

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2022

18th January

We observed his star in the East”

(Mt 2:2)

Raise us up and draw us to your perfect light

Readings

- **Psalm 139:1-10** - Your right hand shall hold me fast
- **2 Timothy 1:7-10** - This grace... has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus

Reflection

In this fragile and uncertain world, we look for light. We look for the good within ourselves, but often we are so overwhelmed by our weakness that hope fails us. Our confidence rests in God, who in wisdom, enables us to hope for his mercy. We are surprised when it comes in human form: Christ is the light in our midst! God's gift to us is a 'spirit of power, and love'. We are drawn forward on the way to this perfect light by God's Holy Spirit, not by relying on our own strength and ability.

In the midst of darkness, the star from the East penetrates the depths of the darkness that separates us from one another. The star's light continues to shine and to change the face of history. Throughout the ages, by the lives of Christ's followers, the world has come to know the hope that is inspired by the Holy Spirit. And the Risen One continues to shine, like a beacon guiding all into this perfect light and overcoming the darkness which separates us from one another.

The desire to overcome the darkness that separates us compels us to pray and work for Christian unity.

Prayer

Creator of light,

illumine our path by the light of Christ who moves before us and leads us.

May he be a beacon for our pilgrimage.

Enlighten us and dwell within us.

Guide us to discover a manger in our hearts where a great light still shines.

We thank you for the gift of that unfading Star, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Heal our divisions and draw us closer to the Light that we may find our unity in him.

Amen.

Lá 1

“Chonaiceamar a réalta ag éirí”

(Matha 2:2)

Tóg sinn agus tabhair sinn isteach i do sholas foirfe

Léamha

- **Sailm 139:1-10** - Béarfaidh tú orm le do dheasláimh
- **2 Tiomóid 1:7-10** - Bhí an grásta seo tugtha dúinn i gCríost Íosa ó thús aimsire ach is anois beag a foilsíodh é trí thaibhsiú ar slánaitheora Críost Íosa

Machnamh

Sa saol seo atá leochaileach éiginnte, cuardaímid an solas. Cuardaímid an mhaitheas ionainn féin, cé gur minic go bhfaigheann ár laigeacht an ceann is fearr orainn agus go dtréigeann ár ndóchas sinn dá bharr sin. I nDia a chuirimid ár muinín, agus trína eagnaíocht siúd, is féidir linn a bheith ag súil lena chuid trócaire. Bíonn ionadh orainn nuair a smaoinímid gur i riocht duine daonna a tháinig sé. Is é Críost an solas inár measc féin! An spiorad a thug Dia dúinn, is é “spiorad na fearúlachta agus an ghrá”. Is trí Spriod Naomh Dé a dhéanaimid ar an solas foirfe seo, seachas trínár gcumas nó trínár neart féin.

Fiú i lár an dorchadais, bíonn an solas anoir ann, sroicheann sé umair an dorchadais sin a scarann óna chéile sinn. Ní stadann an réalta de bheith ag lonrú ná ní stadann sí de chúrsa na staire a mhúnlú. Tríd na cianta, trí bheathaí lucht leanúna Chríost, tuigeadh don saol cén dóchas a spreagtar leis an Spiorad Naomh. Agus leanann an Té a d’Aiséirigh de bheith ag lonrú, faoi mar a bheadh cuaille lena dtreorófar cách isteach i solas na foirfeachta, an solas úd a ruaigfidh an dorchadas a scarann sinn óna chéile.

Ba mhaith linn an ruaig a chur ar an dorchadas a scarann sinn óna chéile agus leis sin tagann an dualgas le guí agus le saothar a dhéanamh ar son na haontachta Críostaí.

Paidir

A Chruthaitheoir an tsolais,

Foilsigh ár mbealach faoi sholas Chríost a ghluaiseann romhainn dár stiúradh.

Go raibh sé ina chuaille san oilithreachta dúinn.

Tabhair léargas dúinn agus bí beo ionainn.

Treoraigh sinn le mainséar a dhéanamh dár gcroí mar a soilsíonn solas fós.

Gabhaimid buíochas leat as bronntanas na réalta nach dtréigeann, a Íosa Críost, a Thiarna, agus a Shlánaitheoir.

Réitigh ár ndeighilteanna agus tabhair sinn i gcóngar don Solas le go n-aimseoidimid ann ár n-aontacht. Áiméan.