through death to life
And cradle children yet unborn

The pain that will not go away
The guilt that clings from things long past
The fear of what the future holds
Are present as if meant to last
But present too is love which tends
The hurt we never hoped to find
The private agonies inside
The memories that haunt the mind

So some have come who need Your help
And some have come to make amends
As hands which shaped and saved the world
Are present in the touch of friends
Lord let Your Spirit meet us here
To mend the body mind and soul
To disentangle peace from pain
And make Your broken people whole.

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Liturgy of the Word:

A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 4: 6-12

Psalm: May he bless us and keep us. May he give us his peace.

Gospel: Matthew 27:45-56

Homily

Quiet reflection

Litany of Saints: sung.

Invoking the assistance of the Saints in heaven with the reality we cannot do this alone but require their accompaniment to acknowledge the hurts of the past and move forward with hope.

Decade of the rosary

Quiet prayer

Blessing

Hymn: Christ be our Light

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

5. Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

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