

Saint Bernadette Church Prayer for Gatherings



A simple faith sharing process to put Jesus' message
at the heart of your meeting.

Opening Prayer

Holy Spirit,
Direct our minds with Your wisdom.
Open our ears with Your words.
Touch our lips with Your truth.
Fill our hearts with Your love.
Amen.

Reflect & Share

Share one or more of the following questions.
What word or phrase speaks to you in this reading?



What do you usually do when you're waiting for someone and you don't know exactly when they're coming?

How do you imagine Jesus' return? Do you feel that you are prepared for Him to return at any moment? Are you anxious about His return or your readiness for it? What might make you more anticipatory than anxious?

Scripture Reading

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 7, 2022
Luke 12:35-40 (short version)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: "Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have the servants recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Allow 30 Seconds of Reflective Silence.)

What are some of the things Jesus might want us to be alert to?

How can we better stay awake to what is expected of us? What one thing could you do to keep His return before you more consistently?

How does living prepared for Christ's return reorder your work, your leisure, your parenting, your marriage, etc.?

How does God knock when He wants you to open to Him?

Closing Prayer

O God,
You are a gentle Master
Who blesses Your servants
with all good things.
Help us to be ever more vigilant and faithful
to the service of Your kingdom,
attentive always to the work
You would have us do,
eagerly awaiting Your Son's return
with our lamps of faith burning brightly.
In Jesus' Saving Name.
Amen.

The Message His Message Our Message