

Parish Meeting Prayers

For use in January 2023

Introduction

Leader The Gospels show John the Baptist, God's faithful witness, as straightforward and clear. He recognized God's guidance and testified that Jesus is the Son of God.

Opening Prayer

All God ever-present, guide us to recognize your presence often each day. Increase our awareness so we can become witnesses to the saving power of Jesus in all that we do. We ask this in his name. Amen.

Word of God John 1:29-34

Reader A reading from the Gospel of John. *(The reading is on the reverse side.
Pause for silent reflection.)*

Optional Discuss these questions in two's or three's.
1. How did you find God's presence in your routine life today?
2. What are some ways to become more alert to God's presence during each day?

Response (Taken from John 1:29-34)

Side 1 "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."

Side 2 Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus who saves us from our weakness to sin.

Side 1 "A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me."

Side 2 The example of John's faith and humility can give us pause when we're tempted to smugness.

Side 1 "Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

Side 2 May our lives testify to the power of Jesus' saving love.

Petitions Individuals add intentions to remember here.

Closing Prayer

All Gather our concerns, our needs and hopes into a prayer of gratitude for the gift of Jesus. Keep our faith and love growing and maturing as we praise your goodness. We pray in Jesus' name and through the power of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

Parish Operations and Mission Planning



A reading from the Gospel of John:

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said,
 “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.
He is the one of whom I said,
 ‘A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me
 because he existed before me.’
I did not know him,
 but the reason why I came baptizing with water
 was that he might be made known to Israel.”

John testified further, saying,
 “I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven
 and remain upon him.
I did not know him,
 but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me,
 ‘On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain,
 he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’

Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”