

Prayer Gathering for 8th Week of Ordinary Time

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**God of Heaven and Earth,
You made us in your image, fashioning us with your own divine hands.
Yet within these earthen vessels you made, we often harbor ugly, unkind thoughts.
Purify our minds and sanctify our hearts
so that we may live in love, as your Son showed us was possible.
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

“When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear; so do one’s faults when one speaks.”

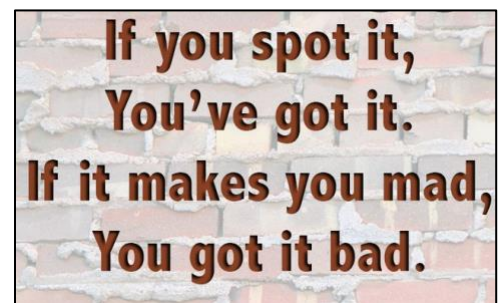
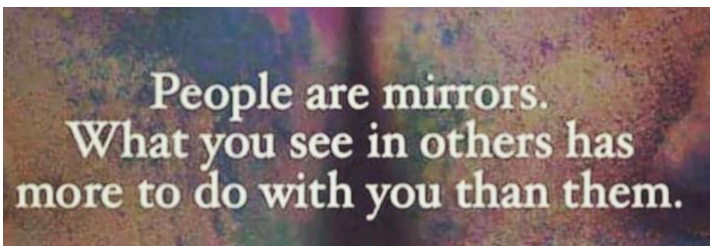
“So too does one’s speech disclose the bent of one’s mind.”

A Freudian slip is when we say something we were thinking but did not intend to say. Sometimes we were thinking it in the background and even we ourselves were unaware of the thought. Have you ever blurted something that shocked you? (Share as much or as little as you are comfortable.) What did you learn from it?

“Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s [or sister’s] eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?”

Psychologists tell us that whenever something bothers us about someone else, it’s a sure sign that we struggle with that issue, too – often without knowing it. How has this shown up in your life?

POSTED RECENTLY



DISCUSSION

“Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother [or sister’s] eye.”
Have you ever had someone try to “fix” you because they felt you had a “splinter,” so to speak? What was that experience like? Have you been tempted to fix others? Looking back, where was that desire in you coming from?

LITANY

Whenever I see red when I hear someone share their ignorant thoughts;
Lord, bless them and change me.

Whenever I think I know better how to live someone else's life than they do;
Lord, bless them and change me.

Whenever I find someone preoccupied with their image in the eyes of others;
Lord, bless them and change me.

Whenever I am irritated by someone else's desire to stand out from the crowd;
Lord, bless them and change me.

Whenever I am sickened by someone else's greed;
Lord, bless them and change me.

Whenever someone's reluctance or anxiety makes me want to shake them;
Lord, bless them and change me.

Whenever I look at someone's bad habit and think "Why don't you just stop?"
Lord, bless them and change me.

Whenever someone's clothing caused me to purse my lips or shake my head;
Lord, bless them and change me.

Whenever I see someone's entitlement and can't believe how people think;
Lord, bless them and change me.

OUR FATHER

[OPTIONAL] PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.

CLOSING PRAYER

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

READING 1

A reading from the book of Sirach

When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear;
so do one's faults when one speaks.

As the test of what the potter molds
is in the furnace,
so in tribulation is the test of the just.

The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had;
so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind.

Praise no one before he speaks,
for it is then that people are tested.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus told his disciples a parable,

*“Can a blind person guide a blind person?
Will not both fall into a pit?”*

*No disciple is superior to the teacher;
but when fully trained,
every disciple will be like his teacher.*

*Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye,
but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?*

*How can you say to your brother,
‘Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,’
when you do not even notice
the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite!*

*Remove the wooden beam from your eye first;
then you will see clearly
to remove the splinter in your brother’s eye.*

*A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.
For every tree is known by its own fruit.*

*For people do not pick figs from thornbushes,
nor do they gather grapes from brambles.*

*A good person
out of the store of goodness in his heart, produces good,*

*but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil;
for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks.”*

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ

Luke, chapter 6