

ONE IN THE SPIRIT

Opening Song: People of Peace

Call to Prayer:

In the presence of a God whose word has called the stars into being

All: **We stand in awe**

In the presence of a God whose arms have held children whose eyes have sparkled with laughter

All: **We stand in trust**

In the presence of a God whose breath has stirred within us and caused our hearts to thirst for love

All: **We stand in need**

Before you, giver of life and love, we come in faith, in search of life, love and wholeness

All: **We stand together**

Prayer: League Prayer

Scripture: Romans 8:1-17

Reflection:

Intercessions:

Left side:

When we come face to face with the challenge of self-giving; when we are asked to go the extra mile, to take the risk of reaching out to another, to offer forgiveness to the heart that rejects us.....

Response: **Spirit of God, fill us with the energy of your love**

Right side:

When our world seems bleak; when we walk with sadness written on our soul; when we have days when everything goes wrong.....

Response: **Spirit of God, stir the energy of your joy within us**

Left Side:

When someone needs a simple gesture of thoughtfulness; when a look of love is all that another asks of us; when a good word could take the sting out of the gossip of foes.....

Response: **Spirit of God, create in us the energy of your kindness**

Right Side:

As we face the shadow of our inner world, or peer into the darkness of our outer world; as we struggle to believe in our own gifts and blessings.....

Response: **Spirit of God, strengthen in us the energy of your goodness**

Left Side:

In those difficult times when fear threatens to drown our trust in you; during those trying experiences when we are tempted to doubt all the ways we have known you.....

Response: **Spirit of God, renew in us the energy of trusting in you**

Right Side:

When anxiety and concern take over our spirit; when restlessness or boredom holds sway over us; when our world cries out in distress and turmoil.....

Response: **Spirit of God, deepen in us the energy of your peace**

Left Side:

On those days when we hurry too much; at those times when anger flares because our agendas aren't met; when we stop giving people understanding and acceptance.....

Response: **Spirit of God, draw us towards the energy of your patience**

All:

As we walk on the edge of life and death; as we struggle with the disciplines of spiritual growth; as we yearn to be faithful amidst the many changes of inner and outer growth.....

Spirit of God, move us with the energy of Your guidance

Prayer:

Spirit of God, breathed into our hearts in Jesus' resurrection
lift us up with new life, new courage new passion today

Spirit of God, breathed into our midst in Jesus' resurrection
transform us with new fellowship, new vision, new joy today

Spirit of God, breathed into the world in Jesus' resurrection
work through us to change the face of the earth. Amen

Closing Song: Children of the Light

People of Peace

To be people of faith in times of doubt,
To be people of hope in times of despair
To be people of peace, people of peace
O Lord, Your instruments of peace

Where we encounter hatred, let us bring your love
Where hurt has been oppressive, your healing care
Wherever there are people who are needing to be free
Make your church an instrument of peace

To be people of faith in times of doubt,
To be people of hope in times of despair
To be people of peace, people of peace
O Lord, Your instruments of peace

To heal the broken hearted, to comfort those who mourn
To go to those imprisoned, bring freedom to the bound
To be a light for all who struggle to be free
Make your church and instrument of peace

In giving to the hungry, in satisfying thirst
In welcoming the stranger, in comforting the ill
In being those who hunger for justice and for truth
Make us all your instruments of peace

To be people of faith in times of doubt,
To be people of hope in times of despair
To be people of peace, people of peace
O Lord, Your instruments of peace

Children of The Light

We are children, children of the light
We are shining, in the darkness of the night
Hope for this world, joy through all the land
Touch the heart of everyone, take everybody's hand

Come and gather round the flame,
Share the light in his name
We are children of the light
As the wind blows where it will
Spread the news to everyone
There's still plenty of time
For we have just begun

We are children, children of the light
We are shining, in the darkness of the night
Hope for this world, joy through all the land
Touch the heart of everyone, take everybody's hand

Join the song of all the earth
We've a dream a dream to share
And a promise of rebirth
Let the earth feel the warmth
Of the love there in your heart
We have many a dream and promises to keep

We are children, children of the light
We are shining, in the darkness of the night
Hope for this world, joy through all the land
Touch the heart of everyone, take everybody's hand

We are children, children of the light
We are shining, in the darkness of the night
Hope for this world, joy through all the land
Touch the heart of everyone, take everybody's hand

Ask everyone to be seated. For this reflection, I took the “One In The Spirit” workshop that is available from National, and adapted it as a reflection. You were all given a prayer card with a picture of a saint on it. These cards have different colour paper on the back of them.

One in the Spirit Reflection

Ask those with “**blue**” cards to stand

St Catherine of Sienna.....feast day April 29th

Catherine Di Giacomo Di Benincasa was born on March 25th, 1347 in Siena. From an early age, Catherine began to see visions and underwent mystical experiences throughout her lifetime.

She was always radiantly happy with much personal charm, and her practical wisdom gave her the highest spiritual insight. Using this gift, she discerned the Lord’s call to leave her Dominican monastery cell to tend to the poor, the sick, and the suffering.

The spirituality of St Catherine of Siena is centered in truth, goodness, beauty, unity, love, life and spirit.

This group can be seated and the “**yellow**” card holders stand

St Therese of Lisieux.....feast day is October 1st

Therese was born on January 2, 1873 in Alencon, France. She was brought up in an atmosphere of faith; and her vocation manifested itself when she was still only a child. At the age of 15 she entered into a Carmelite convent.

Therese had frail health and suffered much illness from a young age, but she bore it with cheerfulness. She was a woman who saw that the power of love could change everything into service for others.

The spirituality of St Therese of Lisieux is a carefully organized regimen of striving toward a relationship with God, through tradition and the liturgical year.

This group can be seated and the “**red**” card holders stand

St Monica.....feast day is August 27th

Monica was born in Tagaste, Algeria. She lived the same hard life as all the other women did in that country. She was married to a philandering, violent man with a difficult, bad-tempered mother-in-law living with them, and a son who caused her great grief and anguish. St Monica’s intense prayers led to the conversion of her mother-in-law, husband, and son.

St Monica is the patron saint of abuse victims, difficult marriages and disappointing children.

The spirituality of St Monica allowed her to see God in the ‘now’. She saw the presence of God all around her and envisioned how His presence would continue. She was a prophetic person who always found new meaning to life’s experiences.

This group can be seated and the “**green**” card holders stand

St Clare of Assisi.....feast day is August 11th

Clare was born on July 16th, 1194 . As a young girl, she dedicated herself to the service of God. Inspired by Francis of Assisi, Clare was determined to follow his way of life in order to bring her closer to the poverty of Jesus. She left the comfort and wealth of her family home behind her to follow the life of St Francis.

St Clare , with the assistance and guidance of Francis, started the order of the Poor Ladies or Poor Clare’s. She enjoyed the privilege of poverty; she remained insistent that the order be true to the intention of Francis and live in absolute poverty, owning nothing.

The spirituality of St Clare was modeled on the humanity of Jesus. She had the gifts of listening and insight. Nobles and peasants sought her prayers and advice. She was a person who saw the beauty, goodness, and love of God in the simple joys of life. She was totally open to the presence and voice of the Holy Spirit.

These women were women of Peace & Hope for their times, just as we are women of Peace and Hope today. They, like us, were strong independent women who were guided by their faith, who let their “yes Lord” resonate through their works and deeds.

We now ask that you all come forward and light your candles from the candle that has the same colour material as your prayer cards. Then return to your seats and remain standing. While we do this we will sing.....They'll Know We are Christians

When they are all at their seats and song is finished.....

Response: **Holy Spirit, fill us with your love**

For the talents and the abundance of gifts that are ours...

For the faith that stirs and grows in our hearts....

For the many people who have been instruments of Peace & Hope in our lives.....

For the times when your goodness has made music through us....

Response: **Holy Spirit, fill us with your trust**

When fear rises up in us and we do not believe in our gifts....

When the busy-ness of life interferes with our “yes Lord”.....

When we doubt your presence in the difficult aspects of our days....

When we lose sight of the truth that we are called to goodness....

When emptiness, loneliness, and other struggles keep us from hearing your word....

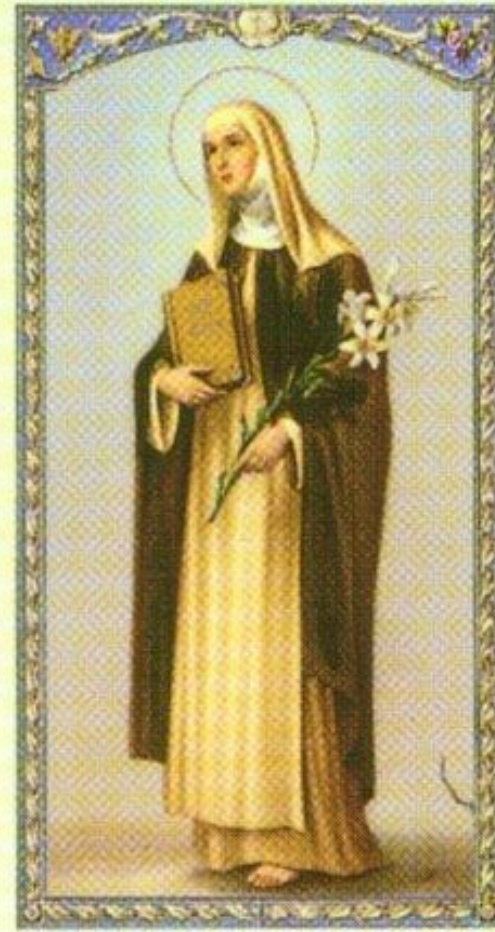
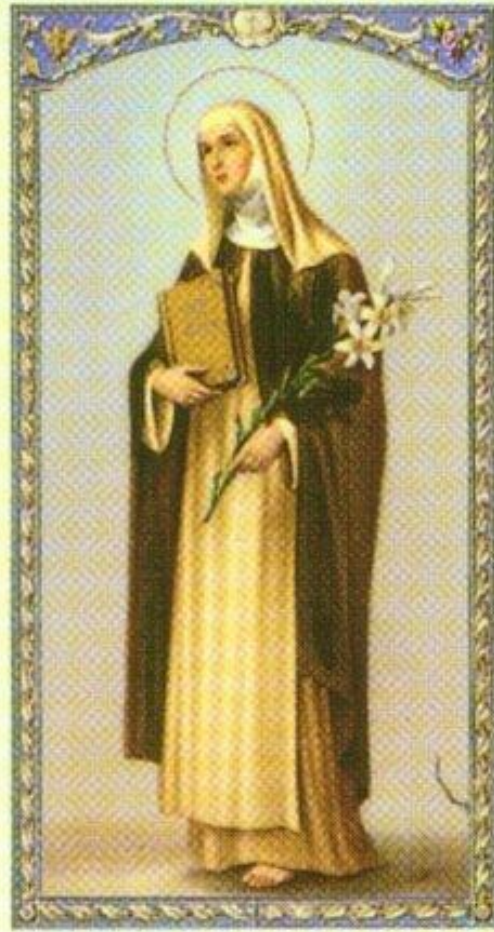
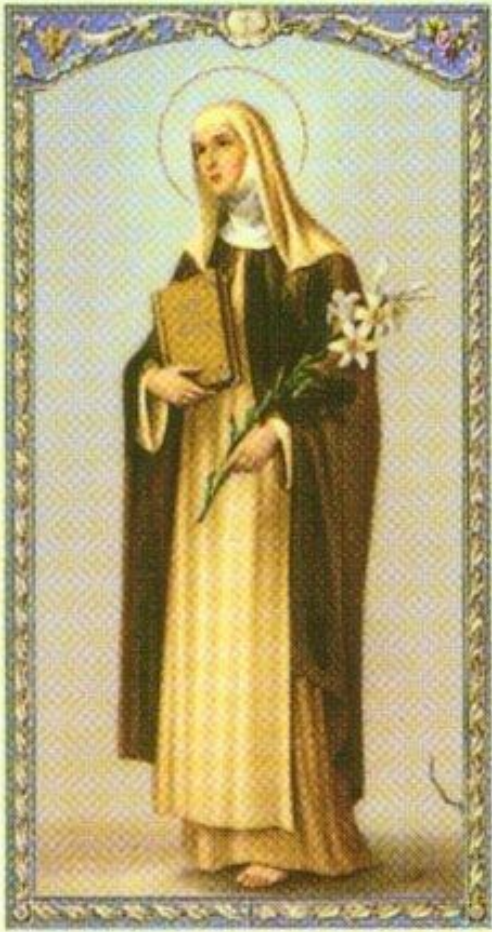
Response: **Holy Spirit, fill us with your light**

As we grow in believing in our goodness.....

As we allow more and more of who we are to be influenced by your presence..

As we struggle to know how and when to share our gifts with others....

As we go forth from here with the desire to be your instruments of Peace & Hope....



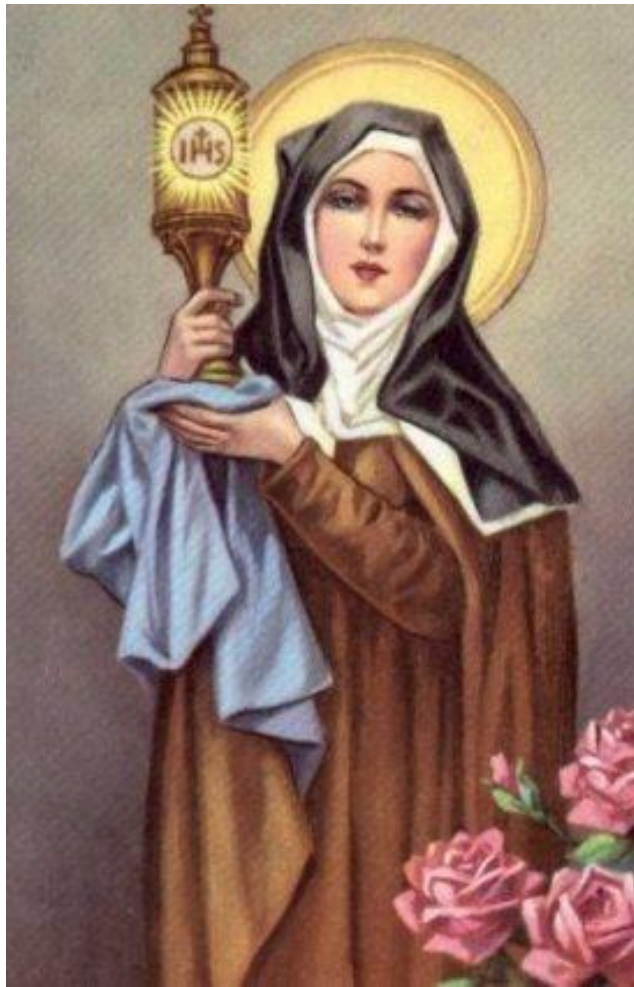
St. Catherine of Siena: Feast Day April 29

St. Catherine of Siena: Feast Day April 29

St. Catherine of Siena: Feast Day April 29



St. Clare of Assisi: Feast Day August 11



St. Clare of Assisi: Feast Day August 11



St. Clare of Assisi: Feast Day August 11



St. Monica: Feast Day August 27



St. Monica: Feast Day August 27



St. Monica: Feast Day August 27



St. Therese of Lisieux: Feast Day October 1



St. Therese of Lisieux: Feast Day October 1



St. Therese of Lisieux: Feast Day October 1