

THE DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE

Senior Citizens Day - 2021

September 19, 2021

Order of Worship

L: O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

L: Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

C: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, to the end of ages. Amen.

L: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your Glory. Hosanna in the highest.

C: Blessed is he that has come and is to come again in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

L: *Holy art Thou, O God.

C: Holy art Thou, Almighty Lord.

L: Holy art Thou, Immortal Lord.

C: O Lord, the Messiah, who was crucified + for us, have mercy on us.

*(*Repeat together three times)*

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: O Lord, have mercy on us and bless us.

L: O Lord, accept our prayers and worship, and have mercy on us.

C: Glory be to you, O God.

L: Glory be to you, O Creator.

C: O Christ the King, who has compassion on your sinful servants, have mercy on us, glory be to you. Bless us, O Lord.

L: Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be your name; your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the time of trial, but deliver us from evil, for the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

L: God of our Parents, we praise you for bringing us together to your presence to worship you. We glorify you for the beauty and diversity of your creation. As we celebrate this day as Senior Citizens Day, help us to see the glory of your love in the varied human experiences, remember the hard work and faith of our older generation and dedicate ourselves to carry out the God given responsibilities. Be it all for the glory and expansion of your Kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Confession

L: Gracious Lord, you have blessed us with the presence of elderly people among us to guide and lead us. But we often fail to acknowledge their value and extend proper respect and care. Lord, forgive us for not seeing the worth of their faith and wisdom which they have gained through long experiences. The bible says that gray hair is a blessing, yet we look upon our elderly as a liability and try to avoid them from our social gatherings. Lord, we often forget that we all may have to go through this experience one day. Help us to look with compassion and love upon those who have been blessed with long and abundant life. May we find joy in walking with them and seek their wisdom for our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Responsive Prayers

L: "And now, in my old age, don't set me aside. Don't forsake me now when my strength is failing". Psalm 71:9

C: Help us, O Lord, to remember your promise and discern that you will never leave us, nor forsake us.

L: "But the godly will flourish like palm trees and grow strong like the cedars of Lebanon. ... Even in old age they will still produce fruit; they will remain vital and green." (Psalm 92:12-14)

C: Help us O Lord to be fruitful to do your deeds and completely rely on you because you are the one who sustains us.

L: "Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the Lord. (Leviticus 19:32)

C: Help us, O Lord, to love and respect our elders.

L: "But those who keep waiting for the LORD will renew their strength. Then they'll soar on wings like eagles; they'll run and not grow weary; they'll walk and not grow tired." (Isaiah 40:31)

C: Help us, O Lord, to wait for you so that we may be renewed in strength and prepare ourselves for the eternal glory.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: For the wisdom and faith of our parents, our seniors, and those that have gone before us.

C: We thank you Lord

L: For their vision, courage and enthusiasm to establish this diocese and the various parishes in North America & Europe so that we, the later generations, can continue to worship in our faith tradition.

C: We thank you Lord

L: For the country in which we reside and for its varied heritages.

C: We thank you Lord

L: For the services rendered to us by our bishops, clergy and the laity

C: We thank you Lord

Prayer of Dedication

Loving Lord, we thank you for the life and all the mercies that you give us day by day. Help us, O Lord, to trust you and experience the peace that passes all understanding. Help us to fulfill your purpose through our life and witness. Give us grace to be thankful to the people who are caring us and help us to realize that your grace is sufficient. You have been our Rock in times of trouble, our Peace in times of distress and our Shelter from the storms of life. As we advance in years help us to experience your guiding presence. As our steps are slowing down, carry us on your shoulder and fill us with your grace. Lord, use us as a channel of blessing so that others may experience your love through us. We pray this in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ - Amen