

Homily 7th Sunday Easter Year C 2022

An African proverb states “*If you want to go fast go alone. If you want to go far go together!*” In simple terms Unity is about recognising that we journey together. Aren’t we all travelling the same road? Wouldn’t it be rather inhuman if not downright impolite not to talk to those with whom we journey. Unity is recognising the relationship we have with others in a way that enriches us all and this will make us more open to others, to different views, different cultures and traditions all of which add colour, strength and wisdom to our lives.

Pope Francis: For us Christians, walking together is not a ploy to strengthen our own positions, but an act of obedience to the Lord and love for our world. Let us ask the Father to help us walk together all the more resolutely in the ways of the Spirit. Whenever we say ‘Our Father’, we feel an echo within us of our being sons and daughters, but also of our being brothers and sisters.

Sr Macrina Wiederkehr OSB offers us this prayer to help us along the Way (Jesus) together:

“Blessing Prayer” *(slightly adapted)*

What is a blessing

but a rain of grace

falling generously

upon those who are in need;

And who among us is without need?

May this day be a pathway strewn with blessings.

May your *love* this day be Jesus’ love made visible.

May you breathe upon the wounds of those with whom you live and work.

May your breath be the breath of God.

May your own wounds feel the breath of God.

May you honour the flame of love that burns inside you.

May your voice this day be a voice of encouragement.

May your life be an answer to someone’s prayer.

May you own a grateful heart.

May you have enough joy to give you hope,
enough pain to make you wise.

May there be no room in your heart for hatred.

May you be free from violent thoughts.

When you look into the window of your soul
may you see the face of God.

May the lamp of your life shine kindly upon all who cross your path.

May you be a good memory in someone’s life today.

While Sue Allen invites us to: ***Work toward unity, and live in harmony with one another.***

Avoid thinking you are better than others or wiser than the rest; instead, embrace common people and ordinary tasks (Romans 12:16, VOICE). *Developing the art of going far together, let’s take time to ponder with God: “For whom might I become the breath of God, an answer to prayer, a good, kind memory today?”*

Unity Prayer: Almighty God, who gather what is scattered and keep together what you have gathered, look kindly on the flock of your Son, that those whom one Baptism has consecrated may be joined together by integrity of faith and united in the bond of charity through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A woman called our airline customer-services asking if she could take her dog on board.

“Yes,” I said, “as long as you provide your own kennel.” I further explained that the kennel needed to be large enough for the dog to stand up, sit down, turn around, and roll

over. The customer was flummoxed: *"I'll never be able to teach him all of that by tomorrow!"*