

Bulletin 20 Ord A August 20, 2017

HOMILY

TWO KINDS OF HEALING

In the gospel, Jesus heals a little girl who was tormented by demons. It was a miraculous healing. We all have the power to miraculously heal others. There are two kinds of spiritual healing: verbal and non-verbal.

COMPLIMENTS CAN HEAL

Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! He gave the woman a compliment. Compliments can heal because they boost people's self-esteem.

WAYS TO HEAL

Here are some verbal ways to heal others: Show compassion to a person at work who complains about being sick; Stand up for a friend who is being ridiculed by others; Change your work schedule so you can have lunch with a friend in need.

NEAR DEATH HEALING

For training to become a priest, I spent two months at Mercy Hospital in New Orleans. During the two months, 15 people died while I was on call. Something miraculous happened to several of these people died: they died within five minutes after I prayed with them. The verbal prayer allowed them to die in peace.

SILENT AND PRESENT HEALING

Remember the story of the hemorrhaging woman? She thought if she could just touch Jesus' clothes, she would be healed. It happened. Jesus was present and silent and the woman was healed.

FIRST DYING PATIENT

The first time with a dying patient I was afraid. I called my friend Gina for advice. She said, "Hold her hand Scott, you don't have to say anything." I silently held her hand. I felt God was working through me to help that lady.

PRESENT AND SILENT IS POWERFUL

Being present and silent has significant healing power. Being present means we respect a person's pain. It shows that we care and are available emotionally if needed.

SILENCE AND SPIRITUAL CONNECTION

Being silent conveys a spiritual connection that goes beyond understanding. When Mary stood at the foot of the cross, silent and present with Jesus, healing was taking place. She was sharing in her son's pain.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER HEALS THE WORLD

The intercessions we pray at Mas as a community of faith is a strong way to heal our world. When we come together as one body, in communion with our Lord, and pray, it has powerful healing affects. Our communal prayer around the world is like a continual river of healing prayer raising up to our Lord.

GO THE EXTRA MILE TO HEAL

The Gospel challenges us to heal others. Healing involves going that "extra mile." Healing can be draining work physically and emotionally.

HEALING TAKES SACRIFICE

Healing involves taking extra time from our busy schedule to relate to someone personally. It involves breaking away from the bonds of internet addictions, shopping sprees, and workaholism.

HEAL SOMEONE THIS WEEK

This week heal someone. Try to be with a hurting or sick individual and just be silent with that person for a few moments. Go that extra mile. As you meet people and relate with them, say a kind word to them, greet them with a handshake or a compliment. As you depart, ask yourselves a question. Did I heal that individual in some way (474 Words)?

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant

We bring our prayers to God who extends mercy to all peoples and every race.

Deacon/Lector

That the faith and joy of believers attract unbelievers into God's loving arms, we pray to the Lord.

That those on the verge of giving up find strength to persevere, we pray to the Lord.

For parents and teachers: may we teach our children tolerance and respect for people of other faiths as a part of dismantling walls of intolerance, we pray to the Lord.

For our community: may we be open and friendly to people of other faiths and cultures, and work with them to promote harmony where we live, we pray to the Lord.

For those who have died (especially): that the Lord of all gentleness will welcome them into his peaceful presence, let us pray to the Lord.

In Silence let us now add our own intentions for our families, our community, our country, and the world.....,
We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant

Thank you, God, for opening our eyes to see the value of every human person. Give us the courage and tenacity to use our gifts to serve the whole community in peace and love, through Christ our Lord.

READINGS

Isaiah 56: 1&6-7

Thus says the LORD: Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, ministering to him, Loving the name of the LORD, and becoming his servants—All who keep the sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, Them I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer; Their holocausts and sacrifices will be acceptable on my altar, For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

Romans 11:13-15&29-32

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous and thus save some of them.

For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may (now) receive mercy. For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all.

Mat 15: 21-28

Then Jesus went from that place and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not say a word in answer to her. His disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did him homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that hour.