

Sense God's Mercy – Leave a sweet aroma of God's mercy



<https://youtu.be/Ycl3qhZ-Tml> - Psalm 138 – The Fragrance of Christ (hymn)

### Opening Prayer

Loving and merciful Father, bless us as we come together to share and understand what Your greatness means in our lives. Help us to stay focussed on seeking Your will and guide us as we use this time to give You glory and praise as well as share a greater understanding of Your blessings in our lives. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ ...AMEN

*Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and **breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.**" – Genesis 2:7*

Past months have taken us on a journey of our senses.... Last month we learnt about the sense of touch and its importance. And today a part we rarely mention - The much forgotten nose – through which we breathe to live and smell !

Take a deep breath now. Share - What do you smell ?

This important sense gets us to react positively or negatively even **before** we can visually see what it is... (eg a good smell of delicious food versus a bad smell of rotting food may reach our nose first before we see it). Many of us have taken most of our senses for-granted until maybe Covid19 where some of those inflicted suffered temporary loss of their sense of taste and smell. Let's thank God who has thought of all these to make us complete !

Certain smells invoke certain feelings – some good some bad. Everyone of us has experienced some nostalgic moments brought about by this sense of smell.

**Share:** \* What smell and what memories comes to you at home/ in your car/ at Church / at your work place ?

God loves a good smell as well, and the Bible has many references to the things that have a "sweet smelling aroma" to Him

- When Noah stepped off the ark, he offered a burnt offering to God and the Bible tells us, "The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in His heart, never again will I curse the ground because of man".
- Jesus' obedience, in giving of Himself as an offering for us, created a "sweet-smelling aroma" to His Father. "Live a life filled with love, following the example

of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God" (Eph. 5:2).

Like Jesus, when we live our lives as an offering and sacrifice, we become as perfume to the nose of God. *2 Corinthians 2:14* speaks of our lives in Christ as being used to, "*spread the knowledge of Christ everywhere, like a sweet perfume*". In Him we become a fragrance that is diffused throughout the world. God not only sees what we do, and is able to hear what we say, but He smells the scent produced by our lives.



**Share:**

- \* Does our worship bring a sweet and pleasing aroma to God?
- \* How do we bring the fragrance of God to others around us?

❖ For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish (*2Corinthians 2:15*)

**Let's be intentional TODAY onwards** – Recognize God through the emotions tied with the 'smells' and make God relevant in our lives by spreading His aroma to your neighbours – Breathe life and exhale Jesus to others

How? – When you reach out to them, say a 'how are you' & offer any assistance to the lonely and elderly to maybe run simple errands. Any other way you can think of ?

**Closing:**

**PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD – *ADSUMUS SANCTE SPIRITUS***

We stand before You Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name,  
With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;  
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.  
We are weak and sinful; Do not let us promote disorder  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
Nor partiality influence our actions.  
Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life  
And not stray from the way of truth and what is right  
All this we ask of You who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son Forever and ever **AMEN**