

Girls' Friendly Society (GFS)

World Day Of Prayer Service 2017

St. Stephen's Parish ProCathedral,
Manila, Philippines

September 29, 2017

Theme: **Seek God's Kingdom**

Our LORD JESUS CHRIST said, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:33

Prepared by: GFS Philippines

Brief History of GFS Philippines

The GFS was founded in London, England, United Kingdom, in the Anglican Church, by Mrs. Elizabeth Townsend, to help girls who came to the city from the countryside. It was a society for friendship and recreation in which all girls share and are bound together in a fellowship of Christian love and service in accordance to what the Word of God said in Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." With this in mind, GFS was formed in the United States of America in 1877, in the Anglican-Episcopal Church.

When the Anglican-Episcopal Church ministry came to the Philippines in 1899, the missionaries brought the GFS ministry with them. GFS was established in 1932. However, during and after World War II, GFS was inactive.

On September 2, 1963, a GFS group was organized at St. Stephen's High School (an Anglican-Episcopal Church school) in Manila, by Ms. Yok Wing Wong, a Christian educator in said school, and endorsed by their chaplain, The Reverend Lester Westling. Since then, GFS enjoyed rapid growth in membership in said school, and later, spread to other parts of the city and country. However, after several decades, because of the lack of leadership and training, the GFS in other parts of the country became inactive. The GFS at St. Stephen's High School continued with the successive leadership of Ms. Isabel Yu, Mrs. Rosalina Yuchenkang, Mrs. May Y. Tanhuanco, and their co-workers, all of which are Christian educators of the same school.

Mrs. May Y. Tanhuanco was appointed the GFS Philippines Coordinator by Diocesan Bishop Taclobao, in the diocese where St. Stephen's High School is located. Bishop Taclobao also appointed The Very Reverend Doctor Patrick Tanhuanco, who, for many years, was the GFS Chaplain for the Philippines, appointing him to this position again. In the World Council Meeting held in Swansea, Wales, UK in July 2014, Mrs. May Y. Tanhuanco officially represented GFS Philippines as Senior Delegate, with Ms. Sarah May Y. Tanhuanco as Junior Delegate. After said meeting, Mrs. May Y. Tanhuanco, with Bishop Taclobao, called a meeting with women who may be interested in activating GFS in their respective areas. As of today, their commitment is being considered.

Order of Service

I. Processional Hymn: Come Thou Almighty King All Stand

1. Come, Thou Almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing,
Help us to praise.
Father, all glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

2. Come, Thou incarnate Word,
Gird on Thy mighty sword,
Our prayer attend:
Come, and Thy people bless,
And give Thy word success;
Spirit of holiness,
On us descend.

3. Come, holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour:
Thou who Almighty art,
Now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.

4. To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be
Hence evermore.
Thy sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.

II. Call To Worship:

I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth. Isaiah 49:6b

For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name *shall be* great among the Gentiles; In every place incense *shall be* offered to My name, And a pure offering; For My name shall be great among the nations," Says the LORD of hosts. Malachi 1:11

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.
Ephesians 2:19

III. Invitatory:

Leader: O Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim Your praise.

Leader and people: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Leader: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Alleluia!

People: Come let us adore Him. Alleluia!

IV. The Ministry of the Word:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Collect: **All pray together:**

Grant us, Lord not to be anxious about earthly things, but to seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness, and to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Epistle: Colossians 3: 1-4

¹ If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: **Jesus Is All The World To Me** All Stand

1. Jesus is all the world to me,
My life, my joy, my all;
He is my strength from day to day,
Without Him I would fall.
When I am sad, to Him I go,
No other one can cheer me so;
When I am sad, He makes me glad,
He's my Friend.
2. Jesus is all the world to me,
My Friend in trials sore;
I go to Him for blessings, and
He gives them o'er and o'er.
He sends the sunshine and the rain,
He sends the harvest's golden grain;
Sunshine and rain, harvest of grain,
He's my Friend.
3. Jesus is all the world to me,
And true to Him I'll be;
Oh, how could I this Friend deny,
When He's so true to me?
Following Him I know I'm right,
He watches o'er me day and night;
Following Him by day and night,
He's my Friend.
4. Jesus is all the world to me,
I want no better Friend;
I trust Him now, I'll trust Him when
Life's fleeting days shall end.
Beautiful life with such a Friend,
Beautiful life that has no end;
Eternal life, eternal joy,
He's my Friend.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew 6: 25-34.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²⁵ "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? ²⁸ So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; ²⁹ and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day *is* its own trouble.

After the Gospel, the Reader says:

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Reader: Please be seated.

V. Homily on the Theme.

VI. Nicene Creed: **All Stand; declare our faith together:**

WE BELIEVE in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

VII. Prayers of the People: **All Kneel**

1. For the Unity Of The Church

Almighty Father, whose blessed Son before His passion prayed for His disciples that they might be one, as You and He are one: Grant that Your Church, particularly the Anglican- Episcopal Church, being bound together in love and obedience to You, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in Him whom You have sent, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

2. For all Christians In Their Vocation

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of Your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before You for all members of Your holy Church, particularly the GFS leaders and members, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve You; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

3. For Our Mission Which Our Lord Has Commissioned Us All:

O God of all the nations of the earth: Remember the multitudes who have been created in Your image but have not known the redeeming work of our Savior Jesus Christ; and grant that, by the prayers and labors of Your holy Church, specially our GFS leaders and members doing our part, they may be brought to know and worship You as You have been revealed in Your Son; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

4. For Our Country:

Lord God Almighty, You have made all the peoples of the earth for Your glory, to serve You in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with Your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

5. For Peace:

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with Your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility Your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of Your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

6. For GFS In Serving One Another:

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all of us in GFS, who, following in His steps, give ourselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, we may minister in His Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of Him who laid down His life for us, Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

VIII. The Confession and Absolution: **All Kneel**

The Deacon or Priest says:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People together:

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

IX. The Peace:

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord by shaking hands.

X. Offertory:

Leader: Let us with gladness present the tithes and offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.
Please be seated. Let us sing together.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 "Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
(Chorus)

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

2 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
(Chorus)

After the offerings are collected and presented, the Leader and People proclaim together:
For all things come from You, And of Your own we have given You.

XI. The Holy Communion **All Stand**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever
sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of Your Name:

Celebrant and People:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love You made us for Yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, You, in Your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, Your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to You, the God and Father of all. He stretched out His arms upon the cross, and offered Himself, in obedience to Your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night He was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when He had given thanks to You, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is My Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me."

After supper He took the cup of wine; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is My Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of Me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling His death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer You these gifts.

Sanctify them by Your Holy Spirit to be for Your people the Body and Blood of Your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve You in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all Your saints into the joy of Your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Your Son Jesus Christ: By Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,

we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

During the ministration of Communion, the following hymn be sung:

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

1.O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

2.O light that foll'west all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

3.O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

4.O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

After Communion, the Celebrant says:

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

XII. Benediction

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people:

Now to God who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. Amen.

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, say to the people these words:

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Jesus Shall Reign All Stand

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Doth his successive journeys run;
His Kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2. To Him shall endless prayer be made.
And princes throng to crown His head,
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

3. People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

4. Blessings abound where'er He reigns:
The prisoner leaps to lose his chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

5. Where He displays His healing power
Death and the curse are known no more;
In Him the tribes of Adam boast
More blessings than their father lost.

6. Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen.