

JUN 2018: HOPE: TAKE, BREAK, GIVE IN CHRIST

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THEME: HOPE – TAKE, BREAK, GIVE IN CHRIST

Focus: Mission.

Event: The Body & Blood of Jesus

Social Media Trend: #HEislife

Opening Prayer: Invite a member of the BEC to say the opening prayer, and then pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord,

by the light of the Holy Spirit

you have taught the hearts of your faithful.

In the same Spirit

help us to relish what is right

and always rejoice in your consolation.

Come and remain in us, O Holy Spirit

enlighten us to reflect, share and live God's Word

in our daily encounter with You, O Lord.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Introduction: We receive (take) the gift of life from our gratuitous Father, and in Christ we gratefully thank our Giver of Life. In our life journey, we experience being broken, healed, and raised to life ever new. We share {give} God's gifts – our time, talent, and resources with others.

Take, Break, Give in Christ are movements that mark our lives as disciples of Hope. May our lives gradually become our daily acts of thanksgiving to our Trinitarian God. Blessing and praising the Divine Presence draws us into intimate communion with the Spirit in Christ and with one another.

Opening Hymn: Bread, Blessed and Broken (SYPG D.65)

May the bread we break today, may the cup we share Lift the burdens of our hearts, lift them everywhere; Passing on to each of us the measure of your love, Love to make us whole again, as we share your word.

Ref: Bread, blessed and broken for us all, Symbol of your love from the grain so tall, Bread, blessed and broken for us all Bread of live you give to us Bread of life for all.

Jesus, You're the One I love, You're the One I know You're the One who make me strong spirit in my soul From the clouds of yesterday through the night of pain Teach me Lord to know your way, know it once again. (Ref)

DIALOGUE

Here are three stories about the lives of people who try to live the mission like Christ, to be disciples of hope:

1. Betty is a resident in the home for the aged. She walks very slowly with a hunch and a limp due to knee and back aches. As she walks, she often tries to raise her head a little upwards to greet people with a smile on her face.

One day when asked how she copes with pain with a smile on her face, she answered in her own simple words:

“Once we grow old we cannot avoid pain. But Christ suffers how many times more because He loves us. I just tell myself that I want to follow Christ. I go for mass and I try to be happy despite the pain. Isn't it better to smile than to scold people?”

2. Simon is a father of three daughters. His wife, Alice is a homemaker. One of the daughters is disabled who needs a lot of attention. Each day is a struggle for the couple. For Simon, besides working as a project supervisor, he also sees to the needs of the family after work.

He is often seen accompanying his daughters before they go to bed. He tells them stories, shares jokes with them and plays with them. Of course, there are times when he gets impatient and scolds his children. He tries to cut down social entertainments in order to spend more time with his disabled daughter.

Alice goes about her daily routine with a sense of responsibility. She tries to look after her daughters, especially the disabled one herself and leaves other household chores to the domestic help.

On Sundays, they are among the early few to be in church. Both Simon and Alice say that the Eucharist gives them the strength to hold the family together in the midst of challenges and difficulties.

3. Janice and Jerry are siblings. Janice works as a kindergarten teacher. She often reaches out to the parents of the children in her class and tries to improve parent-child relationship. She says that it is worth walking the extra mile as taught by Christ in order to help the young children in their growing years.

Jerry is a college student encouraged by his sister, he gets involved in many outreach programs organized by the parish. As he walks with people who are poor and suffering, he realizes that he can be a disciple of hope to the less fortunate. Now he gets his friends involved too. He says that reaching out helps him to experience Christ in the poor. So, he wishes to learn more about the scriptures now.

Buzz with the person next to you. Buzz a second time with another person

How are the different people in the stories ‘taking’, ‘breaking’ and ‘giving’ Christ to others? Based on your own experience, how is the Eucharist an important source of grace and strength in your own life?

DISCERNMENT

Biblical text: Colossians 1:9-12

1. Read the text two or three times
2. Be in silence with the text – read silently on your own
3. What words or phrase caught your attention? Write it down

4. (Choose only one from #3): What is the Holy Spirit saying to you? Write it down

5. Share in small groups (3-4 persons) on #3 and #4

DEED

1. When the people in the above stories receive the Body of Christ, they bring Christ to wherever they go.

Give ways how you as; individual, family and BEC reach out to give Christ-like service to the needy who live around you.

2. Report any activities that your BEC has done last month? What new actions do you want to do this month?

Concluding Prayer: Invite another member of the BEC to say the closing prayer.

Closing Hymn: Take and Bless, Break and Give

Take, take these gifts, gifts, of bread and wine Giver of all... God of life Take this gift, this gift of bread; take this gift, this gift of wine Take these gifts, these gifts of our lives In memory of you Bless, bless these gifts given, given for all Spirit of God... make us as one Take, this is my Body, take, this is my Blood My body and blood.. given for

all Take and eat, this is my Body, take and drink, this is my Blood Take and eat, take and drink, in memory of me
Give, give yourself, give, give your life One at the table... Christ in the world © Music: Chris Allen; Words:
Andrew Chin, 2009

Food for the Journey: (Jesus left us his mother to be our mother)

Church Document Evangelii Gaudium, The Joy of The Gospel, no. 285

On the cross, when Jesus endured in his own flesh the dramatic encounter of the sin of the world and God's mercy, he could feel at his feet the consoling presence of his mother and his friend.

At that crucial moment, before fully accomplishing the work which his Father had entrusted to him, Jesus said to Mary: "Woman, here is your son". Then he said to his beloved friend: "Here is your mother" (Jn 19:26-27).

These words of the dying Jesus are not chiefly the expression of his devotion and concern for his mother; rather, they are a revelatory formula which manifests the mystery of a special saving mission. Jesus left us his mother to be our mother.

Only after doing so did Jesus know that "all was now finished" (Jn 19:28). At the foot of the cross, at the supreme hour of the new creation, Christ led us to Mary. He brought us to her because he did not want us to journey without a mother, and our people read in this maternal image all the mysteries of the Gospel.

The Lord did not want to leave the Church without this icon of womanhood. Mary, who brought him into the world with great faith, also accompanies "the rest of her offspring, those who keep the commandments of God and bear testimony to Jesus" (Rev 12:17).

The close connection between Mary, the Church and each member of the faithful, based on the fact that each in his or her own way brings forth Christ, has been beautifully expressed by Blessed Isaac of Stella: "In the inspired Scriptures, what is said in a universal sense of the virgin mother, the Church, is understood in an individual sense of the Virgin Mary... In a way, every Christian is also believed to be a bride of God's word, a mother of Christ, his daughter and sister, at once virginal and fruitful... Christ dwelt for nine months in the tabernacle of Mary's womb. He dwells until the end of the ages in the tabernacle of the Church's faith. He will dwell forever in the knowledge and love of each faithful soul"