

CDM Kampung-ku Connection

Theme: Our Mission in rebuilding Church

October 2021

O *pening prayer:* Our Father in heaven, we thank you for creating the world with so much love in your heart. We thank you for this Church which is made up of Your people. We thank you for bringing us together, as one Church, to praise & honour You. Father, forgive us for the times when we were not in tune with you, to build this Church. We are sorry for the times we had abandoned our responsibilities, for the times when we had given priority to the cares of the world instead of placing you first. Oh Father, we ask for your forgiveness for the times we had bad mouth Your Church without realising the consequences of our actions. For all these, we seek your pardon. Father, and we ask for Your tender mercy to sweep over us and rejuvenate us with your Spirit once again in the name of Jesus. There is no other name but the name of Jesus, whom we adore and glorify as one Church. Come Holy Spirit, touch us today in an extraordinary way. Fill us once again and enkindle in us the fire of your love in Jesus' name. Give us the grace to live our lives as one Family... One Church. In Jesus' mighty name we pray, **Amen.**

Video clip on Pope Francis' Homily : **The Church should be like a field hospital.**

Link : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPouA9b5ifw>

Reflection :

Pope Francis mentioned that the *“mission of the Church is like a field hospital to heal the wounds of the heart, to open doors, to free people.”*

Please reflect & feel free to share your thoughts on the **“Church being a field hospital”** today, in this pandemic.



A. The meaning of “We are the Church”

When the word “church” comes up in conversation, the first thing we think of is a building. We have this mindset that church is a place we go to on Sundays. As we get our family dressed, fight through traffic and get a good seat, it’s easy to lose sight of the fact that we aren’t just going to church; we are the church.

In *1 Timothy 5*, Paul describes the ***church as people dedicated to doing whatever it takes to reach out and help others***. We have a responsibility to serve and help others in need as the church. Caring for each other as well as those outside of the church is the quickest way to see Jesus change lives. Too often, we see a need and wait for the priest or someone else to take responsibility. But that’s not the way church works.

Each of us has been given skills, abilities and opportunities to serve.

In the Bible, church is always a reference to people, not a place. The church is a body of believers that live out the Gospel in their words and actions. The church is at its best when people inside the building take Jesus’ message outside the building and serve those they meet.

B. The Church is on a Mission

God has been on a mission from the first day of creation till today. There has been a great emphasis on mission from the Old Testament to the New Testament till today! So, since we are the Church, we, the people, will need to be on a mission too! There is no escape!

For every mission, there is a missionary. What is a missionary? A missionary is someone who crosses cultural barriers in order to share the gospel and make disciples, and **serves the Lord anywhere and share God’s love with others**

We have been given the role as Ambassadors of Jesus Christ with the responsibility of sharing the news of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection with the world.

The Catholic Church’s mission is to carry out and continue the work of Jesus Christ on Earth. Now that we know we are the Church, how do we live our lives today especially in this pandemic? Let’s go!

C. How do we go on a Mission as a Church?

The Church, and those in it, must:

1. share the Word of God
2. help those in need
3. live as examples to all



1. SHARE THE WORD

The Word of God is the basis of a mission. Without the Word, who is Jesus Himself, the mission will be a failure because the Word is like a compass that directs us onto the right path. *The Word is the beginning of a Mission.* **"Your Word is a lamp to my feet & light to my path."** Psalm 119:105



2. HELP THOSE IN NEED

Being on a mission is an opportunity to be selfless. Being on a mission is "less of me, more of Jesus in someone who is in need. Helping others is as simple as living an honest and faithful life. By living thoughtfully and honoring God with your words and actions, you can inspire someone to help themselves by doing the same. ***"In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven."*** Matt 5:16



3. LIVE AS AN EXAMPLE TO ALL

We are One Body of Christ. When we are on a mission, our lives must shine out the love of God so that from our actions they will know we are Christians. **"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."** John 13.34-35

D. Conclusion

Since Mission Sunday is fast approaching, we are reminded that whilst we are on earth, we are called to be missionaries of Christ. We are given this opportunity to shine as His children in the midst of a pandemic! This is a *God-moment* to exhibit His love to everyone irrespective of race & religion. We are called :-

- to be rooted in His Word so that we are strong to face challenges
- to be sensitive to the needs of the people around us
- to be readily available when we are called upon to assist in times of crisis
- to be patient during tribulations & tolerate one another

We have only **ONE LIFETIME** to make our pilgrimage here on earth worthwhile. What better way then to serve a poor Jesus, a lame Jesus, a hungry Jesus, a penniless Jesus right now? The time is now. Today, we have an opportunity to be a Jesus to another Jesus. ***Are you ready to be a Missionary after God's Own Heart?***



Quotes of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”

“If you are humble nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are.”

“People are unrealistic, illogical and self-centred. Love them anyway.”

Share Your Heart....

- i) Now that we understand the term “**We are the Church**”, share with us what are you doing right now or what would you like to do as we are invited by the Lord to be on a “mission” right here in our very own Church of Divine Mercy, Penang

C

Losing Prayer: Heavenly Father, we thank you for this opportunity to be able to show your son Jesus through our lives as missionaries here on earth. We pray O Father, that we will be faithful to our calling that you have destined over our lives. We pray that we will grow to be missionaries after Your own heart. Give us the grace to be sensitive to your people’s needs and to exhibit Your amazing love to anyone who needs Jesus during this difficult time of our lives. We make this prayer, through the intercession of Mama Mary, through the power of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus’ name. Amen! Amen! Amen!

Closing Hymn: Spirit, Touch Your Church

Song can be found on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3ni6zjnBRA>

Verse 1

Lord, we need Your grace and mercy
We need to pray like never before
We need the power of Your Holy Spirit
To open heaven's door

Repeat Chorus

Spirit, touch Your church (hear our cry, God)
Stir the hearts of men
Revive us, Lord
With Your passion once again
I want to care for others
Like Jesus cares for me
Let Your rain fall upon me
Let Your rain fall upon me (come on, cry it out to the Lord)

Chorus

Spirit, touch Your church
Stir the hearts of men
Revive us, Lord
With Your passion once again
I want to care for others
Like Jesus cares for me
Let Your rain fall upon me
Let Your rain fall upon me

Verse 2

Lord, we humbly come before
You
We don't deserve of You what
we ask
But we yearn to see Your glory
Restore this dying land

Chorus

Spirit, touch Your church
Stir the hearts of men
Revive us, Lord
With Your passion once again
I want to care for others
Like Jesus cares for me
Let Your rain fall upon me
O Let Your rain fall upon me
Let Your rain fall upon me

Let Your rain fall upon me (over all the
church in the world, our Father)
Let Your rain fall upon me (to the lost and
bound and generations)
Let Your rain fall upon me (till Your
righteousness reigns in all the earth)
Let Your rain fall upon me (rain of fire,
rain-rain-rain)
Let Your rain
Fall upon me