

Saturday Morning Prayer

RE Congress

Oct 8th 2011

Introductory Rite

Reader rings the bell 3 times.... as the bell tolls. ...

Opening Hymn

on slide

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
Come, bow before him now in reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned
How awesome is the sight; Our radiant king of light.
Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around

Leader: Guimís in ainm an Athar agus an Mhic agus an Spiorad Naomh.

All: Amen

Scripture Reading – 1 Kgs 19: 9b – 13a

Reader: The word of the Lord came to Elijah: “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too”

The Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

PAUSE

Leader: We take a moment to recall how God has touched our lives
.....we recall times of another’s gentleness, a thoughtful word, a kind smile.....the
beauty of nature.....

PAUSE

After a few moments’ pause, the bell is tolled gently by the reader...

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 34 - Chris Willcock S. J.

Sung: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord*

On slide

Leader: We take a moment to reflect on when we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good.....how God has gladdened our liveswe recall times of great delight...good experiences....times of nourishment.....

PAUSE

After a few moments' pause, the bell is rung joyfully by the reader...

Leader: I invite you now to stand and turn to the North, the direction of the Northern Star, the guiding force of the earth

We take a moment now just to allow the spirit of the north to energise us....bringing deep rootedness.....anchoring us.....guiding us

We take a few moments to ask the spirit for courage to stand in our rootedness.

PAUSE

Now I invite you to turn to the East, the direction of the Rising Sun, the early morning's breaking light....we take a moment to become aware of what the Spirit is beginning in my life.....what newness is the Spirit of the East awaking or inviting in me?.....

We take a few moments now to ask the Spirit for new hope.

PAUSE

Now we turn to the South, the direction of the full heat of the midday sun.....to be aware of the Spirit of Warmth, of Enthusiasm.....so for a moment, I become conscious of what is nourishing my life at this time..

We take a few moments now to ask the Spirit for the energy of love.

PAUSE

Finally we turn to the West, the direction of the Setting Sun, the Spirit of harvesting and reaping.....and I become aware of what the Spirit is harvesting in me, in my life?

We take a few moments to ask the spirit for courage to stand in our giftedness.

PAUSE

Conclusion

Leader: As we continue our journey of nourishment and good news,
let us pray together the Congress Prayer together:

All: **RE Congress Prayer** *On slide*

God our Creator, your Son Jesus,
before he ascended into heaven,
sent his disciples to bring your Word to the ends of the earth.
Pour out your Spirit, which He promised, on us gathered here,
His disciples in this time and place,
so that we too may go forth to bring your Word to your people.

We have come here to be nourished from your incredible abundance,
from which you rained down manna on our ancestors in the desert.
During these days open our ears
so that we may be nourished with your Word.
Open our hearts so that we may be fed with the Body of Christ, the Bread of life,
and send us out to be the Body of Christ in our world.
We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son.
Amen.