



ARCHDIOCESE OF PALO - CATECHETICAL MINISTRY
Module 36 May 9, 2021 Sixth Sunday of Easter Cycle B
THEME: Loving as Jesus has loved us (John 15:9-17)



INTRODUCTION

Bringing the Good News

Sharing on what each one heard of Community Pantries being done across the country nowadays through the inspiration of a young lady who started the first Community Pantry at *Maginhawa* Street Quezon City.

Who are the people who go to Community Pantries?
 Why do they go to a Community Pantry?
 What do people do to make a Community Pantry?
 What do you think makes them put it up?

(Stress the spirit of love for others who are in need, that inspire organizer of Community Pantries)

The spirit of *bayanihan* and concern being shown for those who are badly affected by pandemic is like what Jesus tells us in our Gospel reading today.



OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, as we gather together to learn, to grow and to change
 Help us to move into a deeper understanding of your truth.
 We lay our lives down before you and ask that you would move amongst us.
 May we all feel safe with each other.
 Safe to think and question
 Safe to ask for help
 And safe to share our lives with you, our loving heavenly Father. Amen

<https://www.living-prayers.com/events/prayer>



PHASE ONE
REMEMBER THE STORY OF JESUS

1.1 Proclamation of the Gospel Story

Enthroned the Bible on a table with lighted candle)

Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

A moment of prayerful silence

We will not be able to understand the Word of God unless God himself opens our hearts. Let us now welcome Jesus as he speaks to us through his Word

Reader: A reading from the Gospel according to John (15:9-1)

9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide

in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these things to you so



that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 12 "This is my

commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

1.2 Brief Guided silent Meditation / Personal Prayer

What struck you in the reading? Why does it catch your attention?

1.2 Text in Context

Today's Gospel reading is a continuation of *John's 15* on the vine and the branches, the time when Jesus was about to say goodbye to the disciples, before his passion. And when he returns on his resurrection, things would be different. We see the close relationship of Jesus with the disciples in the image of vine and branches. But to remain attached with God, Jesus commands the disciples a new way of doing it in actual life?

1. What commandment does Jesus give to his disciples? ("Love one another as I love you.")
2. How did Jesus show his love? (he demonstrated the depth of his love by his sacrifice on the cross for their sake and for ours)
3. As Jesus said, what is the difference of Jesus calling the disciples friends and servants?
4. What does Jesus expect his disciples?
5. What does Jesus mean when he said: *I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another*

**PHASE II REFLECT the Story
of the Church
(Teachings of the Church)**



We, believers, have common desire, that is to remain in Jesus' love. Last Sunday, we heard Jesus telling us:

*I am the vine, you are the branches.
Make a home in me and remain in my love just like
branches to the vine.*

It's very comforting to be in the arms of Jesus. However, a person's close relationship with Jesus does not end in itself. In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us the concrete way how to remain in his love. We remain in God's love by loving one another. How do we love one another?

What is the measure of my loving others or my neighbor? Jesus tells us simply; *this is my commandment: love one another as I love you.*

How does Jesus love us?

Jesus' love loves everyone. In his love, no one is outside. As the apostles went around preaching about the Risen Lord, it was told, *the circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles* [pagans or non-believers] (Acts 10:45).

Jesus loves all of us, believers or not believers, sinners and righteous. He wants all to turn to and follow him. He does not wait for us. He loves us while still sinners and takes the initiative in loving us.

Jesus assures each one of us;

You are precious to me. you are worth offering of my life.

Jesus loves each one of us, like a special friend. *No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.* (Jn 15:13). Jesus dies on the cross for us and this is a unique kind of loving. We are not worthy to receive such love but Jesus offers us his love so that we may experience the peace and joy of God's forgiveness.

Jesus says again and again: *You are worth dying for.*

How do I look into myself? Do I see in myself that I am precious in the eyes of God and worth dying for?
How thankful am I for this great love of God?

What enables Jesus to love us?

Jesus knew that human love has limits. Some of us cannot bear pains of loving. We may be loving at the beginning but may be hurting or may be choosy in our loving at the end.

What is the secret of the enduring love of Jesus to us?
The love that Jesus gives us, is the love that springs from the love received from the Father.

He said,

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you

The love of the Father in Jesus flows to us. Jesus does not keep the love of the Father to himself alone. The love of the Father in Jesus is the same love that the Father gives us. The Father and Jesus are one. The Holy Spirit is the fruit of their love. Jesus makes known to us all the goodness, wisdom and will of the Father. The Holy Trinity is the One God who loves us.

Who are we to receive the merit of God's love?

Yes, all of us are children of God. We have all the dignity of human persons who are worth offering of Jesus' love'. This great love of Jesus commands us for a MISSION: LOVE OTHERS THE WAY JESUS LOVED US.

Think of a person who always makes you feel loved and welcomed.

Think of a person you know who needs to be invited into the circle of God's love.

What thing you can you do to remain in the love of God at this time.?

**PHASE THREE RESPOND – with/ in my personal
faith /community faith story**

Jesus asks us to follow his commandments, which are summarized in the following: "that you love one another as I have loved you" (v. 12).

How can this love which the Risen Lord gives us be shared with others? Jesus has many times pointed out to us who the "other" to love is, not with words but with actions. (Pope Francis)



CLOSING PRAYER

We celebrate Mothers' Day today. We thank God for the love we receive from them.

Hold My Mother Close

Heavenly Father, hold my mother close to your Heart
As we hold her close to mine.

Let her know today and every day

How much we love her.

Lord, comfort her mind and reassure her
that her motherly care was everything we needed and
wanted

And that we love her dearly.

Lord, comfort her body as she ages

and grant her health and

Vitality as she goes through her days here on earth.

Bring all good things to my precious mother, dear God, and
bless her every day, in every way. Amen!

<https://www.praywithme.com/mothers-day-prayers.html>

BACKGROUND FOR THE CATECHISTS

Fratelli Tutti 8 It is my desire that, in this our time, by acknowledging the dignity of each human person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity. Fraternity between all men and women. "Here we have a splendid secret that shows us how to dream and to turn our life into a wonderful adventure. No one can face life in isolation... We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead. How important it is to dream together... By ourselves, we risk seeing mirages, things that are not there. Dreams, on the other hand, are built together". [6] Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travelers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all.

CCC 1970 The Law of the Gospel requires us to make the decisive choice between "the two ways" and to put into practice the words of the Lord. It is summed up in the *Golden Rule*, "Whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them; this is the law and the prophets." The entire Law of the Gospel is contained in the "*new commandment*" of Jesus, to love one another as he has loved us.

