

Today's Catholic Teacher

"... And the greatest of these is love"

PRAYER SERVICE

LEADER: Love is the greatest gift because it is God's love poured into our hearts. Faith and hope are our response to what God has done for us through his unconditional love.

READER 1: A reading from the Letter to the Corinthians.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing. For we know partially and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things. At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known. So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

<u>LEADER:</u> Dear God, protect us ...	ALL: Amen
Sacred Heart of Jesus, guide us ...	ALL: Amen
Holy Spirit, evangelize us ...	ALL: Amen
Holy Mary, Mother of God, draw us close ...	ALL: Amen
Holy Angels and Saints, pray for us ...	ALL: Amen

LEADER: We have a triad of prayers named, Act of Love (Charity), Act of Faith, and Act of Hope to guide us along the way. Let us pray the Act of Love together.

ALL: O my God, I love you above all things, with my whole heart, and soul, because you are all-good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself, for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and ask pardon of all whom I have injured. Amen.

LEADER: Let us pray the Act of Faith.

ALL: O my God, I firmly believe that you are One God in Three Divine Persons, Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit; I believe that your Divine Son became man, and died for our sins, that he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all truths which the Catholic Church teaches, because you have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. Amen.

LEADER: We conclude with the Act of Hope.

ALL: O my God, relying on your almighty power and infinite mercy and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

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