



INTRODUCTION

Talk about experience of sickness in the family or in the neighborhood particularly at this time of pandemic (Let the group share freely what they feel about taking care of the sick person or facing the passing of a loved one or someone they know)

What do you do? how do you feel?

What do you think and feel of God with the sickness and deaths we are facing in our community and country or even in the whole world?



OPENING PRAYER

A Prayer Before Reading the Bible

<p>Our Father, who art in heaven, sacred is Your Word. Your kingdom come, Your Words be heard on earth as they are in heaven. Give us today Your Sacred Word. Forgive our neglect of it in the past</p>	<p>as we forgive those who neglect us. Lead us toward an encounter with You each time we delve into the Scriptures. For Your presence, Your power, and Your glory are ever present among us now and forever. Amen https://www.catholic.org</p>
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**PHASE ONE
REMEMBER THE STORY OF JESUS**

1.1 Proclamation of the Gospel Story Mark 5: 21-43

Enthroned the Bible on a table with lighted candle)

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



A Woman Healed and A Girl Restored to Life- Mark 5: 21-43

21 When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. 22 Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet 23 and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live." 24 So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him.

25 Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. 26 She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. 27 She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28 for she said, "If I but

her disease. 30 Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" 31 And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, Who touched me?" 32 He looked all around to see who had done it. 33 But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. 34 He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

35 While he was still speaking, some people came from the leaders house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" 36 But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." 37 He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. 8 When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. 39 When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." 40 And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. 41 He took her by the hand and said to her, "Tali• tha cūm," which means, "Little girl, get up!" 42 And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. 43 He strictly ordered them that no one should

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

1.2 Brief Guided silent Meditation / Personal Prayer

What are the two miracle stories you heard or read? Which part touched you most?

Text in Context

Last week we came to know Jesus as God who has control over forces of nature as he calmed the strong storms when he and the disciples were caught up in the sea.

In the two stories put together in the Gospel reading today, Jesus makes known himself as God who has control over the forces of death. God alone is the giver and restorer of life. as we will see in the stories of Jairus' daughter who was raised by Jesus from deathbed and the woman who was healed with hemorrhage?

1. What does Jairus ask Jesus to do for his daughter? (to lay his hands on her)
2. What happens while Jesus is walking to Jairus's house? (Messengers report that Jairus's daughter has died.)
3. What does Jesus do? (He tells Jairus not to be afraid; he continues to Jairus's house; he says that the girl is only sleeping and he raises her, making her well again.)
4. If you were to draw the scene on Jesus' way to Jairus' house, what picture would it be? (consider the crowd following Jesus)
5. What the extraordinary event happened when Jesus was pressed by the crowd while walking to Jairus' house?
6. What is the attitude of the woman who touched Jesus? Who was this woman?
7. What gives the woman the strength to touch him?
8. Why were the disciples unable to understand what was going on between Jesus and the crowd?
9. Who was Jairus? Describe the scene in the house when Jesus arrived? What is Jesus' attitude towards Jairus, his wife, and his daughter?



Let us focus on the story of Jairus' daughter who was dying. It is important to know the attitude of Jairus when he approached Jesus?

The Gospel storyteller today narrates this way:

Jairus came and, when he saw {Jesus}, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly

"My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live."

Jairus was a well-known religious leader. We know that religious leaders of the synagogue rejected Jesus that led him to death. Not much was said about Jairus. But his name tells us a lot. Jairus in Greek means "he is enlightened". He must have heard of Jesus' preaching and believed in him. In spite of Jesus' being unpopular among his group, his eyes were open to the light that points to who Jesus is. He can see in the simple man, Jesus from Nazareth a certain power that can bring forth life.

At Jairus' neediest moment, he turned to Jesus. He humbled himself before him, falling down at his feet. He may look funny to others knowing that he is has a status in the synagogue. This urgent meeting with Jesus was worsened by the news of the people:

"Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?"

But Jesus tells Jairus: "Do not fear, only believe."

Arriving at Jairus' place, there were loud cries for the little girl had died. Again, Jesus rebuked the people around who laughed at what he said.

Why you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping

With his divine power, Jesus commanded the dead girl.

"Talitha koum," which means, *"Little girl, I say to you, arise"* and the girl came back to life. The disciples, the girl's family and people around saw with their eyes how God is at work in Jesus.

INVITATION

Jairus could have been influenced by the reactions of the people or crowd who were told that his daughter had died already. But he stood firm at what Jesus told him. "Do not fear, only believe." Any similar experience?

How often do you approach Jesus with the confidence that what you ask for is within his power?

What was the most difficult situation in your life that challenged your trust in God's power? How did you handle it?

We observe in the story of Jairus, that as they go with Jesus to his house, another person, a woman who was losing life due to hemorrhage desperately touched Jesus in the midst of the crowd, saying to herself:

I but touch his clothes, I will be made well."

This is a powerful profession of faith. And she was healed at that very moment.

There are many points to ponder from this story such as her courage to join the crowd in spite of the Jewish belief of contamination from the flow of blood, Jesus' sensitivity to her touch on his cloak's hem amid the pressing crowd,

We have seen in the two stories how life can flow from Jesus. He makes himself known to us God as life-giving. Out of his mercy and compassion, he gives new life to those who are in need. We only need to ask in faith.

Life is not only physical. We may be alive but considered dead. We do not live only on the human level. Life is sustained with our connection with God like a branch in a vine.

Those who follow the false understanding of life end to the destruction. We know that some people live away from God (sin), finding life miserable. Those who choose this way of living are "dead" making themselves separated from God. God does not create death.

The meeting between Christ and the sick, is, in the Gospel and still today, is not only to heal the person's whole being but also to gain life eternal in the fullness of God's presence.

We know that Covid-19 epidemic threatens our very own life. We have been praying for the healing of many sick people who may be even members of our family or community. News of death has become normal these days.

Does God hear our prayers?

What is my attitude to God in prayer at this time of uncertainty in life? How connected is my life to God at this point in time?

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

Though a mystery, Christ's passion, death, and resurrection throw light to our question on human life and death. Let us allow his love to flow into us so that we may be restored in all our infirmities including our many fears in life. Many people suffer at this time of world health crisis. We cannot make miracles, like Jesus but we can make them happen by letting life flow from us to others.

What concrete charitable acts can you do to give life to others starting from respective families.



CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray for people who are infected with COVID-19 or facing quarantine.

Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to us who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May we feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses particularly those who are confined in hospitals.

Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease.

Protect our families and friends and bring peace to all of us.
Amen

<https://www.worldvision.org>

BACKGROUND FOR THE CATECHISTS

CCC 1503 Christ's compassion toward the sick and his many healings of every kind of infirmity are a resplendent sign that "God has visited his people" and that the Kingdom of God is close at hand. Jesus has the power not only to heal, but also to forgive sins; he has come to heal the whole man, soul and body; he is the physician the sick have need of. His compassion toward all who suffer goes so far that he identifies himself with them: "I was sick and you visited me." His preferential love for the sick has not ceased through the centuries to draw the very special attention of Christians toward all those who suffer in body and soul. It is the source of tireless efforts to comfort them

