WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2022

23rd January

“They saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage”

(Mt 2:11)

Gathered in worship around the One Lord

Readings

- **Psalm 84 -** How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
- **Mt 28:16-20 -** When they saw him, they worshipped him**.**

Reflection

When the Magi from their far-away countries arrived at Bethlehem and saw the child with his mother, they worshipped him. In the presence of this revelation of God among us, eyes were cast down and knees bent. Similarly, when the disciples saw the risen Christ on the mountain in Galilee, they were amazed and troubled. Yet they worshipped him.

Do we see? Are we amazed? Are we truly worshipping? How many times do we remain blind to God’s presence? How can we worship in truth if we do not really see first? In our narrow vision, too often we see only our tangled disagreements, forgetting that God’s saving grace is to all, and that we share in the one Spirit who draws us into unity. Often in our pride we follow human laws and traditions, disregarding the love we are called to share as one people justified by Christ’s blood.

As communities enlivened by the Holy Spirit, we are called to walk together towards the Christ-Child, offering homage as one people. The Spirit of compassion guides us to each other and only by following this guide will we be able to “worship in spirit and truth”.

Prayer

Compassionate God,

in your mercy, remove the scales from our eyes

and lead us to repent and to worship you.

In the midst of our sorrow and despite the depth of our sin,

give us the capacity to love you with all our hearts.

As we journey together with one heart and mind,

may we glorify you in the Spirit’s fellowship,

and witness to those around us.

Amen.

Lá 6

“Chonaic siad an leanbh le Muire a mháthair, agus d’umhlaigh siad go talamh ag déanamh ómóis dó”

(Matha 2:11)

Bailithe le chéile chun adhradh a thabhairt don aon Tiarna amháin

Léamha

- **Sailm 84 -** Nach álainn go dearfa d’áras!
- **Matha 28:16-20 -** Ar a fheiceáil dóibh d’umhlaigh siad dó**.**

Machnamh

Nuair a shroich na Saoithe Beithil óna dtíortha i bhfad i gcéin, agus nuair a chonaic siad an páiste lena mháthair, d’umhlaigh siad dó. I láthair fhoilsiú seo Dé inár measc, caitheadh na súile síos agus cromadh na glúine. Ar an tslí chéanna, nuair a chonaic na deisceabail Críost Íosa arna aiséiri ar an sliabh i nGalailí, bhí idir ionadh agus bhuairt orthu. Ach d’umhlaigh siad dó.

An bhfeicimid? An bhfuil ionadh orainn? An bhfuil adhradh ceart ar siúl againn? Cén fhad a bheimid dall ar láithreacht Dé? Conas a dhéanfaimid adhraidh i bhfírinne air mura bhfeicimid é i gceart ar dtús? Is cúng an radharc atá againn, agus is minic nach mbíonn le feiceáil againn ach na heasontais achrannacha, agus déanaimid dearmad gur do chách é grásta Dé, agus go roinnimid go léir san aon Spiorad amháin a thugann sinn chun aontachta. Mar gheall ar ár gcuid mórtais, is minic a leanaimid dlíthe agus traidisiúin dhaonna, agus caithimid amach as ár gceann an grá a iarrtar orainn a roinnt lena chéile mar aon phobal amháin ar fuil Chríost is bunús dó.

Is pobail sinn atá beo ar an Spiorad Naomh, iarrtar orainn siúl le chéile i dtreo Íosa Óig, agus ómós a dhéanamh dó mar aon phobal amháin. Treoraíonn spiorad an chomhbhá sinn i dtreo a chéile agus ní féidir adhradh i spiorad agus i bhfírinne gan an treoir seo a leanúint.

Paidir

A Dhia an chomhbhá,

i do thrócaire, bain na scálaí dár súile,

agus stiúir sinn chun an aithreachais agus chun adhradh a dhéanamh ort.

I lár ár mbróin agus d’ainneoin dhoimhneacht ár bpeacaí,

cuir ionainn an cumas le grá ár gcroí uile a thabhairt duit.

Taistealaímid le chéile d’aon chroí agus d’aon aigne,

agus go raibh glóire agat uainn i gcomhaltacht an Spioraid,

agus tabharfaimid fianacht do na daoine a bhíonn inár dtimpeall.

Áiméan.