

Sacred Space



Mark 1.29-39

And immediately he left the synagogue, and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him of her. And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her; and she served them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered together about the door. And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed. And Simon and those who were with him pursued him, and they found him and said to him, "Every one is searching for you." And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out." And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Word of the Lord

Prayer One

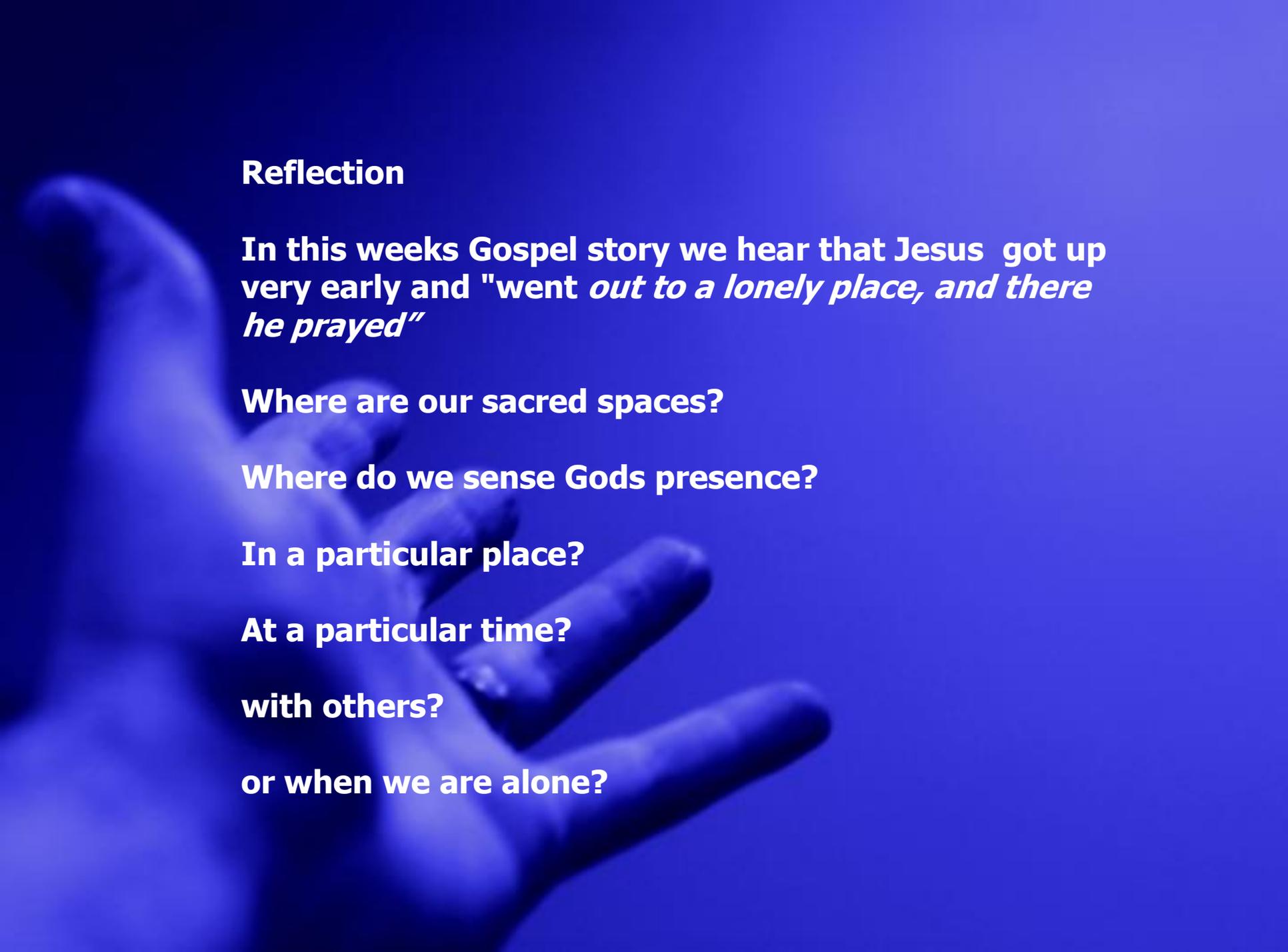
The Sign of the Cross

Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

This week's theme is *Sacred Space*.
"Sacred" means Holy or Blessed.

This word cloud includes commonly expressed words regarding sacred spaces:





Reflection

In this weeks Gospel story we hear that Jesus got up very early and "*went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed*"

Where are our sacred spaces?

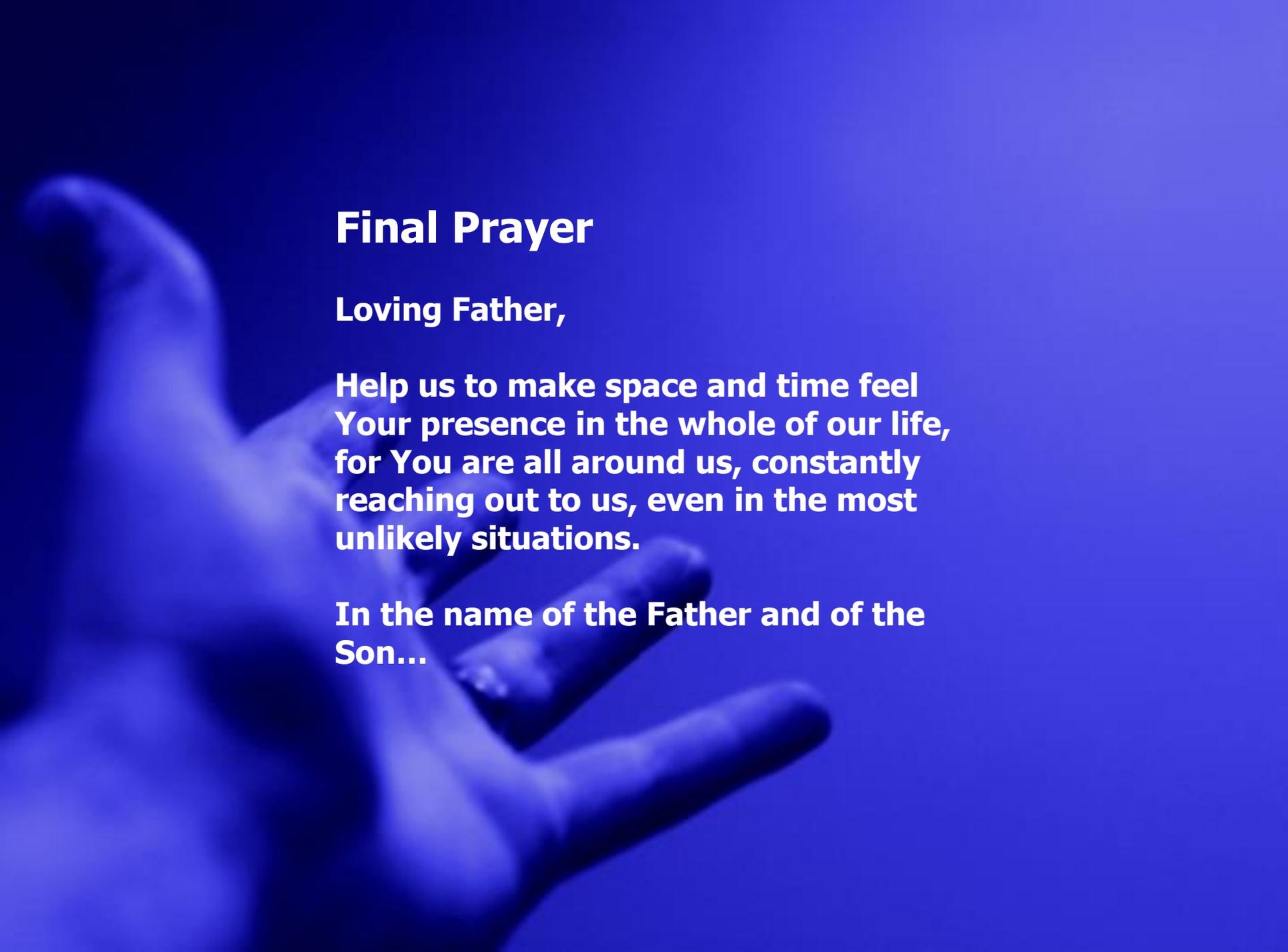
Where do we sense Gods presence?

In a particular place?

At a particular time?

with others?

or when we are alone?



Final Prayer

Loving Father,

**Help us to make space and time feel
Your presence in the whole of our life,
for You are all around us, constantly
reaching out to us, even in the most
unlikely situations.**

**In the name of the Father and of the
Son...**

Prayer Three

The Sign of the Cross

**Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**



Reflection

Physical space can be sacred, sometimes because of events that have happened there, sometimes because it has be consecrated (Blessed) sometimes because of its peacefulness. We could argue that our school chapel is sacred for all of those reasons. What places do you feel are blessed or sacred?



A man who made sacred space:

Sir Giles Gilbert Scott was aged 22 when he won the competition to be the architect to build an Anglican Cathedral in Liverpool. He died on this day in 1960.

Giles not only designed that very inspiring and huge cathedral (and the very big Battersea Power Station by the River Thames in London) but he also designed the red telephone box.



*Scott's telephone box
at Liverpool Cathedral*

We can think of the skills that Scott must have needed for designing both the largest Anglican cathedral in the world, and the small red telephone box.

Liverpool now has two magnificent cathedrals. Years ago in Liverpool there used to be rivalry - and even hatred - between Catholics and Protestants. Yet it is interesting that it was a Catholic who designed the Anglican Cathedral, and it was an Anglican who designed the Catholic Cathedral.

The road connecting the two great churches is called "Hope Street", and we pray today for real hope and understanding between all Christians and between all people of good will. Let us pray: Lord, we ask you to open our eye



Final Prayer

Lord, we ask you to open our eyes that we may value and appreciate all people, recognising what we have in common rather than focusing on what our differences might be. Inspire us to distinguish between what is important and what is not, and open our minds and hearts that we may always be people of good will who bring life and joy to others.

Our Father, who art in heaven... In the name of the Father and of the...



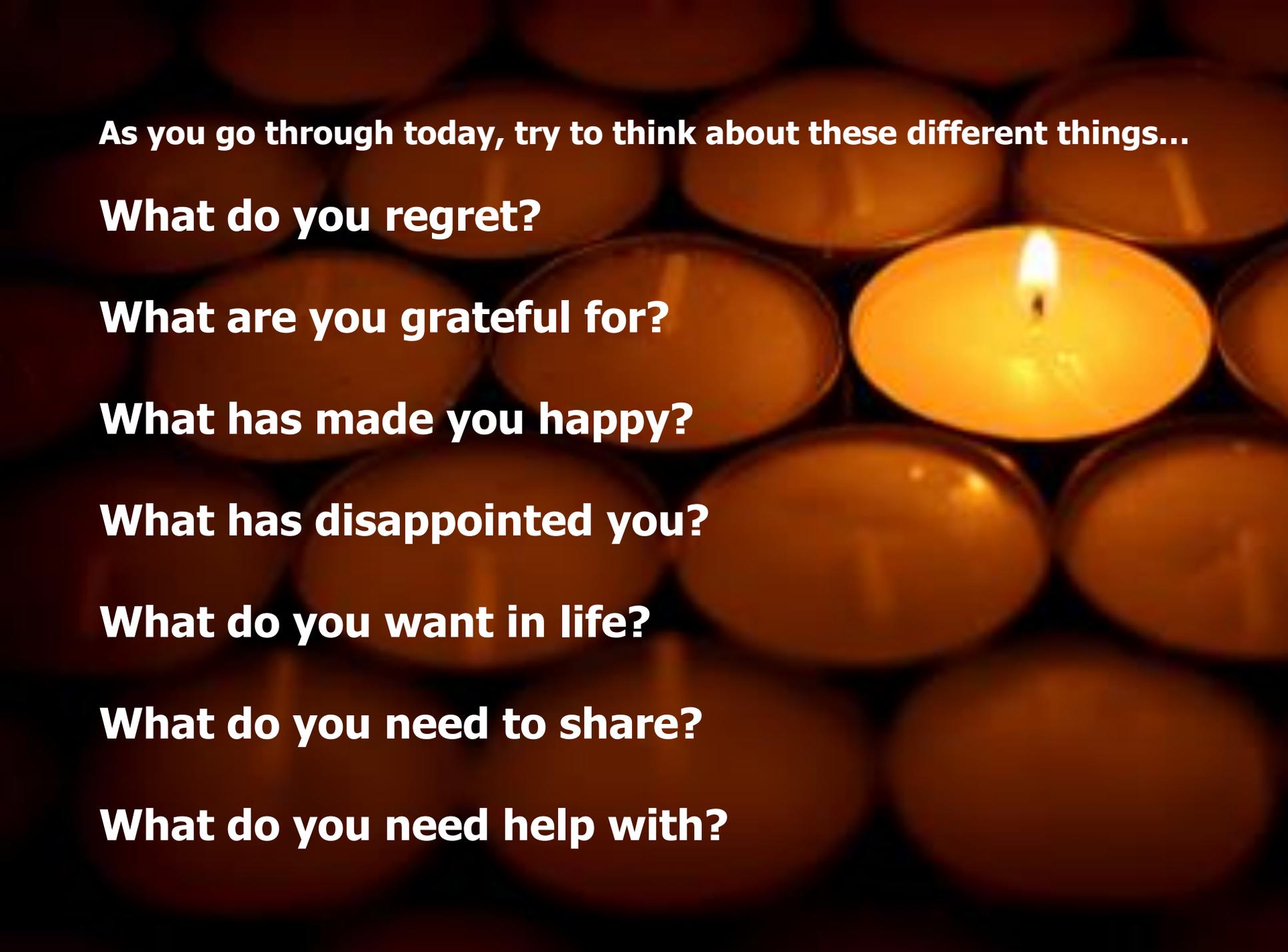
Prayer Three

The Sign of the Cross

**Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

Reflection

In this weeks Gospel we hear that Jesus takes himself away from others to pray. Last week we reflected on the different types of prayer. Let us ask ourselves the same questions again this week and see if making space for the answers helps us to see something of the sacred within our lives...



As you go through today, try to think about these different things...

What do you regret?

What are you grateful for?

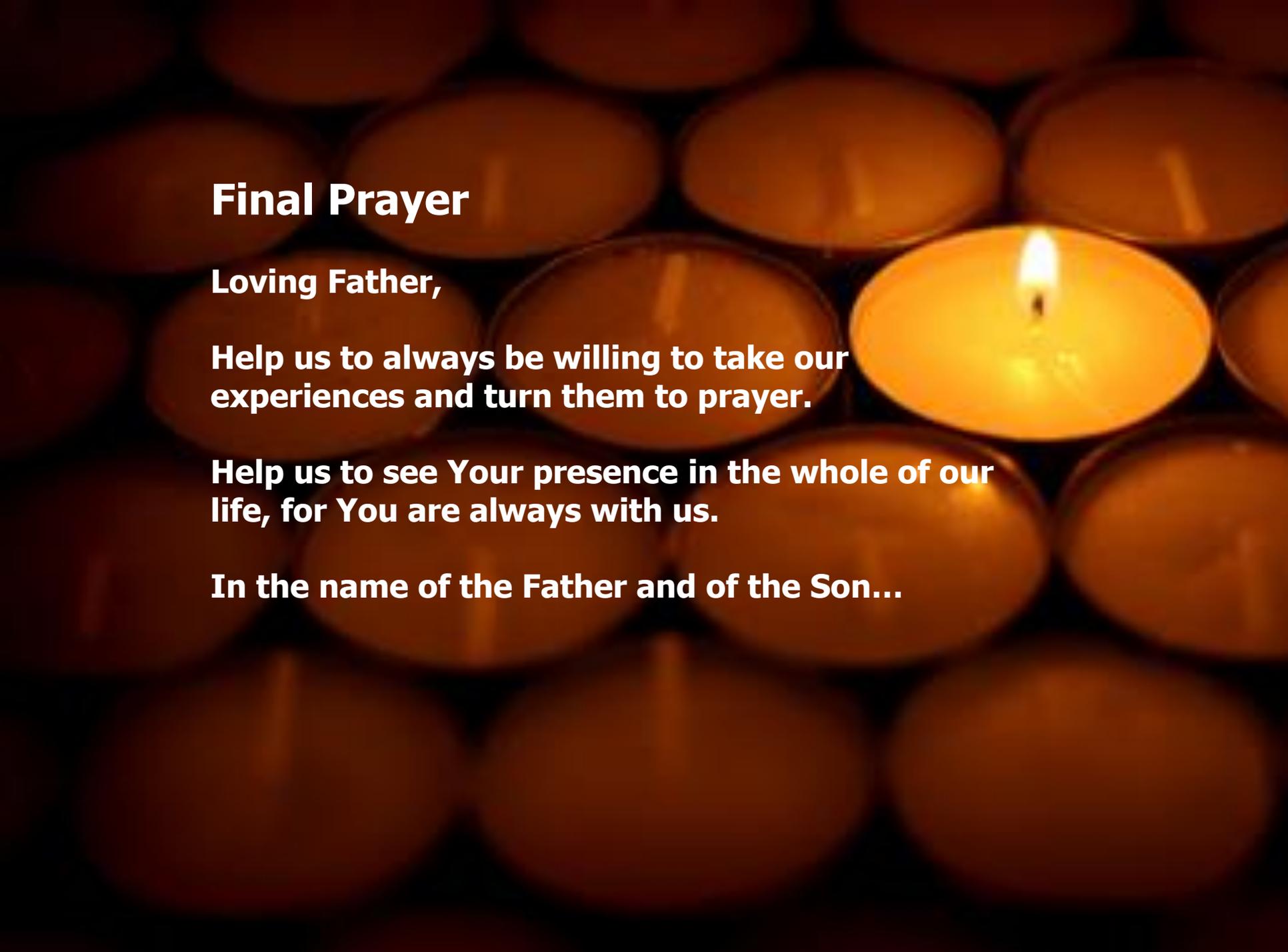
What has made you happy?

What has disappointed you?

What do you want in life?

What do you need to share?

What do you need help with?



Final Prayer

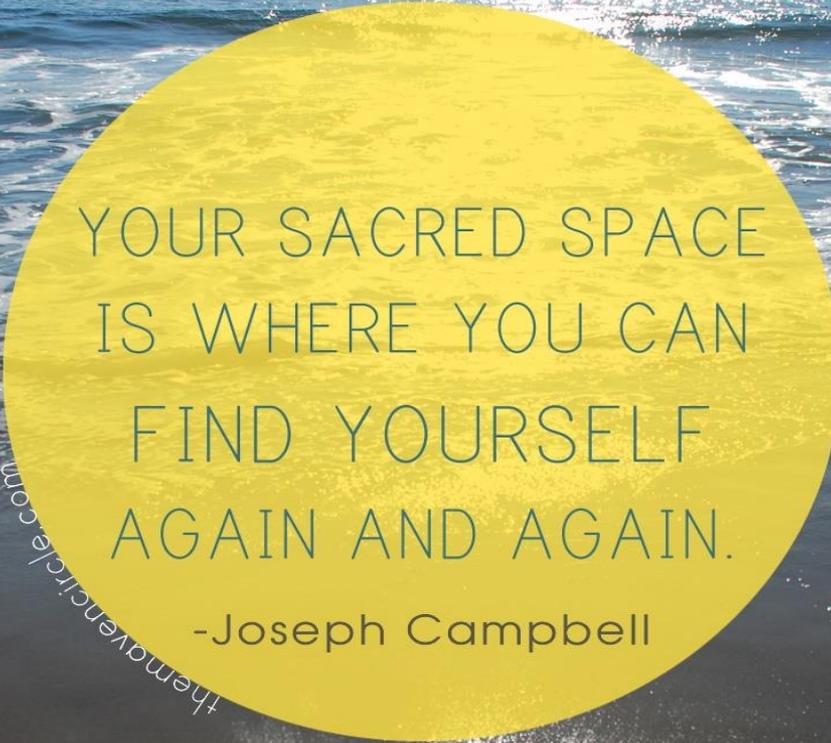
Loving Father,

Help us to always be willing to take our experiences and turn them to prayer.

Help us to see Your presence in the whole of our life, for You are always with us.

In the name of the Father and of the Son...

Final Thought...



YOUR SACRED SPACE
IS WHERE YOU CAN
FIND YOURSELF
AGAIN AND AGAIN.

-Joseph Campbell

After Half term: LENT