

Renewing the Church in Manville

Prayer Service: February 27, 2012

Presider: God, come to our assistance.

All: *Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Presider: Almighty God, we call upon your Holy Spirit to help us discern your will for the Church in Manville. Through our discussion and deliberations tonight, may we be guided by wisdom and truly serve the Body of Christ bringing honor and glory to your holy Name.

Psalm 119: 33-40

All: *Lord, Give me understanding, wisdom, and discernment*

Men: Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.

Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.

Turn my heart to your decrees,
and not to selfish gain.

Women: Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
give me life in your ways.

Confirm to your servant your promise,
which is for those who fear you.

Turn away the disgrace that I dread,
for your ordinances are good.

See, I have longed for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life.

All: *Lord, Give me understanding, wisdom, and discernment*

Scripture (Sirach 1:1-8)

All wisdom comes from the LORD and with him it remains forever. The sand of the seashore, the drops of rain, the days of eternity: who can number these? Heaven's height, earth's breadth, the depths of the abyss: who can explore these? Before all things else wisdom was created; and prudent understanding, from eternity. To whom has wisdom's root been revealed? Who knows her subtleties? There is but one, wise and truly awe-inspiring, seated upon his throne: It is the LORD; he created her, has seen her and taken note of her. He has poured her forth upon all his works, upon every living thing according to his bounty; he has lavished her upon his friends.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection
of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Intercessions (Response: Come, Wisdom of God.)

Presider: God of all goodness, we seek your wisdom in all that we do in your name. Hear us as we pray...

All: *Come, Wisdom of God.*

Presider: Let prudence direct our steps. Hear us as we pray...

All: *Come, Wisdom of God.*

Presider: May we recognize and rejoice in the gifts of wisdom. Hear us as we pray...

All: *Come, Wisdom of God.*

Presider: May wisdom give us eyes to see and ears to hear the needs of the Church in Manville. Hear us as we pray...

All: *Come, Wisdom of God.*

Presider: May wisdom help us to discern your will for our faith communities. Hear us as we pray...

All: *Come, Wisdom of God.*

Closing Prayer

Presider: Lord, giver of gifts and author of souls, you know what is needed in our world and you know how each of us can help to build your kingdom. Give us courage to take on the challenges that lie before us. Give us faith that you are working by our side. Give us confidence to accomplish good things in your name.

All: *Amen.*