

# Congregation of Dominican Sisters of Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Catherine of Siena, Cabra



## PRAYER SERVICE FOR CHILD SAFEGURDAING<sup>1</sup> 2019

*Jesus said to His disciples:  
“Anyone who welcomes a little child in my name welcomes me”.*

(Matthew 18:5)

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<sup>1</sup> Prepared by Sr. Noelle Jennings OP on behalf of Congregation Safeguarding Committee 2019

## Make me a channel of your peace

Make me a channel of your peace  
where there is hatred  
let me show your love.  
Where there is injury  
your pardon, Lord.  
and where there's doubt,  
true faith in you.



Make me a channel of your peace  
where there's despair in life,  
let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness only light,  
and where there's sadness ever joy.

O master grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all people that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

## A few moments of quiet



## The lighting of candles

Leader: We live in much darkness. We are often uncertain. We are sometimes afraid. In the darkness, we light a candle of hope.  
*(The first candle is lit.)*



Leader: We all have sorrows. We have known pain. Each of us carries special regrets. In our sorrow, we light a candle of forgiveness.  
*(The second candle is lit.)*

Leader: We are sometimes lonely, and the world seems cold and hard. In our loneliness, we light a candle of love.  
*(The third candle is lit.)*

Leader: We have known awe, wonder, mystery and glimmerings of perfection in our imperfect world. In our wonder, we light a candle of praise.  
*(The fourth candle is lit.)*

Leader: May our separate lights become one flame, that together we may be nourished by its glow.

All: Amen



## Love.<sup>i</sup>

Love bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back,  
    Guilty of dust and sin.  
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack  
    From my first entrance in,  
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,  
    If I lacked anything.

‘A guest’, I answered, ‘worthy to be here.’  
    Love said, ‘You shall be he.’  
‘I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,  
    I cannot look on thee.’  
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,  
    ‘Who made the eyes but I?’

‘Truth, Lord, but I have marred them; let my shame  
    Go where it doth deserve.’  
‘And know you not’, says Love, ‘who bore the blame?’  
    ‘My dear, then I will serve.’  
‘You must sit down’, says Love, ‘and taste my meat.’  
    So I did sit and eat.

## A time of silence



## You are mine

I will come to you in the silence  
I will lift you from all your fear

You will hear My voice  
I claim you as My choice  
Be still and know I am near.

I am hope for all who are hopeless  
I am eyes for all who long to see  
In the shadows of the night,  
I will be your light  
Come and rest in Me.

*Do not be afraid, I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow Me  
I will bring you home  
I love you and you are mine.*

I am strength for all the despairing  
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free  
And all will know My name.  
I am the Word that leads all to freedom  
I am the peace the world cannot give  
I will call your name, embracing all your pain  
Stand up, now, walk, and live.<sup>ii</sup>



## Reflective time

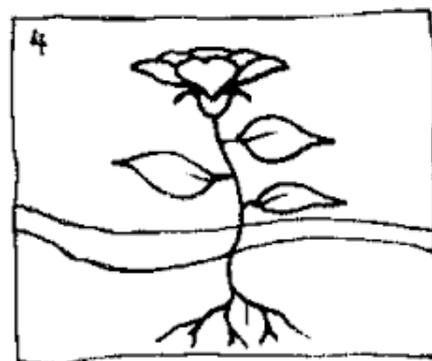
R. **The Lord is close to the broken hearted**

[L]  
[SEP]

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
praise of God shall fill my mouth.  
My soul makes its boast in the Lord;  
let the lowly hear and be glad. (R.)

Magnify the Lord with me;  
together let us praise God's name.  
I searched for God, who answered me,  
who saved me from all my fears. (R.)

Look to God, be filled with light;  
let your face not be ashamed.  
I cried out when I was low;  
the Lord heard and set me free.<sup>iii</sup> (R.)



**Scripture Reading 1 Peter 5: 5b, 7, 10b - 11**

Wrap yourselves in humility to be servants of each other,  
because God refuses the proud and will always favour the humble.  
Unload all your worries on to him, since he is looking after you. The  
God of all grace who called you to eternal glory in Christ will see that  
all is well again: he will confirm, strengthen and support you. His  
power lasts forever and ever. Amen.<sup>iv</sup>

**Reflective music**



## Intercessions

Lord Jesus, we pray:

For all who have lost hope

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who suffer

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who have been abused

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who are sick and in pain

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who are struggling

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who are bullied

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who have been badly hurt in life

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who are grieving

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who are depressed

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who feel rejected

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who feel unloved

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who are oppressed

**Walk with them, Lord**

For all who are anxious

**Walk with them, Lord**



## Final Prayer

Heavenly Father,

You have entrusted us with the protection of our children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

May the Holy Spirit guide our steps as we help shepherd their paths. May our Church leaders, teachers, parents, and those entrusted with the care, responsibility, and/or supervision of vulnerable adults, be filled with a wise and discerning spirit, fostering an environment that is embracing, instructive and safe. Widen our hearts and perspectives to listen gently and with compassion to the experiences of those suffering, victims and potential victims of abuse, being ever mindful of the fragility and honor in safeguarding their trust.

May the Holy Spirit embolden us to speak and act judiciously, wielding the sword of truth, and may Your courage be ours as we stand in the gap on behalf of the innocent.

May we continue to grow in our own paths to holiness, ever listening to the rhythms of Your voice, ever obedient in following Your will, ever humble in our responsibility. **Amen.**<sup>v</sup>

## Blessing

Loving Lord,

against all odds may untainted, unconditional love prevail,

the love your Son showed us,

the love which restores,

the love which forgives,

the love which respects,

the love which can overcome abuse,

as long as we can trust you

and begin to trust each other again.

**Amen.**



And may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**<sup>vi</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> George Herbert

<sup>ii</sup> David Haas

<sup>iii</sup> Psalm 33

<sup>iv</sup> 1 Peter 5: 5b, 7, 10b - 11

<sup>v</sup> Diocese of St. Petersburg

<sup>vi</sup> Services for Special Occasions