



Claiming our Role as Global Stewards: Closing the Gaps

INTRODUCTION

Good morning. At the outset of this professional activity day, let us take a few moments to reflect on the theme of our gathering in light of God's word, and to ask God's blessing on our time together.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us begin our prayer: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Let us pray. O God, all that is good is your gift to us. In Christ, you closed the gap between ourselves and you that followed the sin of Adam, and restored us to be stewards of gifts beyond measure. Open our minds and hearts today that we might joyfully embrace our role as global stewards, to help close gaps in student achievement, that they might find fulfillment according your glorious plan. We make this prayer to you in Jesus' name. Amen.

And now, let us listen to God's word.

READING

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

REFLECTION

Each of us, by our baptismal anointing has been given a share in Christ's Kingly office, to share in his Reign of justice, mercy, kindness and compassion. In Christ, we are stewards of one another, and of the whole world – uniquely endowed with gifts to build up and care for what is good, true and holy.

As global stewards in Christ, we can use our gifts and talents to close gaps of ignorance, poverty, injustice and fear. We do this by sharing the knowledge we have received, by fostering right relationship and by our witness of love. In this way, each of us plays a role in empowering the next generation to claim their role in turn, as global stewards in Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

As stewards of one another in Christ, let us now bring our needs, the needs of our loved ones, students, and those of this day before God, using the words that Jesus taught us: *Our Father...*

CLOSING PRAYER

O Lord, we thank you for making us sharers in your Reign over creation in Christ. Help us to claim our role as global stewards with an undivided heart, that your Reign of justice, mercy, kindness and compassion might flourish more fully through our work for our Catholic schools. We make this prayer through this same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

And may Almighty God bless us: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.