



“To attain spiritual enlightenment and become a person of recollected interior life, you should take one or the other of holy Scripture and, for as long a period as possible, concentrate on that alone all your power of attention and meditation; then the light of understanding will be revealed to you.” **The Way of a Pilgrim**, Billy, pg. 150

Statement of Intention for Centering Prayer

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier,
alive at the center of our being, we
wish to surrender in love to You.
May our sacred word,

which we will gently pray
when we engage with our thoughts,
be a sign and symbol of our intention to
consent to Your Divine Presence
And Action within.

Readings for Sunday, August 24, 2008

Reading 1 (Is 22:19-23)

Thus says the LORD to Shebna, master of the palace:
“I will thrust you from your office and pull you down
from your station.

On that day I will summon my servant Eliakim, son of
Hilkiah; I will clothe him with your robe, and gird him
with your sash, and give over to him your authority.
He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and
to the house of Judah.

I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim’s
shoulder;

when he opens, no one shall shut
when he shuts, no one shall open.

I will fix him like a peg in a sure spot,
to be a place of honor for his family.”

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8)

**R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the
work of your hands.**

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,
for you have heard the words of my mouth;
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;
I will worship at your holy temple.

R.

I will give thanks to your name,
because of your kindness and your truth:
When I called, you answered me;
you built up strength within me.

R.

The LORD is exalted, yet the lowly he sees,
and the proud he knows from afar.

Your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;
forsake not the work of your hands.

R.

Reading II (Rom 11:33-36)

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge
of God!

How inscrutable are his judgments and how

unsearchable his ways!

*For who has known the mind of the Lord
or who has been his counselor?*

*Or who has given the Lord anything
that he may be repaid?*

For from him and through him and for him are all
things.

To him be glory forever. Amen.

Gospel (Mt 16:13-20)

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and
he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son
of Man is?”

They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah,
still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the Christ, the Son
of the living God.”

Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son
of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to
you, but my heavenly Father.

And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I
will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld
shall not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in
heaven.”

Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that
he was the Christ.

*In thanksgiving for the holy space provided to our centering
prayer groups, let our intentions include the needs of each
pastor of each worshipping community: St. Joseph Catholic
Church in Richardson, and Our Lady of the Lake Church in
Rockwall*

