

The Spirit of Charity Mission Prayer

Reader 1: Luke 4:17-19

Jesus stood up in the synagogue to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

*The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for he has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives
and to the blind new sight,
to set the downtrodden free,
to proclaim the Lord's year of favor.*

Pause for reflection

Reader 2: Elizabeth Seton tells us her vision:

“[I] speak the joy of my soul at the prospect of being able to assist the Poor, visit the sick, comfort the sorrowful, clothe little innocents, and teach them to love God!”

Pause for reflection

Reader 3: The Sisters of Charity express their vision:

“Our Congregational mission is expressed in ministry to others and to one another. For the sake of the building of the Kingdom, we freely assume the obligation to recognize and address the needs of our times according to the tradition of our Congregation. Through our ministries we seek to transform the world into a more just one and uncover and nurture what is good and beautiful in the world. We recognize that the reverence with which we minister has greater importance than what we do.”

[Sister of Charity Constitutions, #4, 2, 6, 10]

Pause for reflection

Prayer Response:

Jesus, you sanctified yourself so that we, too, might be sanctified. You shunned earthly kingship with its wealth and glory, because all you had at heart was your Father's kingdom in the hearts of all people. Help us to walk in your footsteps. Give us the grace to follow your example which will lead us to seek the kingdom of God and its justice, and leave all other concerns to God's care. Assist us so that your Father's kingdom be established in us, and through us in the hearts of those with and to whom we minister. Amen.