

MORNING PRAYER AT ST. FRANCIS HOUSE

[Before the start of the service, a candle is lit and the leader of the morning prepares the readings from Scripture.]

A reading from the Principles of St. Francis House.

The gathered community prays in silence for five minutes.

OPENING PRAYER : Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the center of this sacred circle through which all of creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and for ever. Amen.

**A reading from the Principles of the Third Order,
Society of Saint Francis, followed by the Saint of the Day.**

A period of silence is kept after reading the Saint of the Day.

First Reading *from the Hebrew Scriptures or the Epistles.*

Psalm Response *concluding with* **Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading *from the Gospel.*

COMMUNITY REFLECTION AND PRAYER *Following the readings and a brief period of silence, the community is invited to share reflections on the readings and the life of the world into which we are sent. When all who desire have shared, the following prayer is said in unison:*

**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled
as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved,
as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

The Prayers follow. Each one prays aloud, mentioning needs or concerns, and giving thanks for blessings received. When all have prayed, the leader of the day reads from the Intercession List appointed for the day. The Lord's Prayer is then said in unison:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

This concluding prayer is then said in unison:

**May our blessed Lady pray for us; may St. Francis pray for us;
may St. Clare pray for us; may all the saints in heaven and on earth
pray for us; may the holy angels watch over us and befriend us;
may Jesus give us both blessing and peace, now and always. Amen.**

**The leader of the day offers a dismissal to which the response is:
Thanks be to God.**