

The Question of the Week

Breaking Open the Word

Week of November 1, 2009

The Feast of All Saints

1. The Call to Prayer

Leader: My friends, let's pause to spend a few moments in prayer and conversation with each other. [Lead all in the Sign of the Cross] + In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. The Word of God

Leader: May the Lord be in our hearts as we recall and re-listen to a reading from last Sunday's Liturgy of the Word.

[Re-read all or part of the suggested reading.]

Readings from last Sunday are:

Reading I: Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-14

Reading II: 1 John 3: 1-3

Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12

Reading suggested for this Week's sharing: **Today's Gospel**

3. The Two Faith Sharing Questions

Leader: As we consider this Sacred Scripture, I invite you to think about it in two dimensions. [You may wish to work in small groups if your number is large.]

- First, ask about the text itself, to draw attention to the Scripture.
 - What word or phrase in this text caught your ear?
 - What story did you hear, or image did you get?
 - What touched you as you heard this reading?
- Second, when the first sharing is complete, ask about the people's lives.
 - Use this "Question of the Week" to help people get started sharing faith:
 - **When you heard the Beatitudes today, which one did you hear most clearly as a summons for your own life?**

4. The Prayer. At the end of the sharing period, invite folks to pray in one of the following ways:

- The Lord's Prayer out loud together
- Spontaneous prayers
- A moment of silent prayer
- Listen to a recorded hymn

The Question of the Week

Breaking Open the Word

Week of November 8, 2009

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1. The Call to Prayer

Leader: My friends, let's pause to spend a few moments in prayer and conversation with each other. [Lead all in the Sign of the Cross] + In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. The Word of God

Leader: May the Lord be in our hearts as we recall and re-listen to a reading from last Sunday's Liturgy of the Word.

[Re-read all or part of the suggested reading.]

Readings from last Sunday are:

Reading I: 1 Kings 17: 10-16

Reading II: Hebrews 9: 24-28

Gospel: Mark 12: 38-44

Reading suggested for this Week's sharing: **Today's Gospel** (the short version)

3. The Two Faith Sharing Questions

Leader: As we consider this Sacred Scripture, I invite you to think about it in two dimensions. [You may wish to work in small groups if your number is large.]

- First, ask about the text itself, to draw attention to the Scripture.
 - What word or phrase in this text caught your ear?
 - What story did you hear, or image did you get?
 - What touched you as you heard this reading?
- Second, when the first sharing is complete, ask about the people's lives.
 - Use this "Question of the Week" to help people get started sharing faith:
 - **When do you know that you have given away enough?**

4. The Prayer. At the end of the sharing period, invite folks to pray in one of the following ways:

- The Lord's Prayer out loud together
- Spontaneous prayers
- A moment of silent prayer
- Listen to a recorded hymn

The Question of the Week

Breaking Open the Word

Week of November 15, 2009

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1. The Call to Prayer

Leader: My friends, let's pause to spend a few moments in prayer and conversation with each other. [Lead all in the Sign of the Cross] + In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. The Word of God

Leader: May the Lord be in our hearts as we recall and re-listen to a reading from last Sunday's Liturgy of the Word.

[Re-read all or part of the suggested reading.]

Readings from last Sunday are:

Reading I: Daniel 12: 1-3

Reading II: Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18

Gospel: Mark 13: 24-32

Reading suggested for this Week's sharing: **Today's Gospel**

3. The Two Faith Sharing Questions

Leader: As we consider this Sacred Scripture, I invite you to think about it in two dimensions. [You may wish to work in small groups if your number is large.]

- First, ask about the text itself, to draw attention to the Scripture.
 - What word or phrase in this text caught your ear?
 - What story did you hear, or image did you get?
 - What touched you as you heard this reading?
- Second, when the first sharing is complete, ask about the people's lives.
 - Use this "Question of the Week" to help people get started sharing faith:
 - **If today was your last, what would you do with it?**

4. The Prayer. At the end of the sharing period, invite folks to pray in one of the following ways:

- The Lord's Prayer out loud together
- Spontaneous prayers
- A moment of silent prayer
- Listen to a recorded hymn

The Question of the Week

Breaking Open the Word

Week of November 22, 2009

The Feast of Christ the King

1. The Call to Prayer

Leader: My friends, let's pause to spend a few moments in prayer and conversation with each other. [Lead all in the Sign of the Cross] + In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. The Word of God

Leader: May the Lord be in our hearts as we recall and re-listen to a reading from last Sunday's Liturgy of the Word.

[Re-read all or part of the suggested reading.]

Readings from last Sunday are:

Reading I: Daniel 7: 13-14

Reading II: Revelation 1: 5-8

Gospel: John 18: 33-37

Reading suggested for this Week's sharing: **Today's Gospel**

3. The Two Faith Sharing Questions

Leader: As we consider this Sacred Scripture, I invite you to think about it in two dimensions. [You may wish to work in small groups if your number is large.]

- First, ask about the text itself, to draw attention to the Scripture.
 - What word or phrase in this text caught your ear?
 - What story did you hear, or image did you get?
 - What touched you as you heard this reading?
- Second, when the first sharing is complete, ask about the people's lives.
 - Use this "Question of the Week" to help people get started sharing faith:
 - **What is the truth for you? How do you live the truth everyday?**

4. The Prayer. At the end of the sharing period, invite folks to pray in one of the following ways:

- The Lord's Prayer out loud together
- Spontaneous prayers
- A moment of silent prayer
- Listen to a recorded hymn

The Question of the Week

Breaking Open the Word

Week of November 29, 2009

The 1st Sunday of Advent

Year C begins today in the Lectionary

1. The Call to Prayer

Leader: My friends, let's pause to spend a few moments in prayer and conversation with each other. [Lead all in the Sign of the Cross] + In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. The Word of God

Leader: May the Lord be in our hearts as we recall and re-listen to a reading from last Sunday's Liturgy of the Word.

[Re-read all or part of the suggested reading.]

Readings from last Sunday are:

Reading I: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Reading suggested for this Week's sharing: **Today's 2nd Reading from St. Paul**

3. The Two Faith Sharing Questions

Leader: As we consider this Sacred Scripture, I invite you to think about it in two dimensions. [You may wish to work in small groups if your number is large.]

- First, ask about the text itself, to draw attention to the Scripture.
 - What word or phrase in this text caught your ear?
 - What story did you hear, or image did you get?
 - What touched you as you heard this reading?
- Second, when the first sharing is complete, ask about the people's lives.
 - Use this "Question of the Week" to help people get started sharing faith:
 - **Paul exhorts us to "make greater progress" in our spiritual lives. What one step could you take to make greater progress in your own life?**

4. The Prayer. At the end of the sharing period, invite folks to pray in one of the following ways:

- The Lord's Prayer out loud together
- Spontaneous prayers
- A moment of silent prayer
- Listen to a recorded hymn