



## **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - 2014**

**Come out from the darkness...  
...A deeper life still to come**

***Jennifer Cortez dw***

### **Introduction**

#### **Leader**

This week the story of Lazarus illustrates the deepening of faith that comes through an experience of death. It is through death, when we are able to see and understand things clearer, as we go through the path of darkness. We struggle to find a glimpse or source of life, love, and whatever feelings that trigger the core of our being and awaken us to be alive again.

**Song suggestion:** «Out of the Darkness» (taken from Today's Missal # 508, Music Issue) available on You tube

#### **Opening prayer**

Lord Jesus, you invite us to come out of the dark tomb and stand in your warm light. Help us to hear your call and be brave, trusting as you are waiting for us, believing that we are never alone and we are loved.

**R/ Amen !**

**Antiphon 1:** Free us by your wonderful works; deliver us from the power of death.

#### **Lenten Psalm of Awakening**

Come, O Life-giving Creator,  
and rattle the door latch  
of my slumbering heart.  
Awaken me as you breathe upon  
a winter-wrapped earth,  
gently calling to life virgin Spring.

Awaken in these fortified days  
of Lenten prayer and discipline  
my youthful dream of holiness.  
Call me forth from the prison camp  
of my numerous past defeats  
and my narrow patterns of being  
to make my ordinary life extra-ordinarily alive  
through the passion of my love.

Show to me during these Lenten days  
how to make the daily things in life  
and by submerging them in the sacred  
to infuse them with a great love  
for you, O God, and for others.  
Guide me to perform simple acts of love and prayer,  
the real works of reform and renewal  
of this overture to the spring of the Spirit.

O Father of Jesus, Mother of Christ,  
help me not to waste these precious Lenten days  
of my soul's spiritual springtime.  
Glory be to ...

**Antiphon 2:** He was pierced for our offenses and burdened with our sins. By his wounds  
we are healed.

**Psalm 149 (Nan Merrill)**

Praise the Beloved!  
Sing a joy filled song praising  
the Blessed One among the people  
Be glad in the Creator rejoice in Love Divine

Praise the Divine Lover with dancing,  
With melodies and voice!  
For the Beloved dwells within, journeying  
with us through all our lives.

Leading us in truth and love.  
The humble are adorned with honor;  
The faithful exult in glory, singing for  
You with thankful hearts!  
With truth on our tongues,  
with gratitude as our friend,  
We are in harmony with the universe,  
as we hold hands with all the people.

The chains of oppression are broken,  
the fetters of injustice unbound.  
The realm of Peace and Love shall reign!

Glory abides with those who are faith-filled.  
Praise the Beloved!  
All people on earth, welcome  
Love's Companionship Presence  
Who abides in your hearts!  
Glory be to...

**Reading: John 11,3-7.17.20-27.34-45**

**Questions for sharing:**

- How does the gospel invite us to go out in a deeper relationship with Christ Wisdom and others?
- Are we ready to be «shaped» by our provincial and general chapter orientation in order to build a bridge among us : Congregation, community, other groups and Creation ? How?

**General Intentions**

- For the Church: that we may be transfigured more and more into the image and likeness of Christ. We pray to the Lord.
- For the gift of peace: that God may ease the tensions in Ukraine and bring to an end the violence in Syria and Sudan. We pray to the Lord.
- For all those who are preparing for the sacraments: that our words and deeds give witness to them of God's forgiveness. We pray to the Lord.
- For our families: that they may grow in faith, hope, and love during this Lenten season. We pray to the Lord.
- For our parish community: that we may make space in our busy life to let God's Word move our hearts. We pray to the Lord.

*Other intentions if we wish so ...*

**Our Father....**

**Closing Prayer**

**Father in heaven, may the love of your Son lead us to accept the suffering of the Cross. May he also help us to change our selfishness into self-giving and life-giving. Help us, Father, to embrace the world you have given us, that we may**

**transform the darkness of its pain into the life and joy of Easter. Grant this through Christ our Lord.**

**R/ Amen !**

**Blessing**

**Bless us Lord and bless please all those we will meet with this week.**

**May these precious Lenten days transform our hearts in Christ Wisdom, your beloved !**

**R/ Amen !**