

Walking in the Light of Christ

“Leading in the Light of Christ”

April 2012

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our April 2012 prayer in preparation for Catholic Education Week. The theme of our prayer is “Leading in the Light of Christ.” Let us begin with the sign of our faith: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SUGGESTED OPENING SONG:

The Light of Christ – Donald Fishel – CBW III #394

Children of the Light – Eugene O’Reilly, CSSR

OPENING PRAYER

God of creation, give us Your wisdom to lead others into Your light. Illumine our leadership with the light of faith, understanding and patience. Strengthen us to lead our communities with the model of Christ’s light, so that the children in our care and their families may continue to grow in faith and knowledge of His love. We make this prayer to you through that same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

READING: Matthew 20:20-28

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Him with her sons and kneeling before Him, she asked a favour of Him. And He said to her, “What do you want?” She said to Him, “Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at Your right hand and one at Your left, in Your kingdom.” But Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” He said to them, “You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.”

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to Him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you, must be your servant and whoever wishes to be first among you, must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came, not to be served, but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many.”

QUESTION FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:

What are the distinctive qualities of Catholic leadership?

READING:

Our children are not ours, they are God's children. In the end, we are only their guardians, all of us. God is the real parent and God's love, care and anxiety for them will always be in excess of our own. You are never a single parent, even if you are doing the parenting alone. God is alongside, loving, caring, cajoling, worrying, trying to instill values, trying to awaken love, worrying about what company they are keeping, concerned about what they are watching on the internet and spending the same sleepless nights that you are. God's worry exceeds our own. –Father Ron Rolheiser, *Children in Our Care*
<http://www.ronrolheiser.com/columnarchive/?id=547>

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION/REFLECTION:

How do we sustain our vision of Catholic leadership?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Lord, in the night and in our rising, we know Your love and care. Continue to be the guiding light for our community. Walk with us, as we seek to know and share Your light in every aspect of our lives. We make this prayer to You in Jesus' name. **Amen.**
And may Almighty God bless us: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

SUGGESTED CLOSING SONG:

We Are Called – David Haas – Gather #301

