

### Decalogue for the Sharing Group

1. Meetings are led by the Holy Spirit through Mary.
2. Purpose of the meeting:
  - To become aware of my weaknesses and the truth of being loved by God
  - To respond to the desire to deepen my faith
  - To be open to my brothers and sisters in the group
  - To share different experiences of my faith and how God is present in my life
3. When I go to the meeting, I will pray to God for others and myself.
  - Prayer of empty hands or that of the tax collector is recommended.
4. I will remember that I am God's child who has the right to trust and await miracles.
5. As a participant in our meeting I will:
  - Serve others and not count my own merits
  - Create the atmosphere of calm, focus/concentration and openness
  - Not impose on others my ways of thinking, reacting and perceiving
  - Avoid giving advice or solving others' problems
  - Speak from my personal "I" rather than use such terms as "you, we, us, people, we should, others do this."
  - Avoid discussion and criticism
6. By keeping what is shared in the meeting confidential, I will preserve each participant's freedom to share openly and protect their dignity as a child of God.
7. I will not be afraid of moments of silence, since I or somebody else may need time to reflect. Moments of silence provide us with unique opportunities for prayer and entrustment to God.
8. I will remember to attentively listen to what my brother or sister is saying in order to help them in the process of sharing.
9. When I give a witness talk or share my faith, God's grace is not only given to me but it is being multiplied and given to others.
10. Above all, God expects from me humility and openness. Even one person who is humble and open to God can create an appropriate climate during a given meeting that will spread to all participants. The most important and desirable goal is not the format of the meeting, but it is to be open to God's grace and presence.

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2667, footnote 18:* Cf. *Mk* 10:46-52; *Lk* 18:13; **No. 2839, footnotes 133:** Cf. *Lk* 15: 11-32; 18:13; **134:** *Col* 1:14; *Eph* 1:7; **135:** Cf.

*Mt* 26:28; *Jn* 20:23. – [www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/catechism](http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/catechism)

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reserved. – [www.inthearmsofmary.org](http://www.inthearmsofmary.org)

Families of Nazareth Movement – [www.familiesofnazareth.us](http://www.familiesofnazareth.us)

OCTOBER 27, 2024 ~ 30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ YEAR B  
SPIRITUAL REFLECTION ON SUNDAY'S READINGS  
YEAR OF EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

PREPARED BY:  
FAMILIES OF NAZARETH MOVEMENT USA  
COMMUNION OF LIFE WITH CHRIST THROUGH MARY

Opening Prayer  
Read Decalogue  
Read Scripture  
Read Reflection

**Reading I** Jer 31:7-9

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6

**Reading II** Heb 5:1-6

**Gospel** Mk 10:46-52

### Opening or Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,

You give us your flesh and blood for the life of the world, and you desire that all people come to the Supper of the Sacrifice of the Lamb.  
Renew in your Church the truth, beauty, and goodness contained in the Most Blessed Eucharist.

Jesus living the Eucharist, come and live in me.

Jesus healing in the Eucharist, come and heal me.

Jesus sacrificing yourself in the Eucharist, come and suffer in me.

Jesus rising in the Eucharist, come and rise to new life in me.

Jesus loving in the eucharist, come and love in me.

Lord Jesus Christ, through the paschal mystery of your death and resurrection made present in every Holy Mass,  
pour out your healing love on your Church and on our world.

Grant that as we lift you up during this time of Eucharistic Revival,  
your Holy Spirit may draw all people to join us at this Banquet of Life.

You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
God forever and ever.

FNM Summer Retreat Prayer  
2024 USCCB – [euchristicrevival.org](http://euchristicrevival.org)

## Spiritual Reflection

*“Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.” Mk 10:47*

In the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus Christ Himself left us a wonderful analysis of the appropriate spiritual posture that we should assume before God – the posture of a beggar, one without any other support than God

God’s beggar is a person who is aware that without God’s support he will fall. Knowing this, he pleads: *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.* This petition also contains this thought: gifted with free will, a sinner does not have to be tempted in order to fall. Even if God shields us from temptations, we still are able to sin. Therefore, God’s beggar asks: *deliver us from evil*, which means do not allow evil to happen.

Further analysis of the Lord’s Prayer shows us very clearly what kind of attitude God’s beggar has to assume toward the world, so as to avoid illusory supports. We have to ask ourselves this question: Is the hierarchy that is portrayed in the Lord’s Prayer reflected in our way of life? Perhaps we will discover that this hierarchy is not portrayed in our way of life.

All of our **pretenses are contradictory** to the posture of a beggar. Naturally, a person supported by somebody else’s alms does not make any condition, such as “I am only accepting bills higher than \$50.00.” That person would not receive anything if he made such demands. A beggar accepts with gratitude every offering given to him and is free from the posture of pretenses.

It is very typical for a beggar to have the conviction that, in reality, the gesture of reaching out his open hands for alms is worth doing. For some, the things that they receive become their only means of support. If it were impossible for them to survive by this method, they would probably change their way of supporting themselves. Therefore, if you do not want to live in illusion and when you desire to be freed from illusion, then admitting that you are God’s beggar, you should be convinced that He would not refuse you His alms. Standing before God with your hands outstretched in this gesture of begging, you will always receive what is precious to you. If you are not anticipating this, then you are not living in truth or seeking your support in God...

...The moment you stop turning to God with the humble plea for mercy, you immediately cease to acknowledge the truth that you will always remain as a beggar before God.

If you realize, however, that you are not a true beggar before God, then you must entrust this newly discovered misery to your Redeemer. Ask Him. Beg

Him to come to you and to unite Himself with you. Then, as a true beggar, you might discover God in everything that surrounds you: in objects, events, endeavors, people, and so forth...

...“A person is a beggar of God,” said St. Augustine and Cardinal Ratzinger adds that “we should never feel proud, but in humility confess our true human condition before God, our state of helplessness, our need to be able to call, to be allowed to speak, and to have the confidence to beg.”

God’s beggar, living in truth, knows very well that on his own he truly **has nothing**. He also knows that it is impossible to live by nothing and lean on nothing. And because of this, his entire existence becomes unceasing, eager calling upon God as the only real and true reliance.

S.C. Biela, *God Alone Suffices*, pp. 140-144

## References from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

**2667** This simple invocation of faith...transmitted by the spiritual writers...is the invocation, “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us sinners.” It combines the Christological hymn of Philippians 2: 6-11 with the cry of the publican and the blind men begging for light.<sup>18</sup> By it, the heart is opened to human wretchedness and the Savior’s mercy.

**2839** With bold confidence, we began praying to our Father. In begging him that his name be hallowed, we were in fact asking him that we ourselves might be always made more holy. But though we are clothed with the baptismal garment, we do not cease to sin, to turn away from God. Now, in this new petition, we return to him like the prodigal son and, like the tax collector, recognize that we are sinners before him.<sup>133</sup> Our petition begins with a "confession" of our wretchedness and his mercy. Our hope is firm because, in his Son, "we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."<sup>134</sup> We find the efficacious and undoubted sign of his forgiveness in the sacraments of his Church.<sup>135</sup>

## Questions for Reflection

1. When I pray, what is my own posture and attitude?
2. Do I consider the primacy of God when I pray the “Our Father” and how is this primacy reflected in my way of life?
3. I am invited to imitate Blessed Mother in her humility. How can I undertake acts of humility and admit my sinfulness with truth and confidence in Jesus?

## Prayer after Sharing

*Thank you, God, for allowing me to see the truth about my weaknesses and how it calls upon the abyss of your merciful Love.*